

David Miller

Welcome 1st year students, to the land of UNB. I have always been struck with the thought that driving through the gates of the university was much like driving into Disneyland. Life here at times bears little resemblance to the real world, and at other times seems more like the world than the outside world.

In your student handbook you will notice a little paragraph on the campus ministry. The campus ministry issues a report every year on their activities and includes comments on campus life. In this year's report the two major problems the campus suffers were isolated. First and foremost is the fact that we suffer from a severe alcohol problem, and secondly our student government is, quite frankly, the shits. Solutions to the alcohol problem have been advanced in terms of stopping pubs, closing the social club and banning organized drinking. It is interesting to note that these solutions inevitably come from "the outside world", expressed most commonly by the alumni. I have always been a little baffled by this because having attended many alumni functions, I have witnessed the fact that even "responsible members of the community" get rip-roaring drunk occasionally.

For my money the root of the alcohol problem lies in the fact that the student council fails absolutely to live up to its mandate to serve the interests of the majority of students. It is a simple matter to calculate that some 90 percent of the money we all pay to the union benefits maybe 20 percent of the students. As a result, entertainments and organised activities for large numbers of students simply don't exist. It is interesting to note that this student union spends maybe 10 percent of its budget on entertainment. The average in this part of the country would be close to 40 percent and ranges to 60 percent. This is caused by the simple fact that the people who control our money prefer to see it in the bank and in nice neat columns in a ledger, than where it is needed.

What is needed on this campus is not fewer pubs but more pubs, concerts, movies, singers and musicians walking through the SUB, sitting in the coffee house or the blue lounge watching Pierre Senecal quaffing some vin rouge or vin blanc. We do not need the intense boredom of UNB and the City of Fredericton to force people to drink in small groups in their rooms and to get sick drunk on what few social drinking occasions we do have.

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Although I have mixed feelings about the denial of the use of McConnel Hall for pubs to the general student body, I wish to stand up and applaud the leadership within the residence system who fought for the wishes of the students in residence and won. Would that we were all represented by such determined people.

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Council's first meeting. A review of the activity of the summer. The first summer in 5 years in which things beneficial were actually achieved for the students instead of the student council itself. A first class handbook for all students, a travel office, the organisation and development of concerts as a business for the student union serving the whole community, movies, a new and more organised constitution, etc. All was not a rose garden however, and council will have to decide the question of retaining a lawyer for this year (which we don't need), passing a set of by-laws and regulations replacing that confusing, and rather incoherent document they passed last year called, for the want of a better word, a constitution, and most importantly support the activities of the council's subsidiary company, CSL. If they make the wrong decisions, then I figure me and about 2,500 other tax paying citizens will tell them where they can stick their \$30 fee next year.

