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This issue is dedicated to Thursday morning djs and imsoniacs who write news.

The Brunswickan, in its 128th year of publication, is Canada's oldest official student publication. The Brunswickan is generally published every Friday during the school year by Brunswickan Publishing Inc. with a circulation of 10,000. Membership is open to all University of New Brunswick Fredericton students, but all members of the university community are encouraged to contribute.

The opinions contained in this newspaper are those of the individual writers, and do not necessarily reflect the views of The Brunswickan.

The Brunswickan, while being an open forum for the viewpoints and opinions of all UNB students, may refuse any submission that is judged to be racist, sexist, libellous, or containing attacks of a strictly personal nature. The Brunswickan reserves the right to edit for brevity. Letters generally shouldn't exceed 300 words in length and must contain your signature, student number and phone number, or it will not be printed.

All copy submitted must be double spaced, on ONE side of the page only and must be legible. If we can't read it, we won't print it. The Brunswickan now accepts copy on 3 1/2 inch disk, either Macintosh or MS-Dos format.

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Chemist's theory proven

Brunswickan News

Some unexplained features in the research results of four Israeli scientist provided Saba Mattar, a professor of Chemistry, with experimental evidence for a theory he had postulated but couldn't demonstrate. Now that theory is helping scientists change the way they think about molecules in a magnetic field.

"The two sides of a symmetric molecule sliced down the centre look the same viewed on a plane in space," explains Mattar, "They look equivalent, as we scientists would say, and we assumed they would therefore exhibit the same properties." And that's where, he says, scientists traditionally stopped.

While deriving equations for his PhD thesis at McGill University, he realized that spatially equivalent atoms are not necessarily equivalent in the presence of a magnetic field. Even though the atoms look spatially equivalent, they are magnetically inequivalent.

"Magnetic equivalence only exists in molecules where the atoms are related to one another by a centre of inversion," he noted.

To demonstrate the effect experimentally, Mattar referred to the results writ-

ten in a paper by Israeli scientist Z. Luz and colleagues in 1969. That group had taken the spectra of nitrogen oxide and obtained extra hyperfine lines, which they could not explain.

"The effect was big enough to manifest itself as a separate entity in the spectra," Mattar says.

The biggest hurdle Mattar encountered was proving, unequivocally, the experimental results.

"Calculating these hyperfine properties was very demanding numerically," he says. "It wasn't until two years ago that I had a powerful enough computer...."

"The significance is a whole new outlook on the way scientists look at magnetic resonance. It is important for us to understand all the phenomena, obvious or subtle, to help us find new applications and improve existing ones," Mattar said. A significant application of magnetic resonance is diagnostic imaging, which is a non-invasive process used in diagnosing cancer and other medical problems.

Mattar may contribute to some of those improvements himself. With the effect proven, he is using the theory to explain previously unexplained resonance results obtained in his lab and elsewhere.

Aquittal in assault charge

Brunswickan News

A jury deliberated 32 minutes before returning a verdict of not guilty in the trial of a UNB student accused of sexual assault.

The trial, which wrapped up on February 23, was the second for Paul Joseph Walker, who has since transferred to UNB-SJ. The same case came before the courts ten months ago, but resulted in a hung jury after five hours of deliberation.

Walker was charged in October 1993. A young female UNB student said that Walker forced her to have sex with him in his Neill House room during a residence party.

Walker testified that intercourse was initiated by the woman. Walker's lawyer suggested that the alleged victim brought charges after having second thoughts.

The alleged victim testified during the

trial that Walker forced her into his room, and that his roommate ignored her plea for help. Evidence photos showed bruises on the woman's arm. A campus security staffer and a MacKenzie house proctor, where the young woman resided, testified that they had comforted the woman on the night of the alleged assault.

Crown prosecutor Hilary Drain suggested that the alleged victim had limited life experience, and that accompanying Walker to his room was an act of goodwill. The woman had testified that she helped Walker to his room because he was drunk and another resident had threatened to beat him up.

