

letters to the editor.

Dear Editor,

Over the past year, students have expressed concerns about the "parking problems" at UNB. As an alumnus of UNB (1982), I would like to offer some comments about these parking concerns raised by students; an old man's rant, if you will.

When I came to UNB in the mid 1970s, the world was in the middle of its first energy crisis, which in actuality was a power and money grab by the newly formed OPEC nations. Positive results were realized by this event: the realization that fossil fuels were a finite resource; consumers began to demand smaller, fuel-efficient vehicles; and public transit had a rebirth. Also during this period was the recognition of the negative impacts that a sedentary lifestyle was having on Western health and wellness; the automobile was certainly a contributing factor.

All of the energy related and health and environmental concerns were tossed aside in the 1990s in favour of the new opulent renaissance that had arisen out of the ashes. People were buying larger, fuel gobbling vehicles and driving everywhere, all of the time. Only a few folks stuck to the related concepts of energy conservation, reducing humanity's footprint on the environment, and physical fitness and wellness. And now here we are at the end of 2008 facing another "energy crisis", with all the negative environmental and health problems about over-consumption of fossil fuel that were brought to the forefront 30

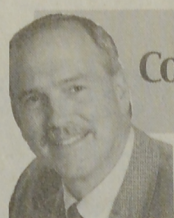
years ago. Have we not learned anything?

Which brings me back to parking at UNB. There are a number of alternatives to this perceived problem. Firstly, there is a large underused parking lot owned by UNB adjacent to the Lady Beaverbrook rink on University Avenue and is a five minute walk at most to the front University gate. Carpooling is another option; I have seen more of this recently, but there are still a lot of single passenger vehicles traveling in and out of the UNB campus. The city bus service in Fredericton is another affordable and convenient option, more so during business hours; perhaps there could be a collaboration initiated by UNB/STU students to develop a park and ride alternative. Finally there is walking and cycling, not particularly pleasant in the depths of winter, but still viable options for those living within one k.m. of campus.

The twenty-something generation, your generation, faces a pretty bleak future if you cannot (or will not) recognize the perils of living in an over-consumptive society. History is there to show you what happens when real long term solutions are not developed and adopted by society as a whole. Don't wait for the Baby Boomers or Generation X to take the lead role in this; they are too spoiled and complacent to make any real change. It is up to you, Millennials, to pick up the ball and run with it!

Sincerely,
Robin Ballance

Working together for a stronger UNB



COMMENTARY

Tony Secco

My thanks to the UNB community for the warm welcome I have received over the past few months.

I am pleased and excited to take on the role of Vice President Fredericton (Academic) and to be part of the UNB family.

Since joining UNB in September, I've had the chance to get know the community on a more personal level. I'm increasingly confident in what we are poised to accomplish

in the months and years ahead.

In my walks around campus I continue to be struck by the deep sense of tradition and the great diversity of our community.

Our creative and intellectual energy is evident in every corner of our campus and it is a constant reminder that so long as we harness that energy, in every one of our faculty, staff and students, we can continue to achieve great things.

As we enter the holiday season I begin to think of the year ahead.

It is my hope that, together, we can help our institution stand firm in its tradition and its standards of excellence.

It is my hope that we continue to celebrate and develop the creative and intellectual potential within all of us.

It is my hope that we accept and welcome the challenges ahead - for

in challenge lies great opportunity for personal and institutional growth.

Working together we can overcome even the most difficult challenges and continue to forge ahead to build a better, stronger UNB.

My discipline, chemistry, is the science of change and I know that mixing components in innovative ways can yield products with amazing properties. So, too, with the right mix of ideas and people, the necessary transformations are possible en route to being the best university we can be.

We have to consider new ways of organizing ourselves, of becoming more engaged with each other and in the sustainability of our university and in our ability to welcome all those who share the values of a modern public

university.

We must seize the idea of retaining students as well as the faculty and staff who facilitate and support the learning environment. Our greatest strength as a community is our people and their ingenuity and creativity.

Heading into the new year, please know that I'm always interested in hearing from anyone on campus - informally or formally. I welcome your suggestions and ideas on how we can make our campus better.

Thank you again for making my first couple of months welcomed and enjoyable, as I climb a steep learning curve in this VP position. My very best wishes for a successful academic year and remember: we are all in this together!

Tony Secco is VP Fredericton (Academic) of the UNB administration.

How to cope with academic overloads



STUDENT BEAT

Greg Melanson

So, the semester is winding down, your midterms are done, the last few essays are being passed in, you're tired, worn out, running on fumes and all you can think about is relaxing at home for the holidays.

Unfortunately, there's that one relatively large speed bump you have to conquer before there will be any of that: exams.

I'll start by making everybody hate me by letting you all know I don't have any exams this semester, and haven't had a full load of exams since first year. This isn't my fault, just the perks of being a multimedia student. But regardless

of that, I know how it feels this time of year, and I know the last thing anybody wants to do is open a book. You probably feel sick and tired; cleaning the toilet seems more appealing right now. Most people will go out of their way to take up any possible responsibility of the smallest magnitude, just to avoid those books.

