

McLAUGHLIN AND MARSHALL FACE OFF FOR UNB'S TOP POSITION SEE STORY BELOW.



REDS LOOK FOR A WIN THIS WEEKEND. FOR A RECAP OF LAST WEEK'S SPORTS SCORES, SEE PAGE 12.



WHAT'S THE DEAL WITH FLY JIMMY?

THE BRUNSWICKAN

CANADA'S OLDEST STUDENT PUBLICATION UNIVERSITY OF NEW BRUNSWICK

JANUARY 18, 2002

VOLUME 136 ISSUE 14

WWW.UNB.CA/BRUNS

Presidential candidates face public

Community feedback accepted until January 30th

by Chris Wilson-Smith

Both UNB presidential candidates have gone through the process of introducing themselves to staff, faculty, students, alumni and other constituencies on UNB's campuses in Fredericton and Saint John over the past week, involving public speeches and interviews with the media.

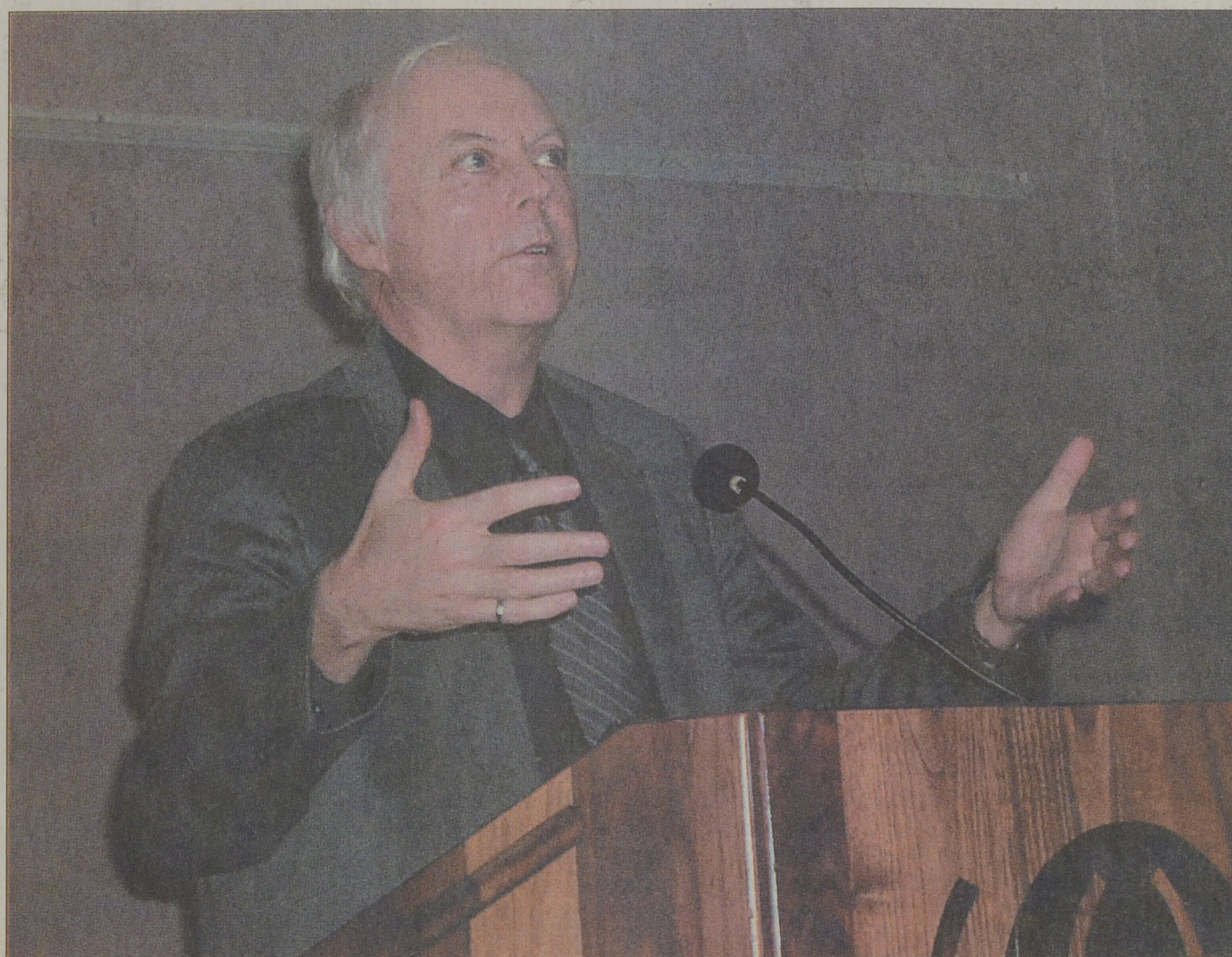
The next step will be for the Joint Nominating Committee to make a proposal to the senate based partly on the feedback from the university community.