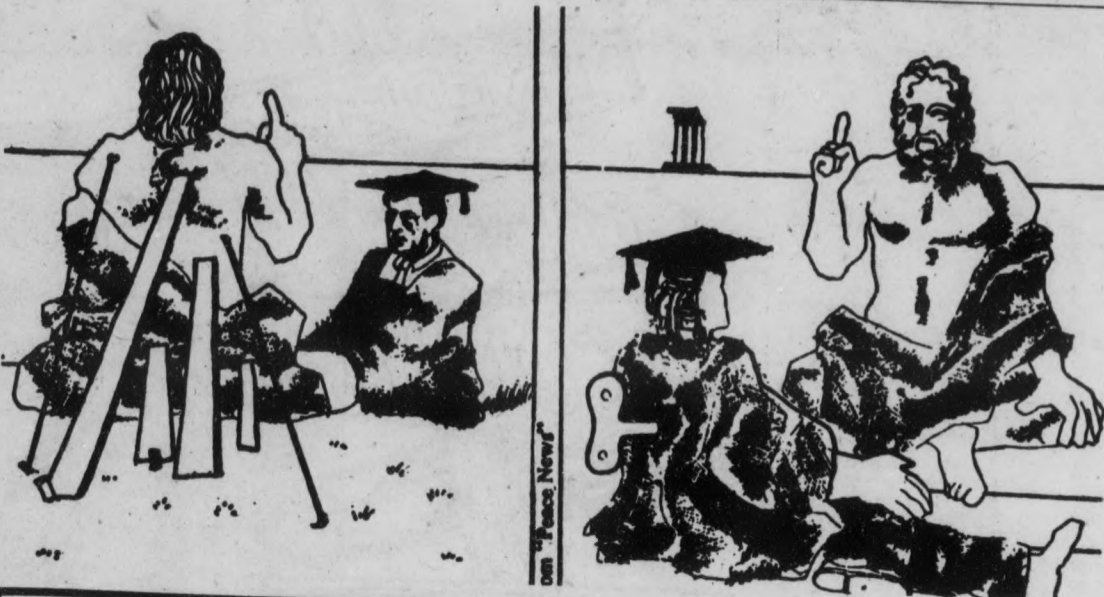
Art Center Singers Tune In Once More

The first meeting of the Art Centre Singers for the coming season will be held Monday, September 20 at 8:30 p.m. in the UNB Art Centre, Memorial Hall, Fredericton.

The group and its conductor Douglas Start welcomes interested singers in the Fredericton area who would like to participate.

The singers will present two concerts this year. Musical selections planned are the Coronation Mass by Mozart, the Christmas Story by Ron Nelson, Jephthe of Carissimi, madrigals and folk songs.

Rehearsals are held each Monday evening from 8:30 to 10 p.m.



OSCA

A welcoming party will be held this Saturday (18) at the Fredericton Agriculture Research Centre. Would the participants please gather at the front lobby of Head Hall at 10 a.m.

Admission fee - members \$2.50
new members - free of charge

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749 Charlotte Street Fredericton, N. B.

Children's Program

Charles Lamb said: "I am determined my children shall be brought up in their father's religion -- if they can find out what it is."

Up to 4 years of age - nursery class and babysitting available. 5-7 years of age - Beacon Press curriculum of the "Haunting House" kit. 8-12 years of age - Beacon Press curriculum "Why do Bad Things Happen?" How different religions deal with human suffering. Teenage Fellowship - workshops, group discussions, and trips - will meet one evening a week.

The general aims of our religious education were described by William Ellery Channing, internationally revered Unitarian preacher and scholar of the last century:

"The great end in religious instruction . . . is not to stamp our minds irresistibly on the young, but to stir up their own; not to make them see with our eyes, but to look inquiringly and steadily with their own; not to impose religion upon them in the form of arbitrary rules, which rest on no foundation but our word and will, but to awaken the conscience, the moral discernment, so that they may discern and approve for themselves what is everlastingly right and good . . ."

We invite you and your children to explore religion with us. Volunteers who are comfortable with this approach are welcome to help.

Adult Fellowship

Do you want to be free to wonder about - even doubt - the existence of God, the nature of God, the effectiveness of prayer, the value of the Bible, the possibility of immortality, and still be religious. Where can you find a church that calls no honest doubt "heresy" and where heretics are welcome?

Unitarians cherish wide differences of religious opinion and belief within their ranks, yet there is a sustaining bond of union on such matters as Serious concern with religious living
Belief in the importance of individual thinking
Respect for the personalities and convictions of others
Faith in human dignity and potentiality
Confidence in the true harmony of science and religion
Faith in the principle of love
Quest for a broad and encompassing religion: spiritual yet universal.

This fall the adult fellowship will pursue a number of program themes including: religious alternatives to fundamentalism, the worlds of the minorities around us, human sexuality and facing death (led by children).

We will also have our seasonal celebrations: Harvest songs and poetry, communion, the winter solstice, the art of Bertolt Brecht, etc. A recorder group is being formed.

You are welcome to join with us.