



# OPINION...

## "Well that's my opinion."

Well, this is it. This is the final Mugwump for 1989/90 as one more academic year comes to a close.

For the interest of our faithful *Brunswickan* readers, let me fill you in on the *Brunswickan* staffers for next year.

Once again, the paper will be blessed with the leadership of Kwame Dawes as our beloved Editor-in-Chief. Allan Carter will once again fill your inquisitive minds with newsworthy information next year as News Editor. Sports action will continue to be covered by Kelly Craig and Frank Denis as they take a step up in their journalism experiences to become Co-Sports Editors. Offset will continue to be *haunted* (?) by omnipresent Steve Seabrook. You will be entertained and distracted by our fun and hard working Jayde Mockler as she takes on her editorial position as Distractions Editor. Great shots will again abound in our paper as Al S. Tare continues his work at the *Brunswickan* as Photo Editor.

I'm sure you will be delighted with the Features and Entertainment Editors that join us in 1990 here at the *Brunswickan*.

Several of our cherished editors will be parting from us here at the *Brunswickan* to become part of our Alumni as they move on to bigger and better things. Mark Savoie (Co-Sports Editor) will be continuing his university studies at Western University. Tim Lynch (Co-Sports Editor) is blessed with graduation this year, as is Tim Judah, our Features man who is also lucky enough to be graduating from UNB to pursue his career objectives. Miroslav Wiesner (Entertainment Editor) will be expanding his creative talents as he continues his education at the Nova Scotia College of Art and Design. Jennifer Duncan (Distractions Editor) will also be pleased as she departs from UNB as a 1990 graduate.

As for myself, I will be in my final year at UNB, and will not have sufficient hours to tackle an Editorial position at the *Brunswickan*, although involvement is too addictive to surpass. My assistant this year, Lynne Wanyeki will be Managing Editor next year - a position which she is keen to fill.

I know the paper will continue to be a great success next year. We have all watched the *Brunswickan* grow and improve over not only this year, but the years already past. I hope we have delighted and entertained you all this year as we have helped create memories for you of your student life at UNB.

If you are graduating this year, I wish you all the best in your career decisions. (I might also remind you that weekly subscriptions of the *Brunswickan* may also be purchased if you would like to keep up with news at UNB in the years to follow).

If you are continuing your university education next year, I wish you all a great summer break and I know you will continue to enjoy the *Brunswickan* as part of your university regime in the 1990/91 school year.

All the best to you for exams. I look forward to "wumping" with you next year.

Melanie R. Hawkes  
Managing Editor, 1989/90

As the last days of my academic "career" tick away ever so slowly, and that final set of final exams race towards me, I would like to look back and see what grade the outgoing Student Union, and student body warrants. As Deputy Chair of Council, I have had to be publicly moot, neutral and unbiased in my opinions this year, but now my term is finished, and I can at last give my opinion!

To begin, I would like to congratulate everyone associated with this year's Student Council and its many committees (where all the real work gets done!), for their outstanding work. This was by no means a perfect Council, as if such a thing could exist, but the best that I have seen (and I am one of the few still left who was here during the Bosnitch era!) since I started at UNB. Wayne's slogan should have been teamwork -- this is the first Council that I have witnessed discover that it is Council itself who has the true power and the burden of responsibility, not the Executive. The Executive, the president included, must act on the wishes of Council, who represent the wishes of students of all faculties. I have never seen Council attempt so much, and attain their goals in relative harmony. As the editor of this paper wrote two weeks ago, "The agenda set by Wayne Carson and his executive was an overloaded and ambitious one for a bunch of student politicians who were in office for only a year." This year Council really showed that they care about what they were doing and who they were doing it for -- all of us. Maybe the key to success was all those parties at Wayne's house! "Wayne's year", or more accurately, "the Council when Wayne was President", has set a standard that future Councils would do well to match.

Unfortunately, this year's Council, and more particularly Wayne, have not had what one would consider "favourable coverage" in the media. It seems that the media, in particular the Bruns, have appointed themselves the "unelected opposition" and feel it is their duty to highlight whichever fault they can find or create with Council. Yet, only twice can I remember seeing Bruns reporters at council meetings this year. They hear the news somewhere, probably CHSR, and then run around during the day interrupting the Executive at work in the quest for a hot story. For their part CHSR, in the person of Gordon Loane, should be recognized for religiously attending Council meetings, though they have not carried Council live on-air this term. The media are lobbying for more independence and a Media Fee, yet Brunsies don't seem capable of issuing a proper receipt for commissioned work; you should see what passes for receipts issued to candidates for layout charges!

In my role of Chief Returning Officer, I understandably have been close to the events of the election this year. I am disappointed, and more so disillusioned, by the low voter turnout of 26.3% of eligible student voters. Granted this is six percentage points better than last year, but maybe one should be concerned about the premise of a representative student government that just over one-quarter of students bothered to vote for or against. This in a year when there were more candidates than anyone can ever remember before running. The Students Council is responsible for a budget of over \$600,000, and frankly, I think everyone should make it their business where their respective \$96 is going, not just one-quarter of the student body! One question I have not been able to answer is why students of some faculties have more of a voter conscience than others? I have calculated the voter turnout of each faculty for your perusal and contemplation:

Law	52%
Phys. Ed.	34%
Arts	22%
Computer Science	19%
Education	19%
Business	19%
Engineering	18%
Science	17%
Forestry	15%

I have not included Nursing, because there was no candidate for Nursing rep; therefore their turnout is not indicative.

There has been a lot of noise around campus about the fact that Carl Burgess had the support of only 54% of those who voted for Grad Class President. What do the other 46% propose as an alternative? I did not receive any other nominations for the position. Where are those who feel that they can do a better job than the elected individual? It may be easy to say that someone else might do a better job, but I don't remember seeing any other names on the ballot!

The hot topic of this week I'm sure will have been the Student Union Building expansion, in the guise of the Building Fund. I was a member of the SUB Expansion Committee, which unfortunately was not able to get their report finished in time to have a referendum question placed on the spring ballot. In my mind, we are doing ourselves a great disservice if we don't proceed with the project. I hope next year's Council and student body will seriously weigh the benefits and make a decision for the good of future generations of students. Maybe we can bring Marc back next year, and have him sell bricks for the expansion of the SUB?! Speaking of Marc Braithwaite and Grad Class, I think the "silent majority" of the Grad Class who have purchased their brick in support of the Gates Project should be commended for their actions. I'm sure that his will be an attractive addition to the campus, and I look forward to the future when I come back to visit the university and my kids (you never know...) try to find my name. Why shouldn't we, the graduates, leave something of ourselves behind to come back to?

Well, that's my opinion. For those of you who will be here next year -- good luck! For those of you graduating -- I guess we can't hide from the real world any longer! Oh yes, the grades. I would give Student Council an A for effort and the student body a C+ for interest.

David M. Kilfoil