

Blood and Thunder

LETTERS TO THE EDITOR

Rm. 35, Student Union Building, UNB Campus
DEADLINE: 5 p.m. Tuesday

Prune the grapes?

Dear Editor:

We are tired of the political apathy espoused by the writer of the "Raisins of Wrath." Why don't you talk about more positive things? Maybe that bolt that your friend found in her food fell out of your head.

There are so many varying personalities and faculties that you could somehow find something interesting to write about. Instead you use our student fees to puke out your political rhetoric that we are sick of, so just keep on writing garbage and we will advise all students to ignore you. I appears that all you seek is attention; therefore, I advise all students to not bother giving this person the benefit of complaining about everything.

We leave you with this quote from Plato: "Wise men talk because they have something to say; fools, because they have to say something."

Yours truly,
Derrick Gravelle
Kelly Campbell
Rene Lavigne
G. N. Allen
Bruce Harding
Mark Weaver
Kelly Ross

Editors note: With reference to the last paragraph, I could not have said it better.

We have the power!

Dear Editor:

I write in response to the editorial in the *Brunswickan* on March 4 entitled "The 8% Solution" in order to present an alternative position.

Currently the publisher of the *Brunswickan* is the Students' Union, through its Corporate Board of Directors, the Student's Council. As a result the Student's Union bears full legal responsibility for the actions and content of its publication. The recommendation presented to Council was for the crea-

tion of a Board of Directors of the *Brunswickan* which would have the ability to more effectively monitor the activities of the *Brunswickan*. The Board would be better suited to the purpose than Council because it can have a closer connection with the paper. Council currently has, as publisher, the power to suspend publication of the paper in whole, or in part, for any length of time. This is not a power to be used lightly and has not, fortunately, been used. By giving this power to a Board of Directors, with representatives from the staff of the paper, from the publishing body, and from the University community a more responsible journalistic product can be achieved.

The purpose of the Board of Directors is not to ascertain what a majority of the University community finds acceptable. The views of the community as to what is acceptable are not always coincident with what the law considers acceptable. Its purpose is to maintain responsibility in the production of the paper. Because Council is the body which has ultimate legal responsibility of the paper, it is Council which must protect the interests of the Union which have been, in the past, so flagrantly ignored by the *Brunswickan*.

No editor of any newspaper is ever permitted free reign over the material printed. All editors are, or at least should be, responsible for their actions to a Board of Directors, who are in turn responsible to the members of the corporation which owns the paper. In this case that is the students. Editorial policy is not the sole domain of the editor, although it is he or she who principally creates and enforces it, but it is ultimately the Board of Directors which assumes this responsibility. The editor is hired by the publisher to produce the paper, but he or she is not the publisher. Let us be clear on that. When the editor of the *Brunswickan* is prepared to accept legal responsibility for the paper, then let the editor have sole control.

Finally, let us address the allegation that a Council elected by 8% of the students is not adequately representative of the student body to make these decisions. Upon whom does the majority of the blame fall for that? Campus media are the greatest tools for conquering the pervasive student apathy. The failure of our campus newspaper to serve its students well in this regard is further evidence of the need of an evaluation of the editorial priorities of its staff, regardless of the voter turnout, the SRC is the legislative body of the Students' Union, and as a result it is required to act to preserve the interests of the Union and its members.
James Gill

Cement rocks

SUB

Dear Editor:

Why in God's name did the administration of this university choose to start cementing entrances at this point in time? I'm sure that this work could have been done over the March break. No, instead the Main Entrance to the SUB, along with entrances to Tilly and who knows where else are inconveniently blocked off.

I am disappointed in the lack of vision of the decision and I hope that any future work that will cause problems will be done at more appropriate times.

Greg Harquail

Norris goes

too far?

Dear Editor:

Normally I disagree with Susan Forestell's views, but this time her Gripes of Wrath column hit the nail(s) right on the head.

