



Mugwump Journal

By TOM BENJAMIN

Do you have a housing problem? Now is the time to do something about your housing problems, and to try to solve the problem in the future.

The dean of students advisory committee on housing has prepared a questionnaire on housing in an attempt to find students' opinions and desires about housing. The questionnaire will be circulated in late October.

The university has released a press statement saying that the housing problem has been solved. As long as any students are forced to live in substandard housing or pay outrageous rents there is no way the housing problem can be said to be solved.

The off-campus housing shortage was worse this year than any other in the recent history of this university.

Steps must be taken now to solve the problem in future years. One way students can help alleviate the problem is to accurately complete the questionnaire when it is distributed.

The results of the survey will have a bearing on future housing developments on this campus, and accurate student input is essential.

Students may have to take responsibility for drafting student input to future housing policy - the SRC certainly has missed the boat lately.

Monday was the last day for submissions to the legislature's law amendments committee concerning the proposed Residential Tenancies Act. However, the SRC neglected to submit a brief on the act, an act that will affect many students living off campus.

The SRC has lost an opportunity to have student input in a student issue. As well as supporting lobbying groups like the National Union of Students and the Atlantic Federation of Students the SRC should consider working within government channels in support of student issues.

If the Residential Tenancies Act proves to be unfavorable to students we will have only ourselves to blame.

It is much more difficult to change an act once it is passed than to take advantage of an opportunity to have input before the act is drafted.

The SRC should concentrate on working through channels for the students advantage to eliminate the necessity of using pressure groups to achieve student aims.

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Local industrialist Kenneth C. Irving received a "developer of the year" award from the Canada Trade and Industry Council in St. Andrews last week. Very few persons have done so much for the development of this province - and gained so much in doing so. From a lowly start in selling neckties Irving has gone on to become one of the very few examples of successful capitalism in the province.

Exploiter or humanitarian, Irving is probably the one person other than the premier who gets the full text of his speeches printed verbatim in the commercial press.

For the first Monday night during the academic year in a long time the SRC has not called a meeting. Council attempted to hold a meeting late last week, but was unable to attain a quorum. Apparently Monday's meeting was not called because two of the council executive members would be unable to attend, and it was felt it would be impossible to get a quorum.

Hopefully the situation will improve after the fall election, if the election ever gets off the ground. To date the SRC has rescheduled the election twice, and has now set the election date for Oct. 22.

The National Union of Students referendum scheduled to run in conjunction with the election will now take place after the NUS conference which will begin here Oct. 16.

The SRC attempted to hold the NUS referendum before the conference, apparently in an attempt to have the question decided before students are exposed to leftist NUS delegates.

At least now the students will have an opportunity to see the organization in operation before the decision must be made.

Indications are that the politics of the NUS members is unlikely to scare anyone, even in this bastion of conservatism.

Greenblatt: Views on hectic registration

Dear Editor:

The following letter and accompanying motion will be placed before Senate at its next meeting. In order to present our case, and give the motion some punch, it would be good if I could relay some student's comments.

Therefore, if anybody has any remarks about registration, I would be happy to hear from you. Come see me at Room 220 MacKenzie House Phone 453-4929.

Yours truly,

Marv Greenblatt

Several students have voiced dissatisfaction with this years registration. I would like to address my comments to this

subject.

While it's true students did get registered, it seemed to be at great inconvenience to both themselves and faculty. This year appeared more hectic than usual. Pre-registration, for instance, didn't seem to be as effective as it could be. A lot of the kits were received by the students after the pre-registration deadline. An earlier mailing would alleviate this snag. When kits were received in time, students found it difficult to take advantage of this convenience because calendars are not included.

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Nobody's perfect not even us

Dear Editor:

In our society, the media, especially the written media, have a serious responsibility to ensure that what they print bears some semblance to reality.

This last issue of the Brunswickan contains many serious errors of fact and/or interpretation. I cannot possibly enumerate them all, however, I must take exception to several of them.

In order of least importance, I would start with the reported facts on the AUC. Mr. Benjamin reports that "proposals made by students for the sound system, approved by ADI Ltd. designers involved perforations in the surface in the upper area of the rink." This is absolutely false. The National Research Council of Canada was commissioned by the University architects to investigate the reverberation times of the Centre and to make recommendations.

The N.R.C. scientists concluded that the aforementioned perforations represented the best solution to the problem. From the computer data, the sound system was designed by Doug Bearsto of CHSR and Paul Lester of ADI. The point is, the system as it was designed will not function under the new conditions. The Assistant

Vice-President of Administration has, however, assured us the adequate steps will be taken. Mr. McKenzie has withdrawn the recommendation of the sound system by the student members of the AUC until such time as the revised proposals are scrutinized.

A second matter, of great annoyance to me is Mr. Goldberg's reported comments on SUB expansion. It is not the opinion of the Board that "the most severe problem is the number of toilets." I protest loudly and vigorously at this appearing in the Bruns. The Board of Directors of the Student Union Building has worked very hard to pave the way for Murray and Murray.

