

MUGWUMP

by Allan Carter

Well, I hope everybody enjoyed their brief summer vacation. I call it brief because most of the weather which we experienced in New Brunswick was not summer weather. From about May to the middle of July one could not help but wonder if Mother Nature herself went on vacation for the summer and left some lame brain to look after things. For those of you who were not in New Brunswick for the summer, bully for you! Tell me where you went and I might see you there next summer.

I hope everybody has found themselves a comfortable hole to live in for the upcoming academic year. I am confident that wherever you are living (besides home) you are paying way too much.

Who pre-registered this year? Great eh? Finally, a system that has been created at UNB which actually makes an attempt to cater to the students. I wonder if the Student Union had any impact in convincing the UNB administration to change their registration system? Naw. Nevertheless, I still knew a lot of students you couldn't "avoid the Aitken Centre" due to last-minute course changes. They did, however, have a chance to make their course change through the mail. But, alas, we can always count on someone to screw up a new system and force several disillusioned students to trudge up to the Aitken Centre. This year it was Canada Post.

I'm sure all the first year students enjoyed what is irritably called "Frosh week." The memorable week where older students (not always more mature, just older) make you do a bunch a stupid stuff which really does not pertain to anything you will be doing at University throughout the upcoming year, unless you plan on excelling in academic probation. Nevertheless, it is kind of fun and if you are truly a really weird person at least you have the reassurance that no one will know that until after "Frosh week" is over.

In order to promote the Student Union, the organization wisely spent some of our Student Union fees in manufacturing a few thousand attractive beach balls. While the beach balls were distributed during the summer (I'm not really sure who to), a few were left over for the "Frosh" fall activities. Great beach weather, eh?

Haven't our highways been great! No really, I'm not joking. I mean either they are completely paved over or every nook and cranny where one of our precious tires may slide into has been covered in asphalt. Gee, I wonder what brought on this sudden urge to improve our roads? I also wonder why every bridge across New Brunswick is being repaired. And what is the meaning of all these signs stuck up along the roads with pictures of grinning idiots and cornball slogans? Yes, it is election time again.

The Student Union at St Thomas had an interesting summer. Their former VP Administration just recently pleaded guilty to theft over \$1000.00, and \$12,700 is missing from the SU office. I would guess that this is an opportune moment for Jane Buckley to say "I told you so." For those of you who do not know, Buckley was the Director of Affairs at STU for ten years. Last year her contract was not renewed and her position was completely eliminated. That's right, she took care of the money. It's good to have someone around to do that.

Why do we have fire drills? On Monday more students were going into the SUB rather than out of it while a piercing alarm rang throughout the building. I guess you just can't keep students from attending their first day of classes. Or maybe students were excited to get some of those remaining Student Union beach balls.

"UNB stages date rape awareness campaign". For those of you who did not get a chance to read the article in the "Frosh" issue of the Brunswickan, you might like to know that the UNB's Student Women's Committee has organized a date rape awareness campaign on campus. It started during the Frosh week and will officially end September 20 with the Annual National Take Back the Night women's march. Just last term UNB officially implemented a sexual harassment policy. This year a sexual assault survey has been planned with support from both the Student Union and the Administration. And now a date rape awareness campaign has been organized with the help of the Fredericton Rape Crisis centre, The UNB Frosh Orientation Committee and the UNB Student Union. These are all indications that we have finally stopped talking and are starting to support these groups. Let's hope the Student Union and the UNB administration continue with their support in the upcoming months and years.

Hey, if the Student Union keeps supporting such worthwhile endeavors maybe the Bruns "will stop picking on them" when they do something really stupid. Naw.

I am sure you are all aware that today is Friday the 13th. Friday the 13th is, of course, a bad luck day. Therefore, I would like to propose some events that should always occur on Friday the 13th so it may live up to its feared reputation: Student Union meetings, Registration day, The anniversary of Elvis Presley, "Frosh" week, Midterms, Beaver Foods' dinner specials, and of course, the Brunswickan.

Oh, for those of you who thought we were supporting the Liberals last week by going the color red in our newspaper (Yes, really, some people actually thought this), I would just like to say that we went red for two reasons: It is truly the only color which looks nice on this newspaper and actually we are not supporting the Liberals, but Petro Canada since "it's ours".

Until next week try to stay awake in class.

OPINION

The opinions found in Opinion are not necessarily the views of The Brunswickan

STUDENT DISCIPLINARY CODE

The S.D.C., which has been in force since first approved by the Board of Governors in 1980, provides students with a means of self-discipline. It is not a replacement for the laws governing the community as a whole, but an alternative whereby the University has recognized the special environment it creates and has developed its own code accordingly.

The Campus Police, a student organization, has the main responsibility for enforcing the Code. Infractions are reported to the Student Disciplinary Committee -- all students -- who are empowered under the code to hold hearings and apply sanctions (penalties) on those found guilty of offences. The Code clearly lists the offences covered, including drinking under age, or in unauthorized places, assaults or disorderly conduct, damage to property, theft, refusal to show student I.D. card, and obtaining meals by unlawful means. The sanctions include fines up to \$200.00, restitution for damage, suspension of social privileges and recommendation for suspension or dismissal from the University.

During the 1990-91 academic year six students were found guilty of under-age drinking offences. A further four were found guilty of falsifying their I.D. cards in order to obtain a drinking stamp. Fines in most of the cases were \$25.00. The requirement of N.B.L.C.C. cards, introduced in the 1987-88 academic year, has greatly reduced the number of offences related to under-age drinking, i.e. 40 in 1987-88.

To maintain the privilege of a blanket liquor license, the University must ensure that the Province's liquor laws are scrupulously enforced: students are asked to cooperate by following the rules.

Students were also found guilty of other offences, including obstruction of C.P.'s, damage to property, failure to identify themselves to C.P.'s or Security, and assault. Fines for these offences ranged from \$25.00 to \$300.00.

The Code also provides for an appeal mechanism to the Board of Deans, which, under the University Act, has a special responsibility for discipline.

The Code establishes a Supervisory Board, which includes representatives from the Board of Governors and from student groups, a Commissioner for Student Discipline (the University Secretary), who is "responsible for the implementation and administration of the Code," and a Technical Advisor, who is usually a member of the Faculty of Law. It also details the membership of the Student Disciplinary Committee and the procedures to be followed in the laying of charges and conduct hearings. Any student interested in serving on the committee should contact the Student Union office or the chair of the Committee, David Weir, Faculty of Law (4669). Copies of the Code are available from the office of the University Secretary, Old Arts Building, room 110 (4613).

**THIS COLUMN IS
RESERVED FOR YOU!!**

**IF YOU HAVE AN OPINION
ON ANYTHING
OF CONCERN TO
THE STUDENT POPULATION,
DON'T HESITATE TO WRITE IT UP
AND DROP IT BY OUR OFFICE.**

**LENGTH: 1000 words
DEADLINE: Wednesday noon**