mugwump journal

By JEFF IRWIN

Well bells, more snow last Monday, we won't be able to mow the grass til August, yipee!

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Congrats to our new Editor-in-Chief Christie Walker, good luck!

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Students, students, students, why didn't you come out in force for the march last Tuesday? I know mid-terms and labs etc. all come into play, however it did and it does concern the future costs of all students. A good turn out would have been more desirable.

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A note to Don Pennell and Shirley Cleave. I am sorry and I assure you that it was not my fault that the sponsors in question got left out of last weeks Bruns. I told the sports editor to include it and it wasn't. I am not trying to sluff the blame off on them however, you can see my position. As you can see they have been included this week. Again, I am sorry for the mix up but I hope it has been rectified.

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As far as people coming into our office and making personal accusations about what people here do and do not care about, and how things are run around here, don't bother unless you have something intelligent to offer.

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Our heartiest congratulations to all the award winners at the Athletic Awards Banquet this week especially to Joanne McLean, Scott Devine, and Anne Kaiser. Now if we can get Dave Morell to read the program and launch an investigation as to what actually happens at the pool we'll be all set.

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Now something that students have all experienced I am sure. Why is it that SUB staff can not serve cold beer in the SUB ballroom? All they need is about 4 or 6 large (20-30 gallon) garbage cans filled with ice and beer and this would alleviate a lot of the problem. For the price people and organizations pay to rent the ballroom this is something I am sure that would help to ease the shock of the total cost.

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As to those students of questionable intelligence who have a habit of throwing news papers off of the balcony at McConnell Hall, please don't. If you have a beef with Beaver Foods or us, write a letter or go and see someone in charge, but quit acting childish.

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I hope we can get a good turn out for our Beer Hunter Pub. It would be a great way to wind up a year. All participants must have their entries in by Monday, March 29 to me Jeff Irwin. The number of contestants will be limited to fourty (40) but every one is invited for a great party. Prizes have been donated by the merchants on campus as well as merchants in the city.

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soundoff

UNB student sexually harassed

Dear Editor:

It was with a great deal of interest that I read the Sexual Harassment Survey published in the *Brunswickan*, March 19. My interest is particularly acute, since I myself am a victim of sexual harassment by a professor of this university. I feel compelled to write this letter about my own experience for I want it to be known that this sort of thing is going on in our own university. I sincerely hope that enlightenment will serve to protect other female students. I also hope that this will convince other victims to come forth with their own stories -- this can not be swept under the carpet any longer. Although I was brave enough to report my case and see it through to its less than satisfactory finish I, unfortunately, am not courageous enough to give my name, faculty or department. Since the incident, the professor has undertaken a smear campaign against me and I have no desire to stoop to his level so I will not reveal his identity either.

I am a female student, under 30 years of age, and have attended this university for several years. During the third year of my undergradute programme I enrolled in a course given by my harasser-to-be. From the start of the course I was subjected to lewd comments, behaviour and suggestions. As well, I and the other members of the class were treated to his varied philosophies about women and sex and how the former was only useful for the latter. I was told by members of his other classes that this was standard fare. I remember one of his comments especially. God knows he repeated it often enough: "The only reason a woman goes to university is to get a husband." I remember on other occasions when a female student turned in a good assignment he would allow that "it was very good -- for a woman." But these assorted comments were usually just accepted or shrugged off. However, his attitude toward me personally became rather more offensive and annoying. He became more suggestive and lewd and finally began to openly proposition me. At first I tried to make light of it and tried not to find myself alone in a room with him. Eventually, I just came right out with a negative answer to his rather tacky invitations. At this point, let me say that I am a straight 'A' student and have won awards for my high marks. Further let me say that until my negative response to his sexual advances, I had been maintaining a high average in his course. (The nature of the course required daily tests and weekly assignments). It was at that time that my marks in his course began to plummet to 'F'. Odd coincidence? I sort of thought so, until I noticed that my grade did not improve no matter how hard I worked. His behavior became more and more odious, finally so much so that I could not bring myself to attend the last 3 weeks of his course.

It was no great surprise when my grade transcript arrived, showing an 'F' for his course (glaringly out of place among all the 'A's). It was only then that I decided to report the case to the proper authorities - whoever the hell they might be (I was soon to learn that there were several!)

I first went to see a lady, rather high up in the administration, and told her the whole story. I was advised to go see the Dean of Students and then the Dean of my faculty. She further advised that I not mention the sexual harassment since I probably would not be taken seriously, would lose my credibility and no doubt become the subject of a faculty black-list. She seemed to feel that I had enough grounds to appeal my grade on other issues. She also suggested that I might want to seek legal aid. (This meeting took place in early May).

I prepared a formal complaint and application for an appeal of the grade and took it to the Dean of Students. In my complaint I clearly but delicately made it plain that I had been sexually harassed -in the interview with the Dean I spelled it out a little less delicately. However, I also made it clear that there were several other unrelated issues that prompted me to seek an appeal hearing. The Dean of Students heard my case, chuckled indulgently and with a voice oozing avuncular concern asked me if I wasn't overreacting and suggested that, perhaps, I had misunderstood the professor. He then launched forth on a speech about the fine upstanding gentleman I was accusing, and gave me a rundown on his moral qualities, managing to make this guy look like a dear old dad, the Pope and Santa Claus all rolled into one virtuous soul. He ended the interview asking me if I really wanted to pursue it, saying that it was apt to get rather messy. I assured him I did - he advised against it but said unconvincingly that he would "see what he could do."

Next, I contacted two lawyers and gave them all the details. They were convinced that I had a legal case if I wanted one and they were so interested that they offered their services for free. They gave me advice as to how to proceed and how to avoid any risk of libel. Armed with this bit of knowledge, I prepared for a meeting with one of the Deans of my faculty. Word of my case was getting around and people started coming forward with bits of information. From a faculty member of the same department I learned that he had been accused of sexual harassment before and had several complaints filed against him. From former students of his I heard of his similar treatment of them. From another faculty member I heard the prof and the Dean of Students were old chums (Surprise, Surprise!!!).

My next move was to take all of my assignments and have them independently marked by two other members of my department. Both gave consistently high marks, where the prof had given 'F' and 'D' grades.

I took these duplicate assignments, my formal letter of appeal and my transcript to one of the Deans of my faculty. (By this time it was early October) The Dean heard my case and, while not disputing that I had a good case, he told me that a formal appeal could get very messy and that it would be better all around if the case could be settled at his level (i.e. not going before the appeal board and the Senate). A meeting was arranged between the Dean, the prof, the chairman of the department and myself. It was suggested at the meeting, as a possible resolution, that I re-do the work and have the professor re-mark it. The professor clearly stated in front of all present that no matter what kind of work I turned in, that the highest mark he would ever give me would be a 'D'. I was amazed that he would say something like that in front of the Dean and said so. The Dean informed me that the

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