EDITORIAL

Recently I was sent a 1944 copy of the Brunswickan by an alumnus whose brother Flight Sergeant J. Richards, another alumnus of UNB, died while serving as a pilot in W.W.II. As I thought about this alumnus, who fifty years ago left UNB to go off to war never to return, I was left wondering if facing the same choice would I or my friend's answer Canada's call to arms today?

Flight Sergeant J. Richards
UNB Engineering '44

Having never faced a war can the youth of today have any concept of what it means? Do we understand the depth of the debt which we owe to those who fought for us? Can we even relate to what it means to have to face death and leave home with the possibility of never returning looming above us? After the Vietnam veterans finally got a memorial twenty years after the war was over, were the lessons of not turning your back on your servicemen left unlearned?

When the veterans of the past wars in which Canada was involved volunteered in droves, or answered the call of their country when conscripted, they at least knew what it was that they were supposed to be opposed to. They may not have understood the particulars, but in general they knew that they were being asked to help their country to oppose, the "great evils" of the world.

Twenty years after the war in Vietnam and forty nine years after W.W.II however, if you ask the youth what the greatest evil in the world is the answer you would probably receive is harder to understand. Their are no Hitlers, Mussolinis, Ho Chi Minhs or Hirohitos left. The greatest evils faced by today's youth are poverty and unemployment, the lack of any foreseeable improvement in the near future and the government's lack of response to address the needs of today's young people.

While it is likely to get the youth labelled as ingrates by elder generations it is a sign of the times that the greatest evil recognised by today's youth is the inaction of government to stand up for *their* rights. Why would they fight for a government which shows little if any concern for the welfare of its youth? And yet the government relies upon the fact that if called upon they would probably be able to rekindle the national pride and call up an army of volunteers to go off to fight the next war. Today's youth are no different than those of the past except that they have grown up sheltered from the great evils threatening the world which their forefathers faced.

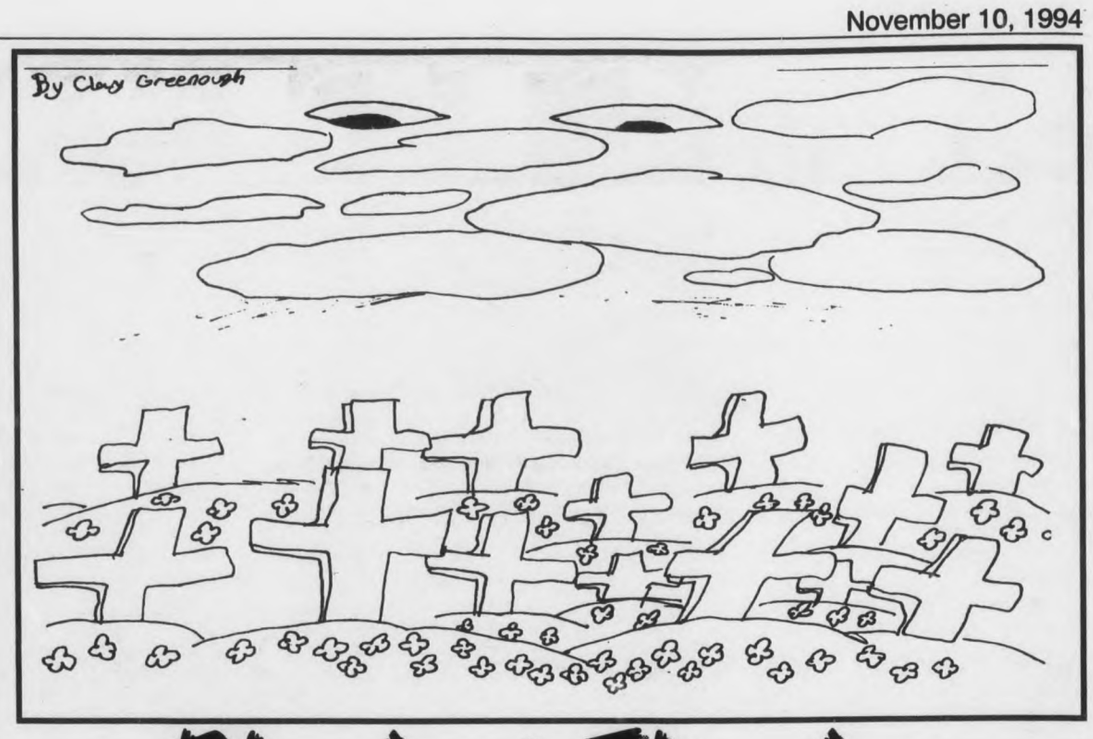
It is therefore unfair to expect the youth of today to understand the feeling of duty to country held by their forefathers. While for years they have heard the elder generations complain about the lack of drive and focus of youth, they have also watched as entry level positions have vanished and as the government increasingly cut social programs which they are forced to apply for in order to survive. If the events following the Vietnam war and leading up to the present day have taught the young anything it is that the hippie adage of don't trust anyone over thirty can be replaced with don't trust the government at any level.

