

the brunswickan

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General Meetings: Friday at 12:30 Everyone Welcome!

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Blood and Thunder

Pros...

Dear Sir,

I would like to take the opportunity to say congratulations to Carl Burgess and the organizers of Varsity Mania for the UNB/UPEI soccer game. Actually, credit should also go to the members of the various residences who participated. ~~The atmosphere was truly one~~ could all enjoy.

As coach of the Red Bloomers, I am looking forward to the Varsity Mania involvement with future athletic events. This enthusiasm and school spirit is exciting to see and I am thrilled to think of the potential school spirit UNB can develop.

Once again congratulations and keep up the good work.

Yours truly, Claire Mitton

...and Cons

Dear Editor:

On Saturday, September 24th, I attended the UNB-UPEI soccer match. All the joy was taken out of this particular match by the residence that I was sitting beside. The songs and chants were crude and disgusting, the language, foul, and the "mooning" behaviour, a sight one should never have to behold. Are all the men's residences encouraged to perform in this way? Is this kind of behaviour a result of residence living?

My daughter and her friends came to watch the game -- I had to send them to the end of the field. I stayed where I was because I chose to stay and support the residence I was with.

I, of course, have choices -- to stay away from the games, to sit far enough away from the residences so as to enjoy myself. But I do not think those choices should be forced upon me by that kind of behaviour. No wonder the UNB residence system does not enjoy a great reputation! Judging from the comments around me, there will be community members forced into choices as well. Saddest of all is the knowledge that the home

we provide for young people eight months a year is possibly a home with very few values.

M. McLaughlin

Mistakes

Dear Sir,

In the light of last week's story concerning the problems encountered in the aftermath of the Shinerama Extravaganza, I feel a better explanation of what went wrong is in order.

As the chairman of Orientation '88, I was involved in planning this event way back in August. Marc Braithwaite, representing Campus Entertainment (and in effect, the Student Union) approached me and suggested that we work together to promote the first major campus-wide event. At the same time, he showed a genuine interest in supporting a good cause with the "projected profits" from the event. During Orientation, as the event was getting closer, Marc and Rachel Ingram, the Shinerama Director, had a short meeting and verbally decided that the event would be called the Shinerama Extravaganza and that all profits (ie. after the bills are paid) would go to Shinerama. Thus, we have the first problem. Marc and Rachel, two friends working together on a business venture, decided that this verbal agreement was the only one needed and, therefore, no written (or contractual, I suppose) agreement was drawn up and stored for future reference. The week before the event, the posters and other promotions were prepared, and tickets were printed up. On Monday, September 12, full scale, campus-wide promotion and ticket sales began. The posters, if you remember, read:

TICKETS \$8.00
 (plus \$2.00 donation to Canadian Cystic Fibrosis Foundation)
 so, tickets would cost \$10, with \$2 going to CF Research. No problem.

Big Problem. The 4 bands that played the event cost just over \$8,000, therefore sales of over 800 tickets would be required to cover cost, and then and only then, would the CCFF get any money according to the verbal agreement. However, according to the posters and other promotions,

with only \$8 out of each ticket sold going to cover cost, sales of over 1000 tickets would be needed to break even, while the CCFF got its cut regardless of whether 1 or 1000 tickets were sold. Sure the public was misled. I felt misled. On Tuesday morning, the second day of ticket sales, I ran into Marc and informed him of the possible problem. He concurred that it was, but that expectations of a sellout were high, so why worry? I figure, he and Rachel know what they're doing, the Student Union apparently didn't know, and who was I to rain on someone else's parade. The major problems: Marc and Rachel, who knew the verbal agreement conflicted with the promotion, didn't attempt to correct the situation (with only 2 days before the event, it was almost impossible to do) and Campus Entertainment (ie. Student Union) were not prepared to hand over the money in the event of a loss. Both of them made the mistake and even the Student Union is indirectly to blame since they handle the money. Neither of them are bad people (I know this because I am a good friend of each), and they absolutely did not set out to take advantage of anyone. I must accept some responsibility myself for the problem, as I could have acted more strongly on my intuition to alter the promotion. I never really sat down with them to discuss the agreement and promotion. In any case, I support both of these individuals in their attempts to battle student apathy, provide a good time for all, and support a worthwhile campaign. We need more people, like these two, who are willing to get involved and make things happen on campus. Marc, you realize your mistake and have tried to make amends; Rachel, I suggest you employ a little diplomacy and try as well. A little communication couldn't hurt here. Good friends need to help each other out, not cry over spilt milk. In closing, I suggest that if more students at UNB cared enough to help out, you wouldn't have only a few doing everything and therefore less chances for mistakes. We all could've helped to avoid this. We all make mistakes. They're not perfect, I'm not perfect, and neither are you.

Sincerely,

KEVIN HOLLIS

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