

EDITORIAL

THWARTING THE "PIGEON-HOLE" SYNDROME

Very often the decision to enter university after high school is just not that. It is not a decision; it is an inevitable path. You progress to eighteen after seventeen, it is how numbers work. After high school, once you have matriculated, surely university is the obvious destination. Our parents make it quite clear that this is not a matter for lengthy debate. We accept that and attend university never sure why we do and rarely thinking that the question of why has any relation to our experience. More and more, however, this trend has been changing. In a society in which a person with two degrees can be forced to drive a taxi for a living, the status of the university educated is far less vaunted. One may fairly argue a case for working for a number of years after high school before considering college. Hence many first year university students are no longer fresh out of high school. They are here for very clear reasons. They know what they need their degree for; have identified the specific path "they intend to take and travel a blinkered journey towards that goal.

Despite this the vast majority of first year students have come here to find out what they will do in the future. Nothing is firm. The curious faith in the academic system makes them confident that revelation will invariably come. Sadly, this is not the case. Many students graduate as directionless as they entered particularly because the task of identifying career goals suited to one's skills and interests is not one that should be handled alone. There is a place for guidance and advice through the help of professors and career counselling services which are offered at the university. At the same time, exposure to a wide variety of individuals, cultures and ideas and the willingness to have meaningful dialogue, to challenge new ideas, and to sometimes reformulate them, all help to give some crucial grounding to the student's experience, thus aiding in the quest for a career or life direction.

To my mind, the university experience is not primarily an academic exercise. It is rather an exercise in shaping the direction of people's lives for as long as they live. Decisions made while at the university age often remain with individuals for their entire life. This means that here is the time to seek, to explore all the potential interests latent in one's character. Science students should allow themselves the sacrilegious thought that maybe, deep down inside, they are true "artsy fartsies", and arts students may find that their true call is in the stench of a chemistry lab. The challenge is to take advantage of all the opportunities to discover talents and interests and avoid the pigeon-holing that a university curriculum may toss your way.

The Bruns is a place in which the pigeon-holing maybe undermined because it opens ground for cross-fertilization of ideas and skills among all new students to drop in by our offices and help us to make this year a truly exciting one. **Kwame Dawes**
Ed.Chief

WELCOME TO UNB MY FRIENDS!

Person Nibbles Canine

Marks, Stephen Marks
Brunswickan Staff

As the September sun slowly rises over bricks, buildings, bottles, books and the rest of your life at UNB, you may well find yourself asking what's going on.

As first year students, you may find things quite confusing, like trying to figure out what the Student Union does, or at least, what it is supposed to do. You may find its structure confusing and its goal almost obscured by apathy.

You may find yourself baffled by administrivia and academic rules and regulations, perhaps stopping to ponder how an university which supposedly reveres the beaver can steal so much of the poor little animal's food just to feed its own insatiable need for forms, especially when the Board of Governors of the University may or may not conveniently overlook its own rules of order and procedure when dealing with certain students.

The layout of the campus may perplex you as you marvel at how they seem to be able to move build-

ings around because you just know that that building over there used to be up the hill a bit farther.

You may wonder why some people chortle slightly when someone mentions "Food Services". You may start wondering why you ever came to this place.

So, if you find yourself feeling lost, alone, confused, frightened or just down right bewildered during your first few days at UNB, just remember: students that have been here for years feel the same.

But that's not the point, is it? The point of this article is to provide an example of journalist integrity and workpersonship. They picked me, Marks, Stephen Marks to write an article for the Frosh Issue of the Brunswickan because in the past two years that I have been a proud and loyal member of Canada's Oldest Official Student Publication I have worked hard and consistently written articles that have been at the apex of good journalism. I never waste space and always get straight to the point. I never inject my own personal views

into anything that I ever write for the Bruns because I think that it's wrong to do so, and that any reporter, no matter who she works for, who does this should be shot.

Questions like why an unofficial spokesperson for the organization that gets to play with your student fees, who stated that she did not want to be quoted, claimed that she could not remember denying that student fees were being mispent could be asked in the wrong context.

But, and I can't stress this fact enough, that's not the point.

Rather, the point is that this article is supposed to be a cleverly disguised attempt to introduce you to the Brunswickan, and provide an example of good journalism.

"Why would I want to join the Bruns?" you may ask. Well, we got a new waxer recently and everyone's all excited about that.

But the real reason that you should consider dropping by the Brunswickan offices, located in the office wing, Room 35 of the SUB, (by the cafe) any Friday at 12:30 is

The Brunswickan

Canada's oldest official student publication

Editor-in-chief.....	Kwame Dawes
Managing Editor.....	Melanie R. Hawkes
News Editor.....	Vacant
Sports Editor.....	Vacant
Entertainment Editor.....	Steve Griffiths
Features Editor.....	Vacant
Offset Editor.....	James Taylor
Distractions/Lit. Editor.....	Vacant
Photo Editor.....	Vacant
Advertising Manager.....	Alan Robichaud
Business Manager.....	Vacant

STAFF THIS ISSUE

Jennifer Duncan, Mark Savoie, Orientation Executive, Lynne Wanyeki, Stephane Comeau, Bill Traer, John Stillwell

Typesetters extraordinaire:

Bill Traer, Melanie Hawkes

The Brunswickan, in its 124th year of publication, is Canada's oldest official student publication. The Brunswickan's offices are located in Rm 35 of the University of New Brunswick's Student Union Building, P.O. Box 4400, College Hill, Fredericton N.B., E3B 5A3. Tel. 453-4983.

The Brunswickan is published by Brunswickan Publishing Inc. and printed with flair by Trader Publications, Fredericton, N.B.

Subscription is \$25 per year. Second class mail in effect.

Local Advertising rates are available from The Brunswickan, (506) 453-4983. National advertising rates are available from Youthstream Canada Ltd., 1541 Avenue Road, Suite 203, Toronto, Ont., M5M 3X4, Tel: (416) 787-4911.

Articles printed in The Brunswickan may be freely reproduced provided proper credit is given.