The proposed "editorial policy board" of the Student Union will no doubt crush any editorial freedom of speech the *Brunsw* has left. Successive Student Union administrations have done their best to stifle the *Brunsw*, but this time they may succeed . . . I for one shiver at the idea.

On an unrelated note . . . as a former *Brunswickan* staffer, I know that the current *Brunsw* offices are barely adequate to produce the paper. If Kim Norris goes through with his plan to cut the *Brunswickan* office space in half, the quality of the paper will suffer. There would simply not be enough room to produce a quality paper in half the space. I'm not sure why Mr. Norris is on a wall-building spree, but this time it's gone too far.

Speak up for your *Brunsw*; only you can stop these travesties against the *Brunswickan* and the student population as a whole.
Steve Boyko

Open house

a success

Dear Editor:

On Monday, March 7 and Wednesday, March 9 my office and the 1987-88 Freshmen Orientation Executive hosted an Open House for high school students.

The project was a huge success largely due to support from faculty, staff and next September's Orientation Crew. Special thanks to Brian Gibbons, Kevin Hollis, Rachael Ingram, Laurien Smith, John Marshall, and Scott Archibald. You were terrific!

We entertained about 250 students from 25 high schools in New Brunswick. To all of the people associated in this very positive endeavor - my sincere thanks.

Yours truly,
Jack Cunningham,
High School Relations

Lubicons

Dear Editor:

Now that the Olympic fanfare had died down, Calgarians can resume their normal business.

We have witnessed Katarina Witt's thighs in motion, Eddie "the Eagle" Edwards make it to the Johnny Carson show, and the city of Calgary turned a handsome profit; maybe they can pass some of it along to the Lubicons.

Does anybody remember the Lubicons? They are the guys in the Band from Northern Alberta that boycotted "The Spirit Sings" exhibit.

"When the Lubicon Lake Cree appealed for justice - and the reserve they had been promised for more than four decades - two levels of government tried to eliminate them on paper. Then Alberta decided to celebrate Canada's rich Native culture." (Forked Tongues, Goddard Feb. 1988).

The issue here is money vs. human rights. Our governments have seen fit to deny the Lubicons human and property rights. It just so happens that the Lubicon reservation is land, extremely rich in oil and mineral resources, coveted by oil interests and the Alberta gov-

ernment. Their quest for liquid gold in Lubicon territory has virtually destroyed the subsistence lifestyle of the Lubicon. Had their settlement been honoured in 1940, as was pledged by the government, the Lubicon would have at least had some chance of adjusting economically to the loss of their hunting and fishing livelihood (sic). As it is these people exist in severe poverty; tuberculosis is rampant in the community and life is a hopeless grind. Sound familiar? Perhaps not to most Canadians, but to the Native Canadian the story is all too familiar.

The Canadian government's 'Indian' policy is much the same today as it was a hundred years ago. In the latter years of the last century Cree Chief, Big Bear and his people, in what is today Alberta, in similar circumstance were systematically starved into submission by the Canadian government.

The treatment of the Haida in B.C. and the Naskapi in Labrador are further evidence that the current government practice expresses similar tactics. Isn't it ironic that the Canadian government on one hand honours the rich cultural traditions of the Aboriginal peoples of Canada with a magnificent (sic) museum display, and on the other commits genocide against them?
Ann Wheeler
Gail Wismer

Aids:

Play it safe

Dear Editor:

I am disappointed that the Board of Governors has decided against providing free condoms to the University community for the protection against AIDS. I hope it is not too late for them to reverse their decision because there is a different message inferred when condoms are provided free rather than being available for purchase. Condoms are expensive, embarrassing to purchase, and vending machines are not infallible. Outside the campus condoms have always been available for purchase, but rarely do people go out of their way to purchase one.

I feel compelled to write this letter today as at the time of printing I am awaiting test results from H.I.V. testing, it has been a long week and I have been contemplating on my past sexual history and the partners whom I have been involved with. The list is relatively short but I am a bisexual man who has had

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