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Inside this issue

Grad Class Project: voting ballot inside 28

News:
Christmas match program organized at UNB 3

Spectrum:
The politics of paranoia 8

Entertainment:
Les Sortileges 12

Features:
Lest We Forget 16, 17

Sports:
AUA Swimming 23

Editorial 4
Blood and Thunder 6
Mugwump 5
Opinion 5

Viewpoint 15
Distractions 18

UNB Student Union Page 28

Student Services
Campus Ministry
Upcomin' 27

Classifieds 29

Weekend Weather

On Friday, expect sunny conditions with a temperature of about 7. Saturday will be cloudy with a 10% chance of rain and temperatures ranging from -4 to 4. For Sunday there is a 20% chance of rain.

Brunsbites

Red 'n' Black Revue facts

- This year marks the 46th anniversary of the annual student union variety show.
- The show is comprised of two Acts with a total of fifteen individual skits.
- Over 75 students make the cast and crew.
- The 46th Annual Red 'n' Black Revue continues tonight and tomorrow night at the Playhouse.

Universities respond to Maclean's survey

by Allan Carter

University administrators have mixed feelings over the survey on universities which appears in the November 9 issue of *Maclean's*.

Each university was placed into one of three ranks: "Medical/Doctoral", "Comprehensive" and "Primarily Undergraduate" universities. The magazine ranked the universities' performances in six categories: student body, classes, faculty, finances, library and reputation.

UNB, which was placed in the comprehensive category, ranked 7th out of 12 universities. STU, which was placed in the primarily undergraduate category, ranked 10th out of 18 universities.

Dr. Tom Traves, vice president academic of UNB, acknowledges that this year's survey by *Maclean's* was much more carefully prepared and notes that *Maclean's* consulted more with universities this year when compiling their data. However, "a top ten mentality" is how Traves describes *Maclean's* attempt to rank universities. Traves argues that their is "a fundamental problem with *Maclean's* approach".

Traves explains that such surveys "reduce a very complex reality to a single statistic". Since the full results of each category are not published, Traves says then there is no real significance to the numbers.

"I think it is hard to reduce anything so complicated to one single representation," states Traves.

While Traves has misgivings over the survey, he found that the articles were useful and that they provided "a good discussion on lots of serious issues."

St. Thomas university president Dr. Daniel O'Brien stated in a press release that "*Maclean's* magazine should get high marks for drawing public attention to the importance of higher education."

However, like Traves, O'Brien has his difficulties with the survey.

O'Brien argues that if you want to measure quality, you have to look at a student's performance level at the time he or she is entering university and compare it to his or her performance level after completing the program.

O'Brien admits that measuring a student's performance in such a manner is difficult, but states that from his point of view, student performance "is the single most valid indicator of whether we're doing our job."

In last year's *Maclean's* survey, STU ranked 43rd out of 45 universities. Despite STU ranking 10th out of 18 universities this year, O'Brien

feels that STU "can take no satisfaction in having placed higher in this year's survey" since he believes that *Maclean's* methodology is still "seriously flawed".

In various categories of the survey UNB did quite well.

For example, UNB ranked first in the graduate international students section under the student body category.

Traves believes that UNB "has made itself welcome to international students for a long time." "UNB has developed a substantial network" with other universities and alumni across the world, notes Traves.

In the library category UNB ranked second in holding the per student section, but only 11th in the acquisitions section.

Traves feels that this ranking does "reflect a reality at UNB". Traves explains that due to financial constraints the university has not been able to fund library acquisitions as well as they would like.

He points out, however, that this problem is "an international problem" which all universities share.

Through a task force, Traves says that UNB is "defining a new approach to serving the information needs of our students and faculties."

"Before we saw information as stuff collected between book covers and I think increasingly in the future we will think about these things as discreet units of information that are accessible from a variety of sources," states Traves.

Traves believes that universities will have to adopt information strategies that cooperate with other universities and take advantage of modern communication processes.

In an article in this week's issue, *Maclean's* argues that they believed that the campus's own library collection is a critical resource for students, thus this was the basis they used in rating the university libraries.

But Traves believes that students and faculty are primarily concerned with whether or not sources are readily available to them.

Therefore, Traves argues that "it should matter little to the person whether that book is available by going up five flights of stairs or whether you fill out an order form and somebody phones you the next day and says the book is here."

Traves feels that students and faculty are concerned with not how many acquisitions a university library have on site, but what kind of access does the library have to such acquisitions and how quick can it get them if they are needed.

Presently, UNB shares their library resources with the

University of Alberta through the interlibrary loan system.

Another ranking which UNB did not do well on was the average entering grade to the university. UNB was 10th out of 12 universities with an average entering grade of 74.7%.

Traves explains that "UNB has a broad based admissions policy and the university takes a lot of students who we feel have the potential to succeed at university."

"That would appear to be a pretty progressive outlook about the role of the university in a democratic society," notes Traves. He feels, however, that "this virtue in *Maclean's* scale gets turned into a defect, because our average entry grade is lower than some other universities."

Traves challenges such a ranking asking: "is this something that UNB should feel ashamed about or should we see



Dr. Tom Traves

that we are more open and democratic and accessible and that we are serving the community better?"

UNB also rated high in Alumni support and received low rankings in students services and also humanities, medical and science grants.

no \ () nō \ adv [ME. fr. OE *na*, fr. *nē* not + *a* always; akin to ON & OHG *nē* not, L *nē*, Gk *nē* -- More at AYE] 1 a:

No means NO. Not now means NO. I have a boyfriend/girlfriend means NO. Maybe later means NO. No thanks means NO. You're not my type means NO. \$@!!! off means NO. I'd rather be alone right now means NO. Don't touch me means NO. I really like you but... means NO. Let's just go to sleep means NO. I'm not sure means NO. You've/T've been drinking means NO. Silence means NO. _____ means NO.

DATE RAPE \ 'dāt \ _ \ 'rāp \ n: Not understanding NO

"No Means No!" - Students may have noticed striking purple and black posters up around campus this week.

The posters are part of the Canadian Federation of Students' date rape awareness campaign stressing the message that "no", regardless of how the refusal is put, means "no."

Tammy Yates, Student Union Vice President External, says that the posters, which went up at the beginning of this week, will be followed next week by further information, in the form of pamphlets and stickers.

The Student Women's Collective will be selling t-shirts displaying the posters' graphic, with half the proceeds going to the Rape Crisis Centre. The t-shirts will be available from members of the Collective, and at a booth at the Boyce Farmer's Market this Saturday.

The poster was designed by the Ontario Federation of Students, and the campaign was run there last year. The C.F.S. decided last year that the campaign should be run nationally.

Yates says the campaign was run at this time because UNB will be releasing the results of its survey on unwanted sexual attention on campus on Thursday.