

Beware of built in ignorance

Orientation 70 which has been called alternately "the best ever" and "the Great Jump Backwards" was in our opinion a limited failure.

It was a financial success in that it remained within an adequate budget but finances are not the chief evaluation for our services to students. The greatest fault of the whole orientation process is that it does not answer the most relevant needs of the first year student in continuing the process of change on this university against things that we consider to be wrong with the whole administrative process. The work and effort of thinking students before us will be ruined if we do not catch these new minds before they become rah - rah members of this campus.

There is nothing particularly wrong with rah - rah emotions except that they should not be the total emotion promoted by a process that is to socialize an individual into this campus.

Thus Freshman Week as designed and presented by Tom Davis and his committee was a sort of rah - rah entertainment week with a valuable mini course session but little content as to how these new students with fresh enthusiasm and unbiased opinion could become members of student/faculty committees or members of the Student Representative Council. Both positions of power but little apparent interest on the part of the students in participating.

Student participation is the most pressing problem on this campus today and it is getting worse. Senior students who have suffered diminished academic careers due to the events of the past three years are all deciding that the library is the place to occupy instead of student leadership positions.

An Orientation process must equip these new students to be at least aware of the problems faced by this campus. The fact that this years committee fail-

ed to reach the higher expectations that we hold for the committee is disturbing but only a direct result of the mediocre orientation carried out previously on them. It is time the whole concept of Orientation was re-thought.

An article in last weeks paper suggested that ego was a problem with this years production and well it may be. But we tend to think that the committee's result was due to built in ignorance that the system here has incorporated into it's very fibre.

The charge to next years committee should be to prepare a program designed to answer the needs of the first year students not the authoritarian or status seeking senior students. Tell them the problems here, do not berate them for their decision to attend this particular college but encourage them to aid in the improving of this total university community. It must be hammered home to our new Freshman that there is better rewards at college in serving than in whining.

The committee must instruct these fresh minds that universities generally should oppose the wrongs of society such as authoritative and exploitative social structures ("Hey you frosh wear your beanie"); oppose waste and hate.

We find the stress on competition wrong as is the ignorance that comes ready mixed and ready built into our society. This is the sort of thing that we are old to accept without question.

We must not, we must question all things and that should be the basic tenet of the new orientation.

It is for these reasons and more that we find last months orientation attempt, a futile waste of needed effort, not by intentional fault of personal egomania but by pure unquestioning, built-in, ignorance.

WOWAY STU CURE

ALL STU STUNTS

1. OUT OF THE SUB
2. OUT OF FROSH ONE
3. WITH THEIR OWN WINTER GYMNASIUM
4. WITH THEIR NAME, YEAR, ACADEMIC AND STUDENT ID NUMBER, TAPPED ON THEIR FOREHEADS



feedback feedback

Dear Mr. Jonah,

This letter is written in reference to the article, 'Tibbits Open For Residents', which was published in the Oct. 2nd issue of the Brunswickan. The article stated that "No space has been reserved for the installation of Radio UNB speakers due to some unexplainable error."

The residence has been wired for Radio UNB and barring any unforeseen delays, the speakers will be installed in the next few weeks and will be fully operational by the end of October. Due to the late completion of the residence, the installation of this equipment has been held up until now.

The "FM Radio outlets" that you referred to in the article are actually the Radio UNB outlets. Respectfully yours, Michael Fitzpatrick, Chief Engineer, Radio UNB

Dear Sir,

I was most entertained while reading your account of Orientation '70 but was the author doing his editorial objectively or was it a personal attack against Tom Davis?

We read one account, now let's read another. The beanies and partial initiation were brought back on a trial basis and they went over quite well and were accepted by most of the freshmen class. I say most because it would be almost impossible to please 100 percent and we know we had no hope in trying.

It would seem that the people that went to the different events had fun and they met many people and this is what I think orientation is all about—that is the meeting of people. For man is a social animal and needs some of his kind to talk to otherwise he will feel left out and will probably feel homesick.

Also during orientation week you need many events for the freshmen in order that he escapes the original feeling of homesickness when his parents leave him in the fall.

In conclusion I would like to say that whenever I asked the frosh what changes they would like to see done for next year they generally replied have a harder initiation and to keep the beanies.

If Glenn wants to see some changes made why doesn't he join the squad for next year? Otherwise would he please not make any comments about anything if he doesn't have any suggestions to make.

Sincerely Yours,

"A Frosh Squad Member"

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