The week provided a chance for interested members of the community to meet the potential leaders of UNB, and to discuss important issues such as the direction of UNB and tuition rates.

"We can't expect the students to keep paying for the difference between what the government is paying us, and what the government isn't paying us," said John McLaughlin, currently the vice-president (academic) at UNB.

"We have this huge dilemma in the province right now - we not only have the lowest per-capita government funding, but we are putting a huge burden on our students."

(SEE PRESIDENT PAGE 2)



Mark McGinnis/The Brunswickan

Both candidates for the Office of the President at the University of New Brunswick went public this week. The new President will be chosen between John McLaughlin (pictured above), and David Marshall.

State of the Arts Symposium

by T.J. Essensa

The University of New Brunswick in Fredericton will be hosting a symposium on Mon. Jan. 21 titled "The State of the Arts" in order to examine the humanities and social sciences.

The faculty of arts will be holding this event at 4 pm in Tilley Hall, room 102 and will address such issues as the budget, innovation and the role of arts in the curriculum.

"During the 90s the humanities in particular, and to some extent social sciences, began to feel that the country was valuing things like science, technology and engineering to the neglect of the old stand-bys in the humanities and to some extent the social sciences also. So that prompted a kind of national thinking together about where these disciplines are going," said Dr. Wendy Robbins, vice-president of the Humanities and Social Sciences Federation of Canada.

"We started to have that same conversation here with cuts to our budget, for example, fairly serious cuts to many faculties but I know in the arts we're now looking to save \$100, 000 in the next year."

There have been various conferences that have been held in different places, which have prompted a national stock taking along with the closure of some language programs.

"It seems a bit odd in a world where we're talking globalization all the time to be paying less and less attention, it seemed at least before Sept. 11th to things like religion, culture and language."

"It's a discussion that I hope brings together people with different pieces of the puzzle," said Dr. Robbins. "We have Elizabeth Parr-Johnston who has been part of the committee of university Presidents looking at the role of arts and sciences in the curriculum. We have not heard from that group before and we'll hear it right from the source from her."

Dr. Robbins will be one of the presenters at the symposium, sharing her observations about gender and teaching in a so-called text-based discipline. Others who will be presenting will be federal politician Andy Scott, who sits on the post-secondary caucus on the National priorities that involve the arts and the budget.

Dean of Arts at UNB, John Rowcroft, will be presenting as dean and a participant of a conference in Toronto on the future of humanities called *Humanities in 2010*. Also, Rick Myers, academic vice-president of St Thomas University will be arguing the importance of a liberal arts education.

University students, faculty and staff as well as the general public are invited to attend. "I really hope students come because I'm aware that sometimes these discussions get rather bureaucratic and sometimes focus a lot on research," Dr. Robbins concluded.

"If we're here our number one goal is to teach. I think it would be really interesting if students came. I think that is granted far too little importance in assigning priorities."

