

UNB didn't bargain for all this grief

Even a casual observer of the financial position of the University of New Brunswick would have to wonder exactly what John Anderson and his trusty band are doing down there, in the Old Arts Building.

In a rather casual statement by the resident wizard of finance, Jim O'Sullivan, it is clear that the Aitken Centre is causing more grief than was bargained for. Another way to put it is 'money must come from the bank to pay off current debts.' True enough, but that could be several hundred thousand dollars over the years before it breaks even. No opinion is given as to who made the projection and why they didn't work out. Least not to us.

The nearly 400,000 dollars in overall budget shortfall does have an excuse. The reason, according to Anderson (putting it politely) is an overstated housing shortage; and less politely, a phony housing shortage.

The proof of this according to Anderson is the fact that the Un

iversity has failed to fill Victoria house, the newly-created mens' residence. Yes, this would be supremely logical since all students like living in residence, and all students are male. At last count, Victoria had two vacancies.

It is plainly obvious that there exists a serious housing shortage

in the city of Fredericton. Students are living in sub-standard fire-traps too far away from campus.

The Brunswickan would like to point out that students are not budget-balancing-statistics. In spite of the lofty motivation of having a balanced budget, students should not be expected

to live in tents pitched on some field in Gagetown.

Blaming the financial problems on a phony housing shortage, even an overstated housing problem is irresponsible, foolish and phony in itself.

All this while they calculate our next tuition and residence fee increases.

Are students masochists?

Guess what, people? It's second term already, that's what.

Christmas and New Year's are over and all those term papers you worked on up until December 22, the ones you thought would never get done as you ploughed through volumes and volumes, are just hazy, unpleasant memories.

That makes a nice story, doesn't it? However, there is a second side to it. We all now have a brand new set of term papers, exams, tests, and other niceties to look forward to. Isn't that nice?

When you get right down to it, the best profs are probably the ones who greet at the first class of the term with a 3,000 word essay due in one month's time.

This may sound treasonous, but it really isn't. After all, no student spends more than three weeks working on an essay, no matter when it is due, and if you get it done and over with in February, well...What can we say?

Of course, all this doesn't change the fact that term papers are basically unpleasant no matter what the deadline.

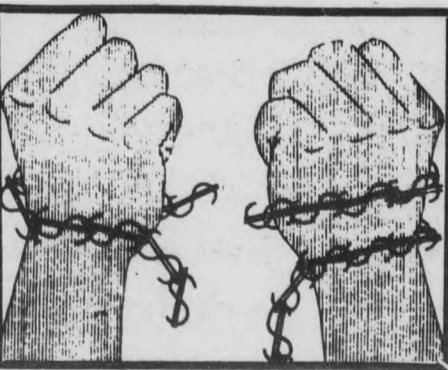
This points out an odd situation. Students say they want an education and spend thou-

sands of dollars of their own and the taxpayer's money to get one. Yet any student will tell you he/she would rather spend their time in a tavern getting inebriated.

Not only that, but, after spending one miserable year here, they will come back for another, another and another and another. It would almost make you think students were possessed by masochistic tendencies.

Actually, we don't believe this, and neither do most students. After spending twelve miserable years in the New Brunswick (or wherever) school system, most students are merely unwilling to admit that they can actually benefit from four to five years more.

Strange, isn't it? No, not really. Just human.



At last At last SRC pulling out of hole

Several issues ago, this page took this SRC to task for their failure in providing the necessary leadership to answer the needs of the student. The Brunswickan still maintains that not enough is being done to solve the basic problems of the campus.

Problems such as rapidly escalating fees, parking and abuse of alcohol. Problems such as university students being killed while returning from class, a foolish student aid system and a severe lack of housing which will not burn down at a moments notice and less than ten miles away from campus.

Indications this past week are that the Student Representative Council may actually be heading out of a long while in a self-created hole on the road to a more active leadership role.

An analysis of the decisions made over the past two years will show that the internal politics and personalities of council have

prevented much in the way of rational decision-making.

With the abolition of the honouraria for councillors, a majority of the people now on council are implicitly saying that the bullshit politics must end and that more important things have to be done.

The new small 'c' constitution, the By-Laws and Regulations are at least in the draft form, a vastly more rational approach to the organisation of student government.

The Brunswickan would like to bring these items to the attention of students as a sign, though just a small sign, of a student council which deserves the support of the students. Before any other words are said, The Brunswickan wishes to define that support as a willingness on the part of more students to get out and participate.

If after much thought, participation is not you, then, in a month's time get out and vote.

By
Welcom
this colum
best of it.

Did you
in econo
corporate
statistics
circles con
of insane
with relief

C'ur sag
when he s
enough, f
as a poli
expectati
directed t
could be
controvers
schools
non-devel
developm
economic
their econ
models of
unique as
be subject
social pro
these infl
developm
world, en
attention
resources
The sadd
indigenous

Did you
of a centi
visibility a

A crisis
newspape
home - a
tabloids fi
evolved
advertising
grim in
establishm
our way th
campus ha
bomastic
good expe
we sit at a
a prime ch
almost any
real limit
when you f
bureaucra
stone wall
anything al
trot down
suggestion
Hypotehtic
nature the
change or
made thro
change is

If Saint J
love to kn
We are s
now slowl
February 2
wondering
informal p
against an
increases
Some st
discourage
of rising ca
books will
stop.
Post-scrip
sentences