

THE BRUNSWICKAN OPINION & EDITORIAL

Crime and council in the capital city

EDITORIAL

SEAN PATRICK SULLIVAN

Ah, 2004.

Many of you are returning from Christmas vacations filled with memories of home-cooked meals, sleeping late and, best of all, presents. Now that you're back in Fredericton, though, make sure your holiday loot is locked up well. Why?

Recently released Statistics Canada figures show that Fredericton Police have a mere 25 per cent crime solution rate (meaning the frequency at which police lay a charge, solve a crime, or identify a suspect after a crime is reported). Of all Canadian cities with a population of 15,000 to 49,999, we're in the bottom dozen when it comes to crimefighting. Ouch.

On the plus side, if you're looking to pull some petty crime, there's only a one in four chance you'll be caught. Those are some damn good odds.

If you're not the looting type, you may be wondering what you can do about this problem (short of donning tights and a cape). I'll tell you what:

Make a difference in the city by running for city council! Or better yet, the mayor's chair!

It's this simple: this spring, a municipal election will be held. Head down to City Hall and pick up a nomination form, find some sponsors, pay the relatively small filing fee, and enter the race.

The only council member who is definitely not returning is (unfortunately) the wonderfully helpful Andy Wood, who has stood up for students in the College Hill area for years. That leaves one easy seat.

City council is dominated by those in the 40+ age bracket, and with such a substantial number of students in this town, having a few younger councillors could make a world of difference for us. A student on council to represent a student-filled neighborhood would be a very positive change, but a student as mayor? That would be killer.

To make it happen though, we need to overcome the voter apathy that typically plagues university students. Letterman once had an 18-year-old mayor on his show once - with a little work, we could pull off a student mayor too. There are definitely suitable candidates out there in the university community - step forward and make it happen!

Treatment for the fractured male organ

THE DOCTOR GAME
W. GIFFORD-JONES, MD

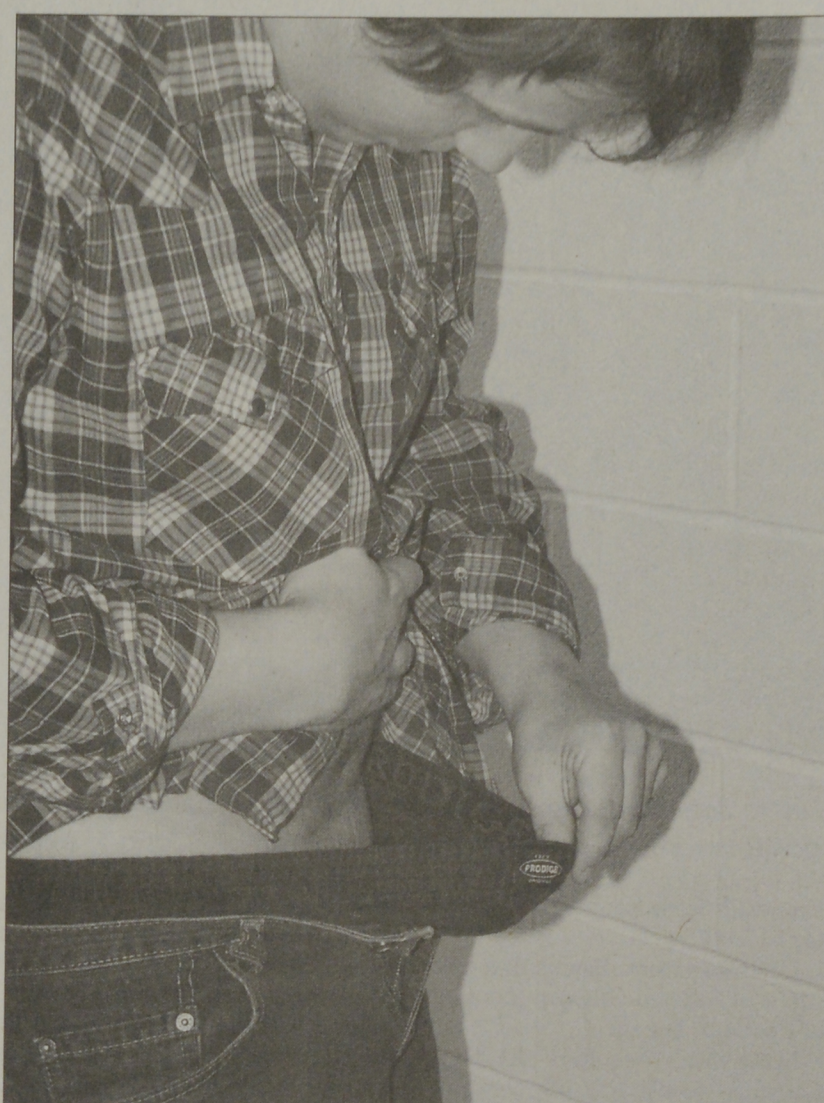
"So you're the doctor who wrote that column!" I'm still greeted by that remark even though it's 11 years since I first wrote about "The Fractured Male Organ." I know doctors shouldn't make light of a patient's medical problems but I couldn't stop chuckling when I first researched this malady. Now there's a new treatment for this embarrassing problem.