Surely, the problem of toilets is one under consideration, but issues of a large and efficient cafeteria, a bigger ballroom, and perhaps most significantly a 'home' for Student Services are ones to which we are concentrating our time. The fact is we must move quickly to expand the services of the building in order to fulfill the functions for the students and to remain competitive in the Fredericton market.

Perhaps lastly I could take exception to Mr. Benjamin's snide, and frankly rather cheap little cuts at SRC President, Warren McKen-

zie. Totally ignoring the fact, the demonstrable fact the Mr. McKenzie has achieved significant goals during the first half of his term, Mr. Benjamin apparently feels that Mr. McKenzie is not entitled to a little, and I mean a very little personal life, sleep and study time. I could speak to the last one even further. To study, is that not what an academic community is about? or perhaps, as seems to be a common feeling in student affairs, it is better to totally ignore the basic purpose of coming to university, namely attaining a good degree?

I would think that of all the issues that should be raised in a student newspaper, the fact that the UNB SRC President has an unlisted home phone number is the least of them. What about student aid, SUB expansion, the National Union of Students, entertainment on campus, course evaluation, sports, and on and on?

I would hope for a more responsible effort in editorial journalism.

Yours truly,

J. David Miller

Authors discontent with censorship of classified

Dear Editor Friend:

Censorship: it is not a pleasant word, but this is not a pleasant letter to be writing. This is a letter about an old friend to us all, the Brunswickan.

In a notice designed and placed so as to attract the least possible attention, the staff of the Brunswickan informed the student body that the Brunswick no longer can run "frivolous" classified advertisements. What excuse is given for this rather astounding move? It appears that the paper which simultaneously ran a Toronto written article on food services personnel at York

University, an article on student loan regulations in Alberta, and a childish (or is the expression "socially aware") piece on the "Steinem-CIA connection" does not have room for locally written social comment and humor.

Remembering that both Nazi Germany and Stalinist Russia considered religion frivolous, what are we to fear for the Brunswickan and/or its staff? Is it possible that they are now capable of this type of great judgement? We hope not.

But then we forget: by running the national articles off the wire from the Canadian University Press the Bruns can save itself the effort of copying the handwrit-

ten local material and simultaneously add to its own prestige with other student papers elsewhere.

We, the undersigned, do not believe that censorship is what the student body or the Bruns want. We ask the editorial staff of the Bruns to reconsider its decision in the realization that not an insubstantial portion of the UNB and STU student bodies both read and enjoy the local "frivolous" material over the so-called material of a "serious mature" written in Upper Canada and elsewhere.

Norman R. Donaldson
Brian Oliver
Jamie Alison HPNAH (I.O.R.D.)
Colin Sinclair
Tim Smith
Joan Randall
Rick Arseneault (I.O.R.D.)
Peggy O'Neill
J. Michael Lee
Gary Kierstead
Laurence George Worthen
Cynthia Wyton (I.O.R.D.)
Elizabeth Johnson
Fiona Denny

Ed. note: We remind the writers of this letter that the locally written social comment and humor can still be submitted to the Letters to the Editor column, where the only guideline is that the correspondence meet the legal definition of fair public comment. Some of last year's classifieds, we felt, came close to libel and at least were in violation of human rights. However such decisions—as well as the choice of what stories we publish—are made by the staff. We welcome criticism but also feel that those who criticize should do with some understanding of THE BRUNSWICKAN'S operation as well as some idea of an alternative—perhaps best acquired by joining the other students who put the paper together.

Dog Fight Blues

Dear Editor:

"Free concert - everyone welcome. Special second event - dog fights will be held at interspersed intervals and locations during the concert. As well as providing extra entertainment value, these dog-fights will test the reflexes of those in the immediate vicinity by giving them added stimulus to get to their feet quickly as the dog-fight gets close (within two feet) of the spot on the ground where they are sitting."

This may sound ridiculous, but it accurately describes the scene in front of the Student Union Building on Sunday afternoon. Large dogs roamed freely throughout the crowd seated on the ground. Being present at a dog-fight, my arm was scraped on a paved walkway in an attempt to get to my feet when two of the dogs proceeded to settle some sort of doggy disagreement by growling and snapping at each other in a close combat position

until separated by members of the crowd. Unfortunately, the report of such incidents observed by this individual must end here, as I left the concert at this point, having no desire for further entertainment of the kind described above.

It does, however, seem that one cannot attend an open-air concert on this campus without having to worry about the possible dangers presented by uncontrolled dogs roaming and fighting with each other within a few feet of one. Perhaps if it were made perfectly clear in advance that unleashed animals were unwelcome at concerts and that action would be taken against their owners, the situation would improve so that those who enjoy music could attend concerts with the assurance that incidents of this nature would not occur.

Margaret Bridge