It would be good to hear from the students, and students who graduated a few years ago who are looking back at what courses actually prepared them for whatever it is that they want to do with their life. Not just specifically in terms of professional training but in terms of what really prepares you to be an informed citizen of the world."

Fun with sex toys

by Stephanie Brunet

There is a new art form for the new Millennium and it has its foundations in bedroom fun.

On Friday, January 18th, the UNB Art Centre will host the opening of the latest exhibition, "Mother of Invention - Sex Toys for the New Millennium." This group exhibition, curated by intern Whitefeather, is in conjunction with the up-coming *Vagina Monologues* that will take place later in February. The aim of the show is to create a sense of empowerment and to raise sexual awareness for both men and women. This education is a powerful tool against sexual violence, as the show is in support of the International V-Day Campaign and of local organizations dealing with

(SEE SEX TOYS PAGE 2)

INDEX

NEWS	1-2
NATIONAL NEWS	3
OPINION/EDITORIAL	4-6
VIEWPOINT	7
ENTERTAINMENT	9-11
SPORTS	12-13
GAMES	14
CLASSIFIED	15

QUOTE OF THE WEEK

Irrigation of the land with seawater desalinated by fusion power is ancient. It's called rain.

Michael McClary

UNB student gets international recognition

Chan wins top prize in IEEE competition

by Chris Wilson-Smith

Imagine a jet aircraft controlled by the pilot's voice. Seem far-fetched?

The work of a Canadian researcher may soon make this incredible technological advancement a reality.

Adrian Chan, a PhD student at the University of New Brunswick in Fredericton, is developing an automatic speech recognition system as an alternative control technology for jet aircraft.

"High performance jet aircraft are very complicated to fly," said Chan, who hails from Waterloo, Ontario. "If we can enable pilots to use their voice to control the aircraft, it will make flying easier and increase safety."

Chan's research, which is funded by the Defence Evaluation Research Agency in the United Kingdom and the Natural Sciences and Engineering Council of Canada, has won him the top prize in the IEEE-Engineering in Medicine and Biology Society's student paper competition.

The IEEE (Institute of Electrical and Electronic Engineers) is the largest engineering organization in the world. Chan presented his paper in Istanbul, Turkey, last October, and beat out 238 competitors from 36 countries.

Chan believes he is more than halfway toward his goal of developing a speech-recognition system that is immune to noise. The noise in the cockpit from the jet engines combined with the effects of vibration, forced air-breathing, and high G-forces on the pilot's voice, make a sound-based speech-recognition system untenable on its own.

"Humans can decipher a voice that's altered by vibration and other influences but computers have difficulty," said Chan. "I'm taking a novel approach to speech recognition - applying not only

acoustic information but also myoelectric information."

When a muscle contracts, it produces an electric signal. By attaching an electrode to the pilot's face, the myoelectric signals produced during speech can be monitored.

"I've already developed the myoelectric speech recognizer," said Chan. "The next step in my research is to add acoustic information to the myoelectric speech recognition system. I believe that these sources of information will complement each other in a multi-expert system."

Chan hopes his method will be applied to other fields in the future.

"I hope that the method I develop will be used not only for speech recognition but also for myoelectric prosthetic control or perhaps even disease recognition."

Chan began his PhD studies at UNB in 1999 after completing a Bachelor of Applied Science in Computer Engineering at the University of Waterloo and a Master of Applied Science in Electrical Engineering, specializing in Biomedical Engineering, at the University of Toronto.



Mark McGinnis/The Brunswickan

Construction on the Natural Gas pipeline at the National Research Council began in earnest earlier this week. The installation is expected to be completed in the next few days.

FINAL FANTASY
PRESENTS

WWE

\$3.50 ON ALL TV'S

30 MEN

ONE MATCH
ONE WINNER

UPPERDECK
SPORTS ILLU

ROYAL RUMBLE

LIVE ON PAY-PER-VIEW SUNDAY JANUARY 20 8PM/ET 5PM/PT