A man was admitted to the emergency department at 1:00 a.m. in obvious distress. He was agitated, his skin cold and clammy suggestive of blood loss. Doctors were shocked to find a markedly swollen penis as the cause which required immediate surgery to remove a large blood clot.

The \$64.00 question, how did it happen? He was reluctant to explain, but finally admitted he had been masturbating vigorously when he heard a sudden snap followed by intense pain and swelling. The diagnosis? A fractured penis, the 67th case to be reported in world literature. But it was how other cases occurred that amused me.

One Romeo was making love to his partner standing up. He must have been one hell of a lover because she suddenly fainted. This sudden, precipitous fall fractured his organ.

A 26-year-old man's honeymoon came to an abrupt halt. He became so overwhelmed with passion during sex that his penis struck his bride's hard pubic bone. Both parties heard a sudden clicking sound and then stared in utter amazement at the bent penis. Another newlywed fractured his organ while rolling over in bed during an erection. What a horrendous way to start a honeymoon!



Brendan Doyle / The Brunswickan

Dr. Ashraf, an English urologist, reported on several other cases in the *Journal of Urology*. One of his patients was an 18-year-old shepherd who was in a tree watching his sheep. But alas, he fell asleep and his mind must have wandered to pretty girls. He developed an erection, fell out of the tree onto a wooden bar, and another snap occurred.

One Casanova was romancing his partner in a moving car. But during intercourse the car suddenly stopped. He was tossed against the dashboard with the same result. Another man slammed his penis in a car door. This sure takes considerable skill and planning! Still others bumped into chairs or beds during the night.

The majority of cases require pressure

dressings, anti-inflammatory drugs, sometimes surgery. Tranquilizers are usually needed to calm these terrified males and needless to say they're cautioned not to have an erection for several days! 90 percent of men are left with an upward angle to the penis which causes pain and makes sex difficult. That's no laughing matter.

The first case of penile fracture was described by the physician to King Louis XIV. And some doctors believe this condition is more common than previously suspected.

Dr. Olisa Awogu, a urologist at Southend Hospital in Essex, England, recently spoke to the American Urological Association. He presented 31 cases of men suffering from this condition and how the bent penis can be helped by shock wave therapy.

Shock wave therapy (lithotripsy) has been used for several years to break up kidney stones and to treat tennis elbow and plantar fasciitis, a painful heel condition. Now, Dr. Awogu reports that lower doses are helping many patients with a scarred, bent penis. Several of his patients now have a straight organ. Others have less of an angle.

Dr. Rob Gordon, a Toronto surgeon, and shock wave specialist, says the success rate for decreasing the angle is about 28 per cent. But it's of great help in easing pain during an erection.

