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Weekend Weather

Expect cloudy conditions on Friday, with a 40% chance of flurries. Highs near -7. On Saturday, expect more cloudy conditions with temperatures ranging from -13 to -20. On Sunday, there is a 10% chance of flurries. It will be cold!

Brunsbites

Student facts:

On an average day...

- Students spend 10 hours an 54 minutes on personal care, 8 hours and 12 minutes on productive time, and 4 hours and 54 minutes on free time.

- Graduates with a bachelor's degree earn \$86

- Those with a master's degree earn \$102

- Doctoral graduates earn \$162

-from Which do you prefer: Chunky or Smooth? What Canadians Eat, Watch, Read, Buy and Do... On An Average Day, by Heather Brazier, 1992, HarperCollins Publishers.

Can your professor teach?

by Erin Campbell

A recent government report raises questions concerning the teaching skills of University professors.

The Commission on Excellence in Education reports that many professors are seen as "arrogant and indifferent" to their students. Other problems the commission encountered are complaints that professors simply "report the same boring lectures" or had trouble with the language of instruction. It is also reported that there is little discussion regarding teaching skills within depart-

ments and faculties.

Robin Armstrong, president of UNB, says that he has no difficulties with what the report says, and that it will be of use when the university implements changes. Armstrong says that there can be no question as to "the centrality of teaching" at the university level.

He does believe, however, that the report tends to focus on the negative aspects. In his experience, he states, teaching has been taken more seriously at UNB than at other institutions.

The director of the UNB

Teaching Centre, Dr. Reavley Gair, believes that the Commission's findings are "stimulating". He comments that while the statements are "reasonably true," the problems are exaggerated.

He states that in the past, professors considered research as their primary occupation and teaching as a "side line". He believes that this belief has subsided in recent years.

It appears that many students share the concerns of the commission. One student believes

that professors "should consider the student's point of view" and allow more input from their students. There are students, on the other hand, that think professors should act more as a guide to their pupils instead of instructing them. One student believes this could be accomplished if there were less people in the classes, especially in the first year of programs.

Gair believes that the concerns of both the Commission and students can be met through various methods. He states that as many as 300 professors, assistants and graduate students have made use of the Teaching Centre since its creation over a year ago. The Centre offers its clients seminars, workshops, and magazines to introduce new theories and methods for the classroom environment.

The university is also taking steps to create a diploma for university teaching. President Armstrong states that the diploma will concentrate on a "specific type of experience and ability." He adds that it will be beneficial for graduate students as they look for university positions.

Both Armstrong and Gair are convinced that the University's programs will help professors improve their performance. They do, however, stress that these changes will take place gradually.

Gair states that professors "can't be expected to do a job perfectly after forty years without change."

Survey favours expansion

by Gordon Loane

A survey of seven hundred UNB and Saint Thomas students generally favoured an expansion of the Student Union Building.

While the results of the survey will not be released for several weeks, UNB Student Union President Eric Burchill says the general student perception is that the current Student Union Building, opened in 1969, is too small.

"There is strong support for the centralization of student services in one building," Burchill says. "For example, students generally favour re-locating the Health Centre, Bookstore, bank, counselling services, UNB Registrar's Office and UNB Business Office to an expanded SUB."

A new building could use more lounge space, quiet study areas, group study rooms, and a large cafeteria according to the survey. Burchill says that there is also support for relocating the Dean of Students Office to a new SUB.

"Students would also like to see a used bookstore and more convenience store space," and access in the building has been pinpointed as a problem, Burchill confirms. A new building must include more elevators and fix inaccessible areas in the office wing of the current SUB. "Accessibility to the UNB and Saint Thomas Student Union office and to CHSR-FM for some is a problem" Burchill says.

Another need expressed is for a medium sized room or venue that could accommodate about 12 hundred people.

"We need a facility larger than

the SUB cafeteria and the current SUB ballroom, yet smaller than the Aitken Centre. In addition, there's a feeling that many student organizations could use more office space including storage space. I'm sure the Campus organization and Graduate Students Association among others would welcome the opportunity to be a part of a new SUB," Burchill says.

Armed with the results of the survey, Burchill says the SUB Expansion Advisory Committee has met.

"We expect to meet with a group of Fredericton architects suitable to the university this week," he says. "Once a firm has been picked we expect to complete a conceptual plan for an

expanded SUB in the next number of weeks, but it's far too early to pinpoint a time. We're moving things along, though," Burchill continues.

Asked whether a plan will be in place in time for a proposed spring student referendum, Burchill says the time table is still flexible. "We hope to have a spring referendum but an option is to wait until the fall of 1993," he comments.

Meantime, the Acting President of the Saint Thomas Student Union says SUB expansion has not yet become a major issue on campus. But Graeme Gibbs says Saint Thomas has two representatives on the Sub Advisory Committee - one

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\$1200 Raised - The First annual Engineering Penny Drive was held recently to raise money for the Fredericton Literacy Council. Each of the seven societies in engineering were competing against one another to see who could raise the most money. The Chemical Engineers raised the most per student, but the Civil Engineers managed to raise the most overall. The total amount raised over the week came to \$1200. Prizes for the drive were donated by event sponsors: Peter Allison's Pizza Hut, Coastal Graphics, Universal Signs and LaBatt's Breweries.

Since 35% of the working force in New Brunswick are functionally illiterate, the engineering societies decided that this organization would be a worthy one to raise money for. Betty Robertson, who directs the Literacy Council indicated that the funds would be used to purchase new software for their computer and some new teaching aid videos. Thanks to everyone who helped out with the Penny Drive.

Presenting the cheque to Betty Robinson of the Fredericton Literacy Council is EUS representative Bruce Nelligan. Photo by Kevin G. Porter.

Memorial service

A memorial service will be held Tuesday, February 9, 1993, at 4:30 pm in the President's Room of the Alumni Memorial Building for Henry David Rempel, Professor of Political Science at UNB, 1969-82. All are welcome to attend.