There are a lot of keepers, people who will take as much time to study as they need and feel well prepared going into their exams, and I salute you. But, if you're anything like me, you'll know that can feel like more of a daunting task than the 12 labours of Hercules.

So what do you do? Well, the most obvious answer to that is you study, and you study a lot. Make sure that you give yourself time to study. When your best buddy comes and asks you to have a beer at the Cellar the night before your exam, don't. When your other best friend asks you to go see that awesome looking movie that you really want

to see, you can probably wait. We are, genetically, pleasure-seeking individuals, but what a lot of people sometimes forget is that the long run pleasure of working hard for something heavily outweighs the instant gratification trap that we too often fall into. Exam studying is a perfect example of that.

Going into, during and after your exam, you'll appreciate that feeling of knowing you studied as much as you could. It will lower your stress-level substantially and take a massive burden of uncertainty off of your shoulders. You want to go into your exams with confidence. Do this once, and you might even become addicted to the whole "being prepared" thing and start seeing a nice increase in your GPA.

On the other hand, what's almost as bad as avoiding your books, is letting them consume you. Don't let yourself get stressed, and worried and all that. Exams are important, but not the end of

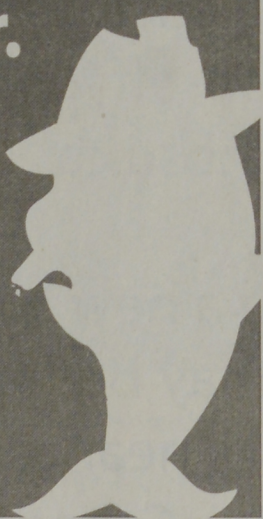
the world, and if you give yourself time to prepare, there shouldn't be any reason to fall into a panic attack. Being heavily stressed while studying for exams isn't going to help you, learn to take deep breaths and calm yourself down, it'll pay off.

Of course there are exceptions; the people who have that inhuman gift of not needing to open a book all semester to get A's, and those who need to stress themselves out in order to get anything accomplished, so I guess these are tips for everybody else. Just remember, it's still early enough to give yourself time to prepare and study without becoming stressed because you left everything until the last minute, so just do it, and enjoy your holidays as much as you should.

Greg Melanson is VP Academic of the UNB Student Union. Student Beat is a weekly column by UNB's student leaders examining issues pertinent to students.

look for big changes coming to the brunswickan next semester.

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Molson Midweek MAYHEM



10pm - Close

\$2.25 Coors Light, Canadian,
or Cold Shots

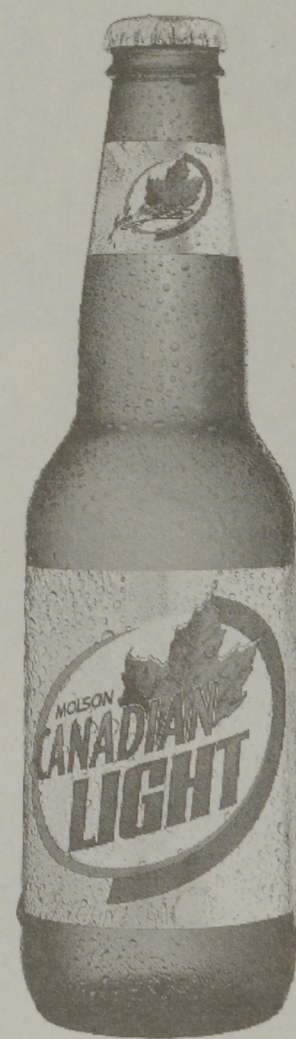
\$2.25 Rum, Rye, Gin, or Vodka or Spiced Rum

\$2.25 Coors Light Draft (16oz)

2 for 1 Jagermeister

Get in early to avoid the lineup for Freddy's biggest
LCB

No cover with valid 08/09 student ID.



www.myspace.com/nickyzees

375 King St

SUNDAY's!!!

Karaoke 10pm - Close **Alpine**

Karaoke with Sean Burgess in the Pub
DJ Fuji in the Main Bar
2 for 1 Liquor (all but topshelf)
\$2.50 Alpine Draft (16oz)

Saturdays

Freddy's Biggest Party
Beat the line and get in early to enjoy

10pm - Close \$3.75 **BUD LIGHT**

10pm - Midnight

\$3.00 Doubles of Rum, Rye, Vodka, Gin or Spiced Rum
Midnight - Close: \$4.25 Captain Morgan Spiced Rum

Captain Morgan
SPICED

FREE CASH FRIDAY\$

NICKY ZEE'S

From Fredericton's Place to be
10pm-Midnight
\$2.00 Rum, Rye, Gin, Vodka,
or Spiced Rum

10pm - Close
\$3.75 Coors light Bottles or Draft (16oz)
\$2.50 Cold Shots

Midnight - Close
\$3.75 Rum, Rye, Gin Vodka, or Spiced Rum



Friday, December 5th - Hello Beautiful and Ko Kapches in the Pub
Friday, January 9th 2009- Kickoff Party for NASTY FRIDAYS with DJ Nasty Naz