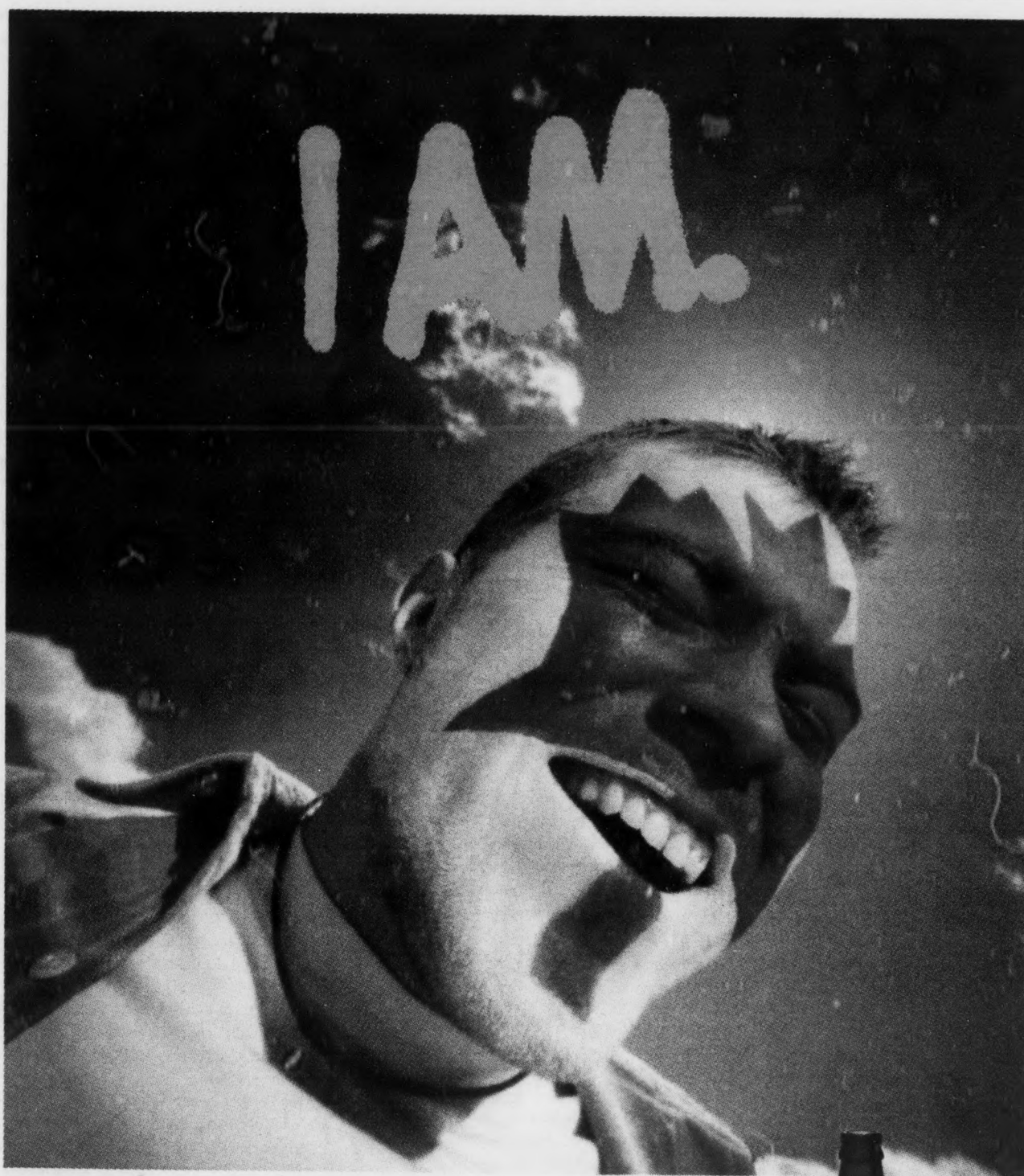
Walker and his lawyer, as well as the Crown Attorney who prosecuted the case, declined to comment on the case following the acquittal.

Attention News Writers

There will be a newswriting workshop this Monday at 2:30 in Room 103 of the SUB.

The workshop will be led by George Butters. Mr. Butters is a veteran reporter who has worked in print, radio and television. He will speak on topics including successful interviewing techniques and thorough reporting methods.

This is an important session for both current news staff and people interested in joining The Brunswickan team in the future. Anyone interested is welcome to attend.



CANADIAN

