

Techno-WUMP

by The Drummer

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/usr/News/whoami

Well it has been a long time since I've written anything in this paper. I was the Sports Editor in '88/'89, but I never had a chance to write this column. So with the end of the year not far off I asked to write this Mugwump with a technical flavour. I have spent most of my time behind the scenes this year, fixing machines and software, giving advice, and being a pain in the butt know-it-all (four and half years of being a Bruns staffer and growing up in Ontario makes that part easy). :)

/usr/News/politics/bar_services

I have found out that the University is trying to replace Bar Services with one of the following 1) the Student Union runs the Pub in the Sub and the Road Show (all the events on campus) or 2) the Pub in the Sub runs the Road Show as a separate department with no funding from the University. It will be interesting to see what the new pricing scheme will be, because if it wasn't covering the costs before, I would like to know what possesses people to believe it will now!

/usr/News/politics/student_union

Another election is coming up. The Brunswickan is putting forth its own write-in candidate for President, Baby B. Not a whole lot of people will show up to vote again this year, and I know its a pain having a hole punched in your id card, but can you think of any other way to keep track of who has/hasn't voted? If you can then contact the SU at 453-4955.

/usr/News/politics/sub_expansion

The students will also be polled on whether they would like a SUB expansion or not. This is the biggest joke on campus. What fool is going to stand up and say "Hey I think we should have a SUB expansion and I'm willing to contribute \$15.00/year to its construction without knowing what it looks like, or when it will be built!". Not many. Calling this project a "SUB expansion" is a another joke as well. They, the SU council, want to move the Bank, Health Center, Book Store, Dean of Students, Post Office, as well as add a Pharmacy, more SU offices and 1000 seat facility to this expansion. This isn't an expansion this is another building, and trying to find a place for this building will probably take another 5 years.

/usr/News/sports/red_devils_hockey

Unless you have been living under a rock for the past four months, you know that the Red Devils lost last week to the Acadia Axemen in the AUA finals 3-1 & 6-0. The Red Devils finished the year first in the MacAdam with a record of 17-8-1. Rolled over UPEI and Moncton before running into Acadia. This was definitely a tough way to finish the season, but its a lot better than how M.L.A did - last. My hat goes off to coach Mike Johnston, goalie Chris Somers, Trevor Boland, Todd Sparks, Rob Bolden, and everyone else on the hockey team for entertaining UNB with some great hockey.

/usr/News/sports/varsity_name

The University better integrate the new varsity name soon ("Varsity Reds" if you didn't know), because some people still don't know who is what yet. The UNB Alumni News magazine is one of them. In their sports section they wrote "Red Devils coach Mike Johnston, left, and Raiders goalie Chris Somers display the gold medals won by Team Canada...". Now call me crazy, but if Mike is the coach of the Red Devils wouldn't that make Chris the goalie for the Red Devils, or wait maybe Mike is the coach of the Red Raiders and Clint Hamilton is the coach of the Red Devils but this would mean that the Raiders would be in the Play-offs, and we can't have that now, can we.

/usr/News/sports/NHL/Montreal_Canadians
1993 Stanley Cup Champions over Vancouver. Nuff said.

/usr/News/info/tuition_fees

YES they are going up, what a surprise. The Board of Governors will be voting on a tuition increase for the 1993/'94 year, probably coming to an all time high of \$2600.00. At an increase of 5% over the next 4 years, the UNB tuition fee will go over \$3000 making an undergraduate degree come to a total of \$11,000.

/usr/News/entertainment/tv_guide

My last point. What's with the Leisure section of the Daily Gleaner. I wish they would use a better rating system then the shitty copout of the 5 stars. I can't stand waiting up for the latenight ASN movie just to miss the warning at the beginning, now I have to wait for the next commercial to find out whether the movie has any potential. Why don't they change the rating system to be more informative, with examples like these: "Crappy Action", "Awesome Action", "Awesome Action with Gratuitous Sex", "No Action with Gratuitous Sex", "Gratuitous Sex", "Politically Correct", or how about a warning beep to wake me up to let me know that there is a potentially offending scene coming up, is that too much to ask?



OPINION

The opinions found in this column are not necessarily the views of the Brunswickan

The Baha'i Faith

Baha'u'llah teaches that all humans are one people

by The Association for Baha'i Faith

As the new millennium approaches, the crucial need facing the human race is to find a unifying vision of the nature of man and society. Such a vision unfolds in the writings of Baha'u'llah (1817 to 1892) the Prophet-Founder of the Baha'i Faith.

Baha'u'llah compares the maturation of the human race as a whole to the experience of its individual members who struggle, successively, through the stages of infancy, childhood and adolescence. Today humanity has entered on its collective coming-of-age, endowed with the capacity to see its entire development as a single process. The challenge of maturity is to accept that we are one people, to free ourselves from the limited identities and creeds of the past, and to build together the foundations of global civilization.