Since preventive medicine is always better than cure there are some lessons to be learned from this misfortune. It's invariably safer to lie down while making love. But if great lovers think otherwise they must be prepared to catch the fair damsel if she suddenly faints. You must never, never make love in a moving car. Keep a flashlight at the bedside to avoid obstacles. And I'm sure the shepherd now keeps one eye open while watching his sheep.

A triple-pounder with cheese, please?

MUGWUMP
BEN CONOLEY

If you thought last month's Much Music VJ search was huge, you're unfortunately right, but there's an even bigger competition going down in the Student Union Building.

With the arrival of a monster burger, Harveys' "the Big Harv," which weighs in at a hefty 6oz, also comes the latest chase for glory: the challenge of eating the most Big Harv patties between a single bun, in one go.

Seriously.

It all started out when this one dude ate four patties, and by November 14, the ante was raised to seven patties, which, fortunately for his body, the competitor failed to eat.

The record stands at 6.5 patties (or 39 oz, or 2.4375 pounds).

The 1/4 pounder is a pussy.

I had to figure out what was going on, who was doing this, and what they were putting on their burgers. However, I haven't tried to figure out why anyone would want to eat nearly two and a half pounds of beef in one sitting.

It turns out that everyone who has

tried this has been male - I'm not sure if women will get a separate category, or will have to face the men.

If you eat the whole thing, it's on the house, but if you fail, as the current champ did, leaving 1/2 a patty behind, you have to pay. This dude's sandwich was over \$20.00.

I'm glad I don't eat beef.

This is the polar opposite of any kind of athletic competition. This is gross and seems to be going on all over the country.

I wonder what drives someone to become a professional eater, and if they receive encouragement from their guidance counselors?

I also wonder if a larger than normal percentage of professional eaters later suffer from some sort of eating disorder.

Using a fork and knife, the champion dipped his burger in a bowl of ketchup.

Maybe most importantly, it's awful that we're celebrating gluttony. Harvey's is willing to give away six huge hamburgers if someone can eat them, while just down the street there's without a doubt someone who is suffering from frostbite and starvation.

Juxtaposition at its worst.

Questioning everything



BECAUSE EVERYTHING IS POLITICAL
TAN-NEE NG

I remember studying the cause and effects of the First World War in grade 10 history class. I remember it started when Austria-Hungary declared war on Serbia after the assassination of Franz Ferdinand, heir to the Austro-Hungarian throne. I don't remember much more than that, though, except maybe that the war officially ended when the Treaty of Versailles was signed in 1919. Like my faltering memory on the First World War,

when people ask me why I don't support McDonald's, I sometimes have a hard time coming up with all the reasons why I haven't eaten there in the past seven years. I become irritated that the only thing I can remember is that it's bad (and it certainly doesn't look good for "the cause," either, when my memory all of a sudden turns into Swiss cheese).

I know I can't be the only person this happens to. How many people still remember what stoichiometry is, from high school chemistry? Or Coulomb's law in physics? Or the Brest-Litovsk treaty, which inadvertently led to the Second World War in history? Probably not many...

Still, for really important things, I think it's important that we remember exactly what they are, and why we choose to support (or not support) them. Which is why I'm going to start this new year by re-thinking and re-examining why I believe some of the things I do, and why I don't or stopped believing in others. I also encourage you to do the same. There are so many things we take for granted, and belief systems we endorse that are directly harmful to our mental health and natural environment. And you know what they say...the first step in changing something is acknowledging there's a problem in the first place.

