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This issue is dedicated to:

All those who served.

Lest we forget

The Brunswickan, in its 135th year of publication, is Canada's Oldest Official Student Publication.

We publish weekly during the academic year with a circulation of 11,000. We are the largest circulation student newspaper in Atlantic Canada and the largest circulation community newspaper in New Brunswick.

All members of the University Community are encouraged to contribute, however, only students are eligible to become staff members and hold editorial positions.

While we endeavour to provide an open forum for a variety of viewpoints and ideas, we may refuse any submission considered racist, sexist, libelous or those containing attacks of a strictly personal nature. The Brunswickan reserves the right to edit for brevity and even levity. Letters to The Editor generally shouldn't exceed 300 words in length, though exceptions may be made. All submissions must contain your name, student number and a phone number where you can be reached or the submissions will not be printed.

The opinions and views expressed in this newspaper are those of the individual writers, and do not necessarily reflect the views of The Brunswickan, its Editorial Board, or its Board of Directors.

Articles in The Brunswickan may not be reprinted without permission. Contact the Editor-in-Chief for details.

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Canada as a police state

Disturbing political climate descending on capital city

by Alejandro Bustos
The Ubysey

Until recently, the thought that Ottawa could act like a police state was simply absurd. Then the Sept. 11 attacks in the United States took place and the unthinkable became possible.

Since the Sept. 11 massacre, a disturbing political climate has descended on Canada. For instance:

- A recent Globe and Mail article postulated that Canadian police could use torture against people arrested for terrorism. The article quoted a lawyer as saying that the police could use the legal defence of necessity to justify any potential torture.

- Ottawa is in the midst of passing its anti-terrorism bill. The proposed law would give police unprecedented powers to make preventive arrests, and allow authorities to detain suspected terrorists for 72 hours without charges. Ottawa would also be able to monitor foreign communications into Canada.

The bill has been criticized by the opposition, a wide section of the legal community and civil rights organizations. The Canadian Bar Association has also attacked the proposed law for being too broad in its definition of a terrorist.

As a person born in Chile, a country that saw 17 years of dictatorship, all of these signs are especially troubling to me. For over 20 years I have lived in Canada, and not once have I seen such a threat to our most fundamental liberties.

But what really disturbed me was the discussion of torture. This topic is simply

outrageous. Now, I must admit, I would be shocked if the RCMP actually used electric shock or other forms of torture on suspects. However, the fact that Canada's most prestige newspaper even discussed the subject shows how scary the current political climate is.

This does not, of course, mean we are becoming a dictatorship. On the other hand, we are much closer to a police state today than we were in August.

Moreover, Canada's current political system does not offer much hope for those who want to control government powers. With its parliamentary majority and a divided opposition, the federal Liberals have a monopoly on power. With each passing day, the Canadian state is becoming synonymous with what Jean Chretien and his cabinet want.

It is true that we are living in scary times and that the state has a duty to defend its citizens from terrorists. However, as citizens of a free country, all Canadians must start asking serious questions about what Ottawa is doing.

To begin with, we should make it clear that torture is not justified under any circumstances. For if we allow police to exercise dictatorial powers — no matter how well intentioned — then a hellish pandora's box will be open. What follows from such a scenario scares me to no end.

The proposed anti-terrorism bill also frightens me. What would happen if police started to arrest, detain with no charge and hold indefinitely people suspected of terrorism? What would happen if the police got it wrong on occasion and ended up detaining a large number of people simply because they are arab, Muslim or "suspicious"?

It is time for all of us to ask the following question: How many civil liberties are we willing to sacrifice to fight terrorism? Or even more disturbing, will we have a choice to decide which liberties we can temporarily give up once we have adopted some police state measures?

The Brunswickan Editorial Policy

Letters to the Editor should be dropped off to the offices of *The Brunswickan*, SUB, room 35, no later than 5:00 p.m. Tuesday to be published in that Friday's issue. Letters on disk would be appreciated, but they must be typed. Letters can also be e-mailed to the Editor-in-Chief c/o bruns@unb.ca.

The Brunswickan reserves the right to edit any letters for clarity and will not publish any letters deemed to be racist,

sexist, libelous, or hateful in nature.