If today's youth seem to care less about the contribution of ageing veterans who they view as having made the mistake of believing in the moral fibre of government it is because the connection of youth to the debt owed to those veterans, who put their lives on the line in opposition to the "great evils" of the world, has been lost. While this may seem cold and heartless there cannot be a greater testament to those who have died fighting the great evils of the world than that they have drifted into history and that their progeny with no measurement stick to compare those sacrifices against, are left unable to comprehend what it was that they went through.

It is because of the sacrifice of veterans like Flight Sergeant James Richards, an engineering student from UNB, that the youth are left without this understanding of what going to war is like. This makes the debt owed to those veterans by the youth of today even greater than that owed by the generations before. If the youth of today cannot understand what it means to go to war it is only because of those who were forced to understand it managed to keep them from having to.

Brunswickan Election

For the position of News Editor November 18 at 12:30 pm
All interested, eligible, staff members should apply in writing to the Editor-in-Chief .



Blood n' Thunder

To the editor,
I am writing to you in regards to an article published in the Nov. 4 edition of the Brunswickan concerning CHSR's involvement in the SEX-FM protest. While it is always to a delight to discover that the Brunswickan acknowledges our existence, I feel I must point out at least on inaccuracy printed in the article.

It was written that one of the pieces which caused controversy at CKDU-FM was a mini soap opera about two gay men and their quest for love. In fact, piece Lily and Christian was about one gay man and a lesbian and their search for love.

It is often lamented in the lesbian community that they are considered invisible by society, but when they are confused with gay men (or heck, men in general), I believe thing have gotten a little out of hand and someone just might take offence.

Otherwise, I was pleased Rene Ross had mentioned my panel discussion on nudity in the theatre (although the discussion had focused on the much broader issue of censorship in the theatrical world and not just whether or not us Whiny Theatre wanks should fret over Anne Ingraham's reaction to use prancing around in the buff from time to time).

Feeling naked before the Bruns, John Hansen
CHSR-FM

Editor's Note: We were sent a copy of the following letter to SU President Paul Estabrooks
Dear Paul:
The Gold Ring Award, you announced at the UNB Retirement Dinner held in my honour several weeks ago, is very much appreciated... the ring arrived this week. Please extend my thanks and appreciation to your Executive, Council and the undergraduate students for this kind expression of recognition for my years of service to the students and the University.

When I came to UNB in 1949 as a student in Civil Engineering, no one would have predicted my lengthy stay. The time has passed very quickly and, during the last two decades as part of the administration, my contact and experiences with the student groups and organizations have been very interesting. The Student Union, the Brunswickan, the radio station CHSR-FM, the faculty student groups, the athletic teams, and the students speciality clubs all play an important role in the lives of the student community. Those who participate in these groups and activities provide valuable services to everyone. It has been gratifying to be in a position to assist those who keep these things going each year.

Best wishes for the remainder of your term. My personal wish, as one would expect, relates to space; let's hope that some way is found to alleviate the shortage of space for many student groups who have either no space or inadequate space to carry out their programs and events effectively. Maybe an appropriate form of expansion to the SUB will help eliminate some of the existing functional difficulties.

Thank you again for your thoughtfulness and the award. The ring will be worn with pride and be a reminder of the many experiences with the students during my time "Up the Hill".

Sincerely,
Eric C. Garland

Dear Editor,
The leading cause of hunger and poverty in Canada is unemployment. We have the highest and most persistent rate of unemployment in the "developed" world with measured unemployment exceeding 10%. It is estimated that unemployment is costing Canada over $100 billion a year, with business and government rather than the unemployed the biggest losers in money terms.

Jean Chretien maintains that his goal is "Jobs, jobs, jobs," but also that he must cut government spending, rather than expand it. The Sovereignty Loan Plan can cut through this impasse and end the depression by use of the money creating powers of the Bank of Canada. The Bank of Canada can lend to the federal and to the provincial governments at any rate it chooses to charge, including zero interest.

The sovereignty proposal calls for the Minister of finance, the Honourable Paul Martin, to direct the Bank of Canada, under the provisions of the Bank of Canada Act, Section 18, to make interest free, or near interest free loans to the Provinces and local governments for various infrastructure projects, and to pay down their existing interest bearing debt. If the government uses its Bank of Canada loan to pay off interest bearing debt it would be required either to reduce taxes accordingly or spend the interest on additional projects.

Thus by using the Sovereignty Loan Plan, the Government can keep its promises of more jobs and deficit reduction.

Sincerely'
Faraynaaz Velji
Results Volunteer

Last year when all that assistant mathematics professor crap was grabbing international headlines, that really polite and always correct *Macleans* magazine had announced to the nation that Canada's oldest official student publication, *The Brunswickan* was in fact "The Brunswickian". Note the extra 'i'. It was so thorough of them to check the spelling. That's exactly why they only cover "what matters to Canadians" and obviously spelling doesn't matter to Canadians. Anyway, this time *Macleans* has editorially butchered our responses to their really adult questionnaire they sent to student papers all over this great land, including yours truly. The ring of this questionnaire was marred by an over used "What's hot and what's not" context. I guess originality isn't what matters to Canadians either. Our suggestions as printed in *Macleans* were as follows. *Notice they will be slightly different than what we faxed to* Macleans.

