

## Council forces paper to cease publication

Freedom of the press is a term that is often bandied about—usually without being taken too seriously by most people.

However, this is one basic freedom which must never be allowed to deteriorate, whether it involves a multi-million-dollar commercial daily or a weekly student newspaper.

A blatant violation of this freedom is taking place right now at a university in this area.

The St. Mary's Journal, the student newspaper of St. Mary's University in Halifax, is presently embroiled in a conflict with the student council at that university,

a conflict which has forced the paper to stop publication.

Budget problems at the university last year caused the student government at SMU to cut back on all expenditures.

One of the first expenses to be cut was the paper's budget.

The SMU Journal has traditionally been known for its criticism of the student government at the university. It seems that the student council attempted to solve two problems at one time—save money by cutting the paper's budget and also quiet opposition to council.

The council also decided to appoint an editor to the paper. The Journal, and all other members of Canadian University Press attempt to run their publications on a democratic basis—including holding a staff election to find an editor.

We realize that the financial difficulties presently being experienced by the SMU council may make it difficult to finance the operation of the paper for this year.

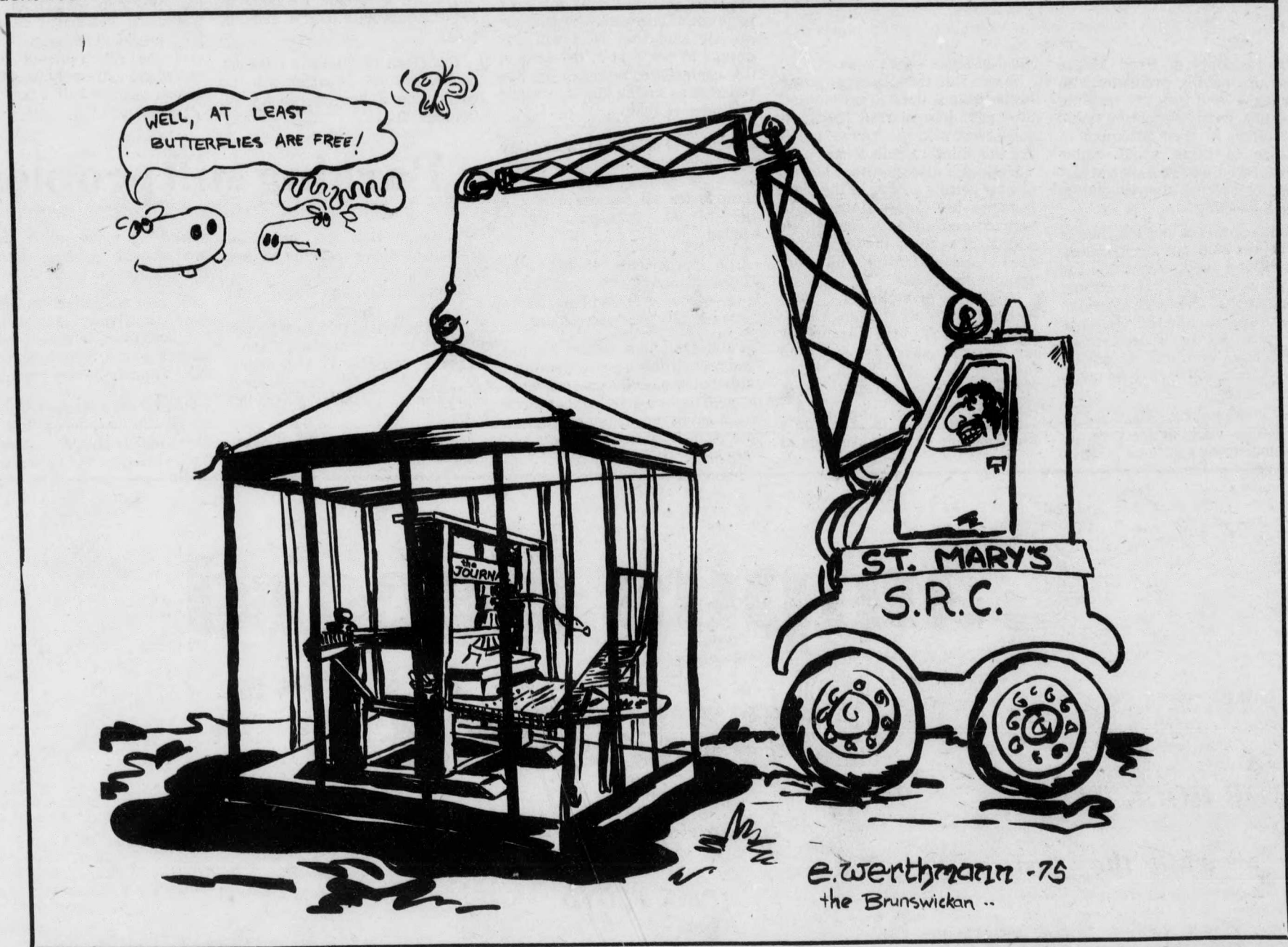
However, if the paper is to operate at all it should operate on a democratic basis.

The paper has sufficient staff

members to begin publication, and hopefully will find the finances to begin operations in the near future. The present staff has been locked out of the paper offices and apparently some production equipment has been removed.

All possible methods must be used to make the student union at SMU realize that their treatment of the paper will not go unnoticed.

The Brunswickan feels that all interaction with SMU student union from this university should be curtailed until a solution to this problem has been reached.



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