

# Tax-breaks in defense of trees



Special to The Brunswick

Canada's roadsides and interior have been changing quickly and drastically because of the practice of clear cutting.

## REBEL WITH A CAUSE

MICHAEL WHITE

I find it amazing when people tell me there is nothing wrong with the environment. I actually hear people say global warming is based on faulty science, the extinction of animals should be expected as a result of industrialization, and that recent phenomena in the world is natural and not manmade. These are not industry skills on TV but smart, educated people here in New Brunswick. This is extremely naïve and, in my opinion, kind of scary.

I work with a lady who lives here in Fredericton who recently noticed that six people within eye distance of her house have cancer. Given that the average person can probably see 10 houses from their front doorstep, and that there are at least three people in each house, that means that six out of roughly 30 people – or 20 per cent – have cancer. This is not normal.

Four hurricanes have hit Florida this year. This is totally unprecedented in modern history. The Colorado River is at historically low levels as a result of providing water to desert towns such as Las Vegas and huge cities like Los Angeles. There is increased talk about our northern sovereignty with predictions the Northwest Passage could open up this century and provide an alternative to the Panama Canal. These are just a few examples of ongoing problems with the environment.

Personally, I grew up in a small village in rural Nova Scotia. The only time I ever witnessed the effects of the clear-cutting of trees and forests was when we drove for miles past our place into the fringes of civilization. Now when I travel home, I see the effects everywhere. A little patch of trees by the side of the road – clear-cut; a forest behind my neighbours house – clear-cut; the forests beside the Trans-Canada highway that cuts through the nearby town of New Glasgow – clear-cut. Everywhere you go now you see the awful effects of clear-cutting. It's not only an eye sore, but you have to wonder how it affects the local ecosystem, animal habitats, and just mother nature in general. Does everything have to be a slave to the almighty dollar?

So what can be done? For starters, we have to recognize that what causes these problems, for the most part, are companies that employ hundreds of thousands of people. They represent a large chunk of our economy and cannot be ignored. We have to respect that these people have families to feed, mortgages to pay, and obligations to keep. So whatever is done should minimize any adverse consequences on average people that just want to keep their job.

Since I'm a conservative, I'm naturally suspicious of any new government programs or regulations implemented to solve the problem and any new taxes that result from having to pay for them. However, I'm always a big fan of tax-cuts. Therefore, my solution is to provide tax-cuts to any corporation that adopts strict environmental regulations.

These regulations would be decided upon by government, however, they would be completely voluntary. Therefore, companies who didn't agree with them, decided that they couldn't comply with them, or who were losing money and couldn't afford to adopt them, wouldn't be forced into laying off workers or shutting down plants because of unrealistic government regulations.

On the other hand, companies who didn't comply with the regulations would face a severe competitive

disadvantage because the tax-cuts would not be typical. They would be comprehensive and deep. They would, over time, be so deep that they would pay for any upgrades or changes necessary to comply with regulations – at which point taxes would slowly be raised to pre-regulation levels.

There would be other ways of providing tax-cuts as well. For example, people who bought cars that were environmentally friendly wouldn't have to pay GST. The point is to provide a way for corporations to adopt environmentally friendly practices without forcing them to do so. We all know the consequences of adopting strict environmental regulations. Corporations will just move to another country with weak environmental laws, donate money to political parties to get exceptions written into current regulations, and do just about anything to ensure they won't have to follow the regulations.

By providing an incentive, rather than force, to corporations to adopt environmentally friendly policies, we can ensure that companies will not lay off workers and important, concrete steps will be taken to save the environment. What more could we ask for?

# We like big butts and we cannot lie

by Iowa State Daily

(U-WIRE) AMES, Iowa - Low-rise pants and big-butt beauties like J. Lo and Beyonce have put the "ass" back in asset for the large, round rear end in mainstream America. But will New York's newest seam-busting-at-the-butt mannequins have customers asking, is that mannequin too bootylicious for you, babe?

Established companies like Macy's and Saks are picking up on a trend that started on plastic figures on the streets of New York City and Los Angeles. Brands like Guess and EccoRed have created a new mannequin to display their jeans that have a large, more full-bottomed backside - a superior posterior, if you will.

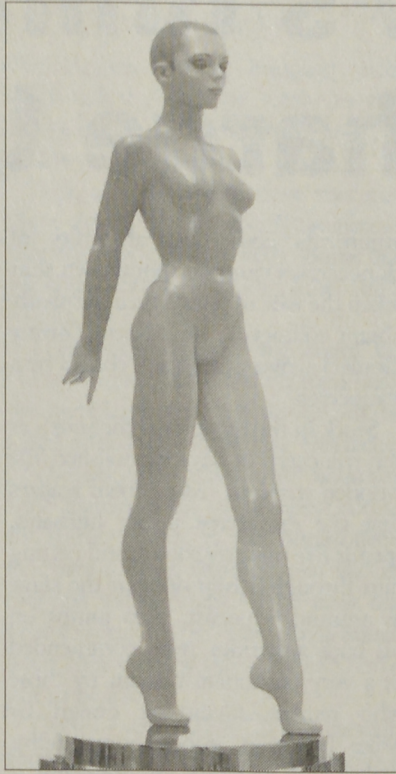
According to mannequin firm officials, consumers are hooked and they can't stop staring. Dwight Critchfield, creative director for the mannequin firm Goldsmith, told Reuters the mannequins with engorged hindquarters have "a real sex appeal about them." Since EccoRed first started using the larger-butt mannequins - aptly called the J. Lo butt - nearly two years ago, its sales have tripled.