Don't worry *Macleans*, I can understand some of them might have been edited because of length and you need to justify the high salaries of your editors. I wonder if they earn more than a student without a student loan who works at a student newspaper? Probably not.

The following list is the approved, edited little ditty that appeared in *Macleans*, dated November 14, 1994, pg. 57 column 3.

UNIVERSITY OF NEW BRUNSWICK (UNB)
WHAT'S HOT
- Football team—undefeated for generations
- UNB engineers know enough English to write their own newspaper—thank goodness for spell check
- With the opening of a Harvey's, artsies no longer have to leave campus to find jobs
- Dalton Camp: proof positive that editors of the student newspaper can get degrees
- Small class sizes

HOT HANGOUTS: The Cellar; The College Hill Social Club
WHAT'S NOT
- Anne Murray is our most famous graduate
- The last time the L. B. Gym was in good repair, Elvis was thin
- The supergenius who decided that the annual outdoor concert should be held indoors
- The student union, in order to promote alcohol education, opened a bar

I'm offering you readers a chance to view the real unabridged classic answers *The Brunswickan* submitted to *Macleans*. Not the left overs they printed.

So go out and get some parentally approved plastic scissors and paste this little clip on page 57, column 3.

10 Good things about UNB

1. University has the best early retirement package in the country and you only have to offend a majority of the population to be eligible.
2. UNB's football team has been undefeated for generations, however as all of the sports teams are named "The Varsity Reds" few are aware of this fact.
3. The Student Union likes the Tragically Hip and Spirit of the West so much and bring them in so often that these bands are beginning to know where Fredericton is.
4. Visitors are led to believe that we have an exquisitely landscaped campus and as there is no parking here they usually leave before realising that they were at Saint Thomas.
5. Farm team for University Presidents. Both Waterloo and Dal have called up presidents from UNB. With any luck they will be successful and not be sent back to the minors.
6. UNB Engineers know enough English to write their own newspaper. (Thank goodness for spell check)
7. With the opening of Harvey's Artsies no longer have to leave campus to find jobs.
8. Dalton Camp is proof positive that the Editors of the student newspaper can get degrees. (BA's, honorary or otherwise)
9. We are never bothered by those annoying CIAU victory parties.
10. Low Maclean's rating keeps class sizes down.

10 Bad things about UNB

1. Anne Murray is our most famous graduate, but at least we didn't give a doctorate to Stompin' Tom.
2. As a sign of the sheer barbarity of the student population, Harrison house yearly lures pumpkins to the top of their residence, only to sacrifice the unsuspecting vegetables by plunging them to their demise upon the crowd below.
3. While the administration promotes the information highway at UNB. The truth is it is only a rest stop and the toilets are backed up (on to the floor).
4. The last time the L.B. Gym was in good repair Elvis was thin.
5. As the university is built on a hill wheelchair accessibility is unidirectional.
6. With the proposed changes to student loans we will now graduate from eating Kraft Dinner as students to eating Mr. Noodles as graduates.
7. Between the taxi companies holding fare wars and the bars holding draught beer wars Fredericton has become a tense place to live.
8. UNB actually employs some supergenius who decided that the annual outdoor concert should from now on be held indoors.
9. Our student union, in order to promote alcohol education, opened a bar.
10. Rather than vandalizing the university only with spray paint, students pay money to carve their names into the bricks on the gates to the campus.

So Macleans if you ask for our help, in the future, I hope that you have enough decency to tell us you have an editorial scalpel and that you are going to preform a vasectomy on our contributions and I hope you continue your courteous ways and mention your contributors as always. have a pleasant day.

* * *

War is fun. So I thought when my life consisted of plastic figurines, holding plastic guns, driving plastic tanks and slaughtering other plastic figurines. I never had to hear the crack of a plastic gun being fired. I never had to witness the recoil or the smell of the gun powder from that plastic gun. I only had to imagine the carnage.

My carpeted battlefields were littered with grotesque poses of GI Joes and Cobras in a devilish dance macabre. Their plastic bodies were sprawled like broken crucifixes and I composed this savage ballet.

I was comparable to any great tactician that ever war mongered.

Now I know that people are not as easily resurrected from the grave like my GI Joes were. War is usually caused by outside politics, economics, petty territorial disputes and a false sense of honour. War, as you will learn, is a prelude to death and destruction.

War is a refusal of right reason and is just naturally wrong.It is not for entertainment purposes like toy companies make it seem. Violence only encourages more violence.

* * *

On this Remembrance Day try to attend a memorial service to remember the victims of war, no matter what side, what background or what ethnicity. It is the least we can do for them.