John Lennon once said, "as soon

as you're born, they make you feel small." Those words ring true as I remember myself as a little kid (some of you might argue that I still am). I would question everything, automatically. It's like I didn't even have to think before asking: "What's that? Why's that? I don't understand, please explain!" However, as I grew up, I started feeling like the more questions I asked, the stupider I must be. In school I was afraid to raise my hand, for fear of looking like I didn't know anything. I started swallowing up whatever people told me without really questioning if something made sense to me or not. I found my questions annoying to others - people who had stopped themselves from real questioning a long time ago - and I learned to shut up with my endless barrage of questions. Soon I learnt in school (as well as life) that as long as I got the right answers, true knowledge didn't matter anymore, just obedience and "good behavior." Well, I think it's time to start once again. As Ted Strauss, shamanic awakener and magician of conscious embodiment (!!!), says: "Allow yourself to question everything. Question your teachers, question the traditions, and especially, question yourself. What motivates you? What really matters? Why do you do what you do? Where did your patterns come from? Who are you?"

Get your passport to a safe and healthy career by completing the SAFETY START PROGRAM

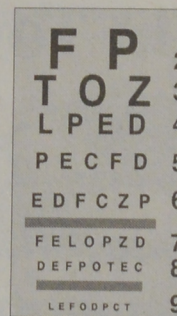


A FREE two-day 14 hour course in emergency first aid with CPR and occupational health and safety is being offered to New Brunswickers aged 15 to 29 to decrease the number of injuries sustained by young people in the workplace.

Upon completion of the course, you will receive a Health and Safety Passport which you can add to your resume of skills. The Province of New Brunswick will give hiring preference to those who complete the Safety Start Program.

Find out more about the Safety Start Program or register for training by calling 1-888-298-1599 or by visiting the NB Safety Council online at: www.nbsafety.com

Dr. T. Wayne Lenahan / Dr. M. Michele Leger
Optometrists 512 George St., Fredericton, NB



Eye Examinations
LASER Vision Evaluation & Management
Contact Lens Fitting
Children & Designer
Frames Available

New Patients Welcome
Please call 458-8986

Office Hours: 8am - 5pm Monday-Friday, 8am - 8pm Thursday

Imaging Services

Colour Copying • CD Duplication • Digital Printing
Faxing • Black & White Copying • Desktop Publishing
Report Binding • Mouse Pads • Transparencies • T-Shirts

3 Locations to serve you

Integrated Technology Services
Imaging Services

[106 Marshall d'Avary Hall]
[109 Carleton Hall]
[E10A Head Hall]

THE BRUNSWICKAN

Editorial Board
Editor-in-Chief • Sean Patrick Sullivan
Managing Editor • Ben Conoley
News Editor • Carole Morris
Sports Editor • Cindy Smith
A&E Editor • Patrick Reinartz
Photo Editor • Brendan Doyle

Games/DVD Co-ordinator • Michael Edwards
Online Editor • Jeff Smith

Staff
Advertising Sales Rep • Bill Traer
Administrator • K Brookland
Proofreader • Jodi Magliaro
Delivery • Kathleen MacPhee

Contributors
Asaf Rashid, Matthew Thompson, Tan-Nee Ng, Ben McFarlane, Nathan White, Michele Legendre, Alex Pope, Dave Arthurs, Stefan Robak, Mark Cameron.

About us
The Brunswickan, in its 137th year of publication, is Canada's Oldest Official Student Publication.
We are an autonomous student newspaper owned and operated by Brunswickan Publishing Inc., a non-profit, independent body.
We are a founding member of the Canadian University Press, and love it so. We are also members of U-Wire.
We publish weekly during the academic year with a circulation of 10,000.

Editorial policy
While we endeavour to provide an open forum for a variety of viewpoints and ideas, we may refuse any submission considered by the editorial board to be racist, sexist, libellous, or in any way discriminatory.
Letters to the Editor should be under 300 words in length, and may be edited for clarity and brevity.
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.
All editorial content appearing in The Brunswickan is the property of Brunswickan Publishing Inc. Stories, photographs, and artwork contained herein cannot be reproduced without the express, written permission of the EIC.

The Brunswickan
21 Pacey Drive, Suite 35
Fredericton, NB, E3B 5A3
main office • (506) 453-4983
advertising • (506) 452-6099
fax • (506) 453-5073
web • www.umb.ca/bruns
email • bruns@umb.ca

This issue is dedicated to:
The return of school! Huzzah!