The Baha'i Faith's progressive approach to human society originates with Baha'u'llah's emphasis on unity. From the fundamental concept of Divine and religious unity, other principles emerge. Baha'u'llah teaches that all humans, as creations of one God, are also one people. Baha'u'llah condemned racial and ethnic prejudice, urging: "Close your eyes to racial differences, and welcome all with the light of oneness."

Baha'u'llah also proclaimed the equality of the sexes - at a time when the women's movement was only beginning in the West and such ideas were unheard of in the East - thus becoming the first Founder of a world religion to explicitly uphold strict equality for women and men. "Until the reality of equality between men and women is fully established and attained, the highest social development of mankind is not possible."

Education is given a special emphasis as humanity is considered capable of tremendous progress and advancement. Students must be given the tools to analyze social conditions for themselves, to take part in community planning and action, and to investigate truth on their own. The independent investigation of truth, whether scientific or religious, is strongly encouraged in Baha'u'llah's writings. Individuals should strive to free themselves from prejudices, preconceptions and reliance on traditional authorities.

The standards for social justice and individual conduct are outlined by Baha'u'llah to offer an integrated and distinctive approach to the apparently intractable problems facing humanity today. Whether considering the threat of environmental degradation, the cancer of racism, or the erosion of the family, Baha'is believe firmly that answers are available in the writings of Baha'u'llah. The Association for Baha'i Studies on campus invites you to investigate these answers by calling the Baha'i number in the phone book.

Canada's Diversity: Looking for Common Ground

Instead of being a dull, grey melting pot, our nation is a rich and colorful mosaic

by Mark Chandra

Canada has had a rich history, a history based to a great extent on immigrants and immigration. To be a Canadian citizen, to say the least, means a lot to me. We are all part of a country filled with so many kinds of people. Recently, Canada was named the most favourable country in which to live in the whole world - and for very good reasons. Here, our differences are not condemned but in fact celebrated. In some countries, those who immigrate are asked to conform and do away with their own identity, but in Canada, you are given the right to hold onto your own culture and heritage. Instead of being a dull, grey melting pot, our nation is a rich and colorful mosaic that is ours to experience and ours to enjoy.

That is not to say that we do not have cultural and prejudicial obstacles to overcome. However, before we can overcome these, it is necessary to first accept that these problems do indeed exist. Yes, there is racism. Yes, there is bigotry. Yes, there are problems.

Minorities have been oppressed and unfortunately are still being oppressed today. During the times of slavery in the south, the "whip" was the law. Blacks were kept in their place by the crack of the whip. Unfortunately, this whip, though in another form still exists today in the world - and Canada is no exception. "I can't sell the house to that family" (crack!). "He has no place in this office." (crack!). And the whipping continues.

Why do we perceive ourselves as different? We are all governed by our five senses, yet we neglect four of the basic ones and rely mainly on sight when it comes to judging others. Put your hands behind your back and look ahead. Tell me, are you white, are you black, are you Indian, are you oriental. You cannot tell. Someone must tell you. An innocent child cannot tell. Someone must tell him. All this telling is one of the main causes of all of the feelings of racism in Canada today. Someone's parents, someone's elders have told them that those who do not look like you are not as good as you.

We must learn to use our other senses not only to simply tolerate, but to understand and enjoy the diversity of Canada. This cultural diversity does not only exist in the large metropolitan areas like Toronto, Montreal and Vancouver but also in the lesser populated areas like New Brunswick. *Everywhere* in Canada, we must all learn how to preserve our own unique culture. It is not only up to our parents to do so, but we must take an active roll in it ourselves, as youth. In the words of Bob Marley, "We know where we're going (because) we know where we're from." It is extremely important that we all - black, white or plaid - understand our roots and heritage.

Multicultural youth are in a very unique situation. Not only do we have to deal with the traditional generation gap with which all youth contend, but we must also bridge a sometimes vast cultural gap. I use the word "bridge", because to me it signifies a two-way passage which we can use to span all cultures. One should be comfortable not only his or her family's culture but also in the culture of others. As youth, we are responsible for the building and maintenance of such bridges.

Not only should we all be proud of our history, but we must also respect and appreciate the heritage of others, and we have common grounds to do so. We must borrow the best from all of the cultures to make Canada a stronger nation. We can enjoy each other's music. We can enjoy each other's art, poetry, and literature. We can even enjoy each other's food (take the McFajita for instance. 'Nuff said.)

In Canada's diversity, the common ground is... We have so much to gain. I cannot express to you how proud I am to be a Canadian and I'm sure that you are very proud too. We are all citizens of the best country in the world. Let us not forget that. Let us not forget that we are ALL Canadians and that we are all one.

Sunday March 21st is New Brunswick Youth Day. That afternoon, there will be a small workshop held at the Beaverbrook Hotel, beginning at 1:00 pm, to celebrate the strength of multiculturalism in New Brunswick's young people. All youth are invited to attend.

Mark Chandra is a member of the Youth Council of New Brunswick.