Letters to the Editor should be no longer than 350 words in length and will be edited down if longer. Your name, student number and phone number must be included with the letter or it will not be considered. The Brunswickan will withhold the name of the author if he/she wishes.

Interested in writing a column? Students who wish to write a regular

column for *The Brunswickan* must provide a sample to the editor for consideration. Columns can be no longer than 750 words and will be edited for length and clarity.

Not good with words? Why not pick up a pencil and a pad of paper and invent your own cartoon character? Then you can submit a funny cartoon to *The Brunswickan*.

Have any ideas for articles/cartoons or

any other section of the paper? Why not swing by our offices on Friday at 12:30 p.m. and attend one of our very enlightening staff meetings - they are also pretty funny - well, sometimes. Yeah, stop by anyways. If you don't have any ideas, just come anyways, and bring all your friends - you may even have the pleasure of meeting our undercover genius, Chris Wilson-Smith, or maybe the former SQUIRRELS prez, Sean Patrick Sullivan.

We are looking for ways to improve the system for next year. I know our staff in the Student Union main office would love to get rid of those pink and white forms and replace it with a computerized system. Currently, you either pay for your health and dental insurance and then pay the remainder of your fees to the university, or you pay your fees first and be reimbursed if you opt-out. People who pay only first term will receive a credit on their second term fees while others who pay full year receive a cheque.

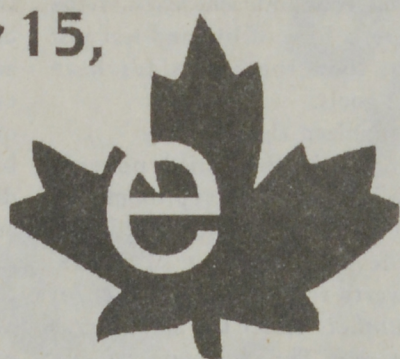
When financial services sends a confirmed list to our office of those who have paid full year fees, we forward that to the insurance company. They write out the cheques and students can pick them up at our main office. We encourage people to opt-out before paying their university fees because the insurance company is trying to move away from the cheque system and more to a credit-based one.

Following the UNB Student Union's theme this year of better informing students of our services and what we do, I thought I would write about the health and dental plan. Other Student Unions (such as Mount Allison) have called us for advice on new programs for healthcare - so it is a good time to examine our own. For more information, e-mail your VP Student Services, Maria Barrett-Morris, at services@unb.ca.

UNB Libraries
Serving UNB and STU

Government on the Internet

Thurs, Nov 15,
9-11am



Finding government reports, documents, and statistics

www.lib.unb.ca/instruction/Labs.html

ANGLICAN CHAPLAINCY UNB and STU

Worship Services in Edwin Jacob Chapel

Friday, November 9 - 12:30 PM - Holy Eucharist (BAS)
All are welcome to join us for this weekly service of 25 minutes - a nice quiet time in the middle of a busy day in our beautiful little chapel.

Sunday, November 11 - 4:45 PM - Holy Eucharist (BCP)
This service is designed to let you go to church if you have missed "Sunday morning church" - and give you time to attend church on Sunday afternoon - and then get to the dining hall or home in lots of time for supper!

All are welcome to attend these services regardless of your denomination or your degree of church involvement.

Feel free to come - and invite your friends

Wishing you every blessing,
Wilfred+

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All You Can Eat Mon-Tues 5-8pm

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73 Carleton St.
472-RYES
(7937)

Mucho Mondays + Tuesdays - Veggy, or
Supreme Nachos for 1/2 price from 4-11pm

Whiplash Wednesday - Our famous wings
(4-11pm) \$4.99/lb + live music and late nite jam
9 - close. Don't forget your guitar!

Thirsty Thursdays - Ladies Night (5-close)
with \$2.00 12oz draft & bar shots + ladies only
open mike. Come sing it girls. 8pm - Close

Friday + Saturdays - Ryes' rocks with live
entertainment from 9:00pm - 1:00am

This week: Taxi
Next week: True West

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At Rye's, you get'em when you want em.

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Mon-Sat 8-10pm & all day Sunday