Whatever happened to the oldfashion UNB Carni?

Winter Carnival is over, but the comments keep rolling in. Before this gets too critical, we'd like to comment on the effort of the carnival committee. We give them credit for the hard work we know was needed for the week-long event and they deserve a word of thanks for giving up their time for so long and making carnival enjoyable for those that attended.

The students who ran Carnival complained that the Brunswickan never checked with them when a story was written on one of their activities, especially when there were a lot of students up in arms over something. A good example of this is when there were long ticket lines, or extended waits outside for pubs or other activities.

Everyone with the exception of the hard working organizers, volunteers, and campus police had to wait out in the cold at the Liverpool performance Feb. 7. This delay was due to short circuits in the equipment the management have said. When they were asked why the seating arrangement was set up the way it was, answers varied from "the band showed up half an hour earlier than expected and they began to set up and it became too late to change it" to "we wanted to maximize the amount of floor space for dancing." Obviously they should get their heads together and have one story and stick with it.

On Monday afternoon people were still scurrying around trying to find adequate and safe staging for the James Gang concert to be held that night. We didn't ask them before hand why the staging had not been previously arranged since we anticipated that they would have a valid reason. They had the staging up by concert time and there was no delay but why wasn't there long range planning?

If people can recall the sixties, they may remember families driving around campus enjoyably eyeballing the ice sculptures, throngs of people patiently waiting out in the cold for the parade, and generally a high-spirited population. What is wrong with Carnival?

The organizers have only so much to work with and volunteers are a precious commodity these days, so the blame does not rest solely on the shoulders of a few.

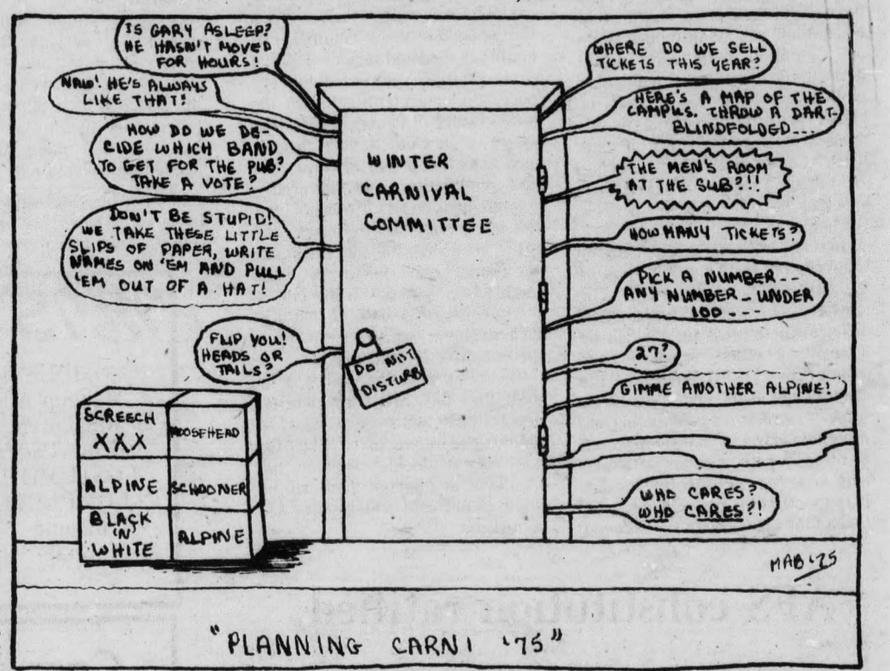
Midway through last week, at the height of carnival, an organizer came scurrying down to the Bruns to find a solution to his problem. He wanted coverage of carnival. Was he misinformed or did someone "mispoke" to him? We guess he just didn't know that it takes a bit of advance notice and planning for adequate coverage. We know for a fact that had there been reasonable time given, the overall coverage and promotion of Carnival would have been substantially better. Contacts with local media could have been arranged but promotional matters could not be tossed out in a short time. Granted, The Brunswickan could have given more coverage. We ran a full page free ad and wrote quite a bit of information in the paper's news section. Part of the problem is staff shortages and lack of planning. Don't get us wrong, we make mistakes, but we try to be open about them.

Most people enjoyed themselves during carnival, especially Extravaganza and other pubs, but must these remain the major attractions? Popular demand reigns, of course, but why not try something different for a change? We don't want pubs to be dropped but are they the ONLY events? After all, pubs are a dime a dozen here.

The originality of the carnival theme and the names given to the various events was refreshing and someone must have worked overtime in the Social Club on them. Most events were fairly well attended and the general concensus was that all had a "good time"; so congrats.

However, was Carnival cluttered with too many events and held too soon? Would it have been better attended and organized if it had been cut down to a more reasonable size? Should such a large sum of money be budgeted for loss? After all, tickets were sold during a day when many students were not on campus, during class time, and not nearly enough students managed to obtain the tickets. Some will sit back and bitch about it, but given the space factor and maximums on the number of people that can attend an event this can be expected. Our point is, since so many events are restricted to a minority, should ALL students be expected to absorb the loss? It would be ludicrous to extend this argument since nothing productive can be said but why not have some rearranging take place for future carnivals so that either more students can enjoy the events they want or else have the losses cut down.

It is safe to say that carnival was a success this year, but think of past carnivals, of the economic loss, inconveniences to people, injustices such as ticket sales-



"PLANNING CARNI '75"

something obviously must be changed. Where should change start? Begin with one vital question: what is best for the maximum number of students? Then ask how can a maximum number of students be involved. After all, Carnival is a partial expenditure of our student fees

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