Women like it because the mannequins more accurately portray their body shapes. Men like it too - so much so that guys are going into stores just to buy the mannequin, The New York Times reported.

Back that thang up because this is a rump revolution. We're tired of magazines saying flat butts are the thing. Since stars like J. Lo and Beyonce bum-rushed the scene, women with junk in the trunk have had role models. Mannequins with fabulous fannies solidify that the butt is back, meaning no more starving actresses who look like 10-year-old boys will serve as the ideal sex symbol.

Fashion in: Bountiful butt. Fashion out: Female "Friends" stars who developed a skeleton complex during their 10 seasons on NBC.

The trend's move to department stores couldn't have happened too soon.



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If current trends continue, this mannequin might need some plastic surgery on her bottom

Mannequins modeled after size 2, 6-foot runway models like Twiggy alter the perception of what a real woman ought to look like, even if the form is unrealistic. The result: Young girls starving themselves to fit into this unhealthy prescribed beauty mold, depriving themselves of essential nutrients and dwindling into anorexic oblivion.

The Iowa State Daily editorial board, as the campus connoisseur of a derriere extraordinaire, endorses large-butt mannequins as a progression toward a healthy, more voluptuous society. Put your gluteus to the max and shake it like a Polaroid picture. Women's bodies are inherently beautiful and have been idolized since the days of the Mother Goddess. Take pride in what your momma (and papa) gave you.

Sir Mix-A-Lot provides the best advice: You can do side bends or sit ups, but please don't lose that butt.

**PLEASE SEND ALL LETTERS TO THE EDITOR TO B-OPINIONS@UNB.CA**  
**COME ON, YOU HAVE TO DISAGREE WITH SOMETHING IN HERE**

## THE BRUNSWICKIAN

Canada's oldest official student publication

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Freddie Mercury and Napoleon Dynamite

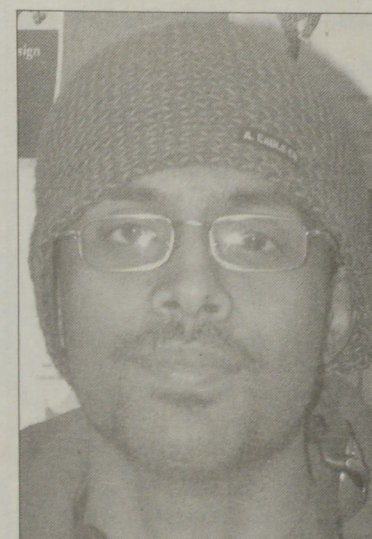
## VIEWPOINT

by Tobi Bailey

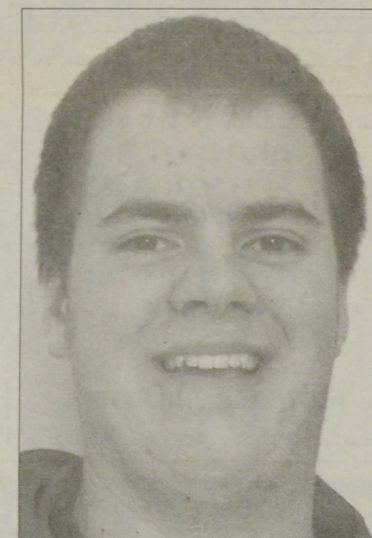
What do you think of the Sodexo food survey?



"I haven't read it yet."  
-Chris Campbell



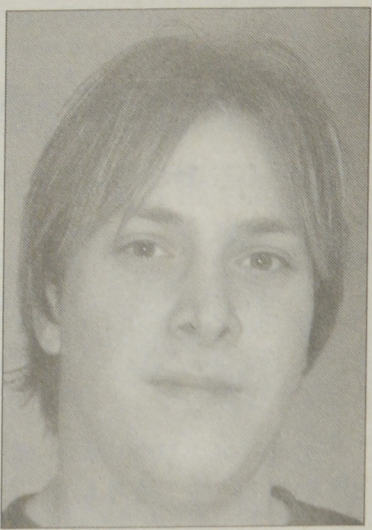
"It's a good idea, it's really about time."  
-Mehrab Mirza



"I don't like the blond guy who runs the SUB. He was mean to me once."  
-Jeremy Campbell



"I haven't seen it."  
-Sheila Ghosh



"There's a survey?"  
-Luc Delang

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