

Fredericton marks Genocide Awareness Week

by Hunter Gavin

Students joined together last week to recognize the atrocities of the Holocaust, Rwandan genocide and the turmoil in Sudan during Holocaust Memorial and Genocide Awareness Week.

The week's events were hosted by Students Helping Others Understand Tolerance (SHOUT), the St. Thomas Human Rights Alliance, the Atlantic Human Rights Centre, and St. Thomas University's Human Rights Program.

Events throughout the week provided opportunities to hear the stories of survivors of various genocides, and for students to respond to and discuss current genocide-related topics.

The week's events began on Sunday, January 29 with a Holocaust Memorial Candlelight vigil in the STU Courtyard. Monday night, the Witness to History lecture featured Holocaust survivors Sally Wasserman and Philip Riteman.

Wasserman, a Polish Jew, relayed her story of being kept in hiding during the Holocaust by a loving elderly Polish couple. Riteman, also a Pole, survived the Holocaust while working in various concentration camps, including Auschwitz-Birkenau.

On Tuesday, Norman Epstein, the founder and co-chair of Canadians Against Slavery and Torture in Sudan, presented a lecture entitled Never Again, Never Again: Darfur, the First Genocide of the 21st Century. Can Canada Make a Difference?

Events capped off on Thursday, when students from across Canada came together for a special panel discussion, sharing their stories of witnessing violence and genocide. This witness to history panel featured Andrew Gbongbor, originally from Sierra Leone, who took people back

to the night he had to flee his home from rebel militia and seek refuge, without knowing if his mother or father were alive.

"We've lost a lot of lives in Sierra Leone," Gbongbor said. "We've lost a lot of brothers, and sisters and close friends." Gbongbor, who found his father and eventually came to Canada in 2004, said it's still hard to tell the story without bursting into tears, but the story needs telling.

"For each one word you say, you change one life, and for each life you save, you have changed the world."

Also on Thursday, a Witness to Rwanda presentation was given by Juliet Karugahe.

A student at the University of Toronto, Karugahe said she wasn't living in her native Rwanda during the 1994 genocide. However, 28 members of her family -- aunts, uncles and cousins -- were there.

She said only one survived. "Perhaps people think of genocide happening somewhere else, as not affecting them," Karugahe said. "But I really believe what happens to people somewhere else happens to us." Karugahe says people need to be educated about genocide and where it occurs in the world, because only then can they do something to stop it.

The week of remembrance led up to the United Nations Holocaust Memorial Day, recognized on January 27.

According to General Assembly president Jan Eliasson, "The United Nations, in proclaiming this day, stresses the duty to remember and educate future generations about the lessons of the genocide. The United Nations recognizes that it bears a special responsibility to ensure that the tragedy of the Holocaust will forever stand as a warning of the dangers of hatred to all people: bigotry, racism and prejudice."



Internet

UNB Robotics presents: Famous robots

This article is brought to you by UNB Robotics, which is holding its 5th annual robotics competition. The event will draw participants from across the country. It starts on Friday, February 9th, 2007 and ends on the 11th. Check www.unb.ca/robotics.

by Anthony Nonso Ilukwe, Marcus Brookshaw and Marco Flores

Meet the famous robots:

Personality: George Bush
Robot Type/Name: "BushBot"
(Not to be confused with XXX Model)

Manufacturer / Present Location: Insert Bango Solo here
Special Features:

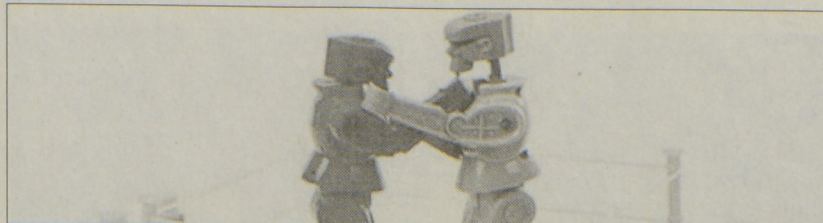
- Improved chewing and swallowing ability -- guaranteed not to choke on pretzels or other confections.

- Minimal computational power as a result of tragic accident in which brain was replaced with a stack of three blueberry pancakes, a slightly tarnished silver dollar and the French language rules insert from Monopoly Dukes of Hazard Edition. Flaw went

unnoticed until unit began eating potted plants in owner Dick Cheney's home.

Robotic Popularity: 10

Personality: Wayne Gretzky
Robot Type/Name: "GR8-1"
Manufacturer: Ford Motor Company



Internet

Present Location: Frozen Plains, Planet Hoth (or the Tylenol Bottle in your medicine cabinet).

Special Features:

- Peerless love-maker and pastry chef.

- Excluding human Gordie Howe, model is greatest hockey player of all time -- until Sidney Crosby comes of age.

- Excluding 2002 Olympic Gold Medal, model is worst hockey coach of all time, yet still a good drug spokesperson.

Robotic Popularity: 8

Personality: Madonna
Robot Type/Name: "Donnanoid IV"

Manufacturer: Advanced Material

Girls, Inc.

Present Location: Miami, FL

Special Features:

- Able to instantly add affected English accent to speech functions.

- Unfortunately, model is prone to illegal purchase/adoption of local children when visiting impoverished nations.

Robotic Popularity: 6

Personality: Kobe Bryant
Robot Name/Type: "K.O.B.E. version 2.0" / Assembler
Manufacturer: Silicon Valley, CA
Present Location: Los Angeles, CA

Special Features:

- Possesses a unique barrel that shoots basketballs with a velocity close to the speed of light.

- Built with an awareness mechanism that senses human contact from 100 feet away.

- Version 2.0 has super high speed thought-processing and analysis.

- It's seemingly invincible nature often makes it appear arrogant, but the manufacturer claims that it's microchips are only functional under such conditions.

Robotic Popularity: 8

Personality: Steven Harper
Robot Name/Type: "Harpertron X" / Spacebot
Manufacturer: Unknown, assumed to be Orion Galaxy

Present Location: Ottawa, ON
Special Features:

- A rather complicated robot. It slightly differs from the manufacturer's prototype.

- The Harpertron is able to make decisions independently, which often has dire consequences.

Robotic Popularity: 6

MASA Changes Its Name--And Its Focus

Submitted to The Bruns

I can't say I will miss having to explain why I am female. As Coordinator for Men Against Sexual Aggression (MASA), I often encountered some confused faces when I would show up for the Dating B.A.S.I.C.S. (Boundaries and Assertiveness Surrounding Intimacy and Consensual Sex) workshops that have been hosted by the different residences this school year.

MASA was once a discussion group for male students, and, back then, the name suited the group perfectly. This year, a lot has changed with our group and so changing our name to Voices Against Sexual Aggression (VASA) was the perfect way to reflect our growing presence on campus. The discussion group kicked off in October and currently consists of male and female, student and professor and STU and UNB representatives.

Last Friday, the debate was how the threat of sexual assault affects the average person. What we found was that gender had a lot to do with how

people experience the pervasiveness of sexual violence in society. Chuck LeBlanc and Matt Abbott described being perceived as a "bad guy" -- for example, seeing the fear in a mother's eyes as you rush to help a wayward child aware that the mother may be wondering what your intentions are.

From the female side, I expressed my frustration that some males give safety lectures to females but do not stop to evaluate how they would react to severe limits put on their own independence. Our discussion last week was a bit unique, as the topic allowed members to bring in personal stories if they chose. However, the discussion group usually tries to focus on ideas for changing the policies in Canadian society around sexual assault.

On the issue of institutional child abuse and the provincial compensation programs, we actually examined the Nova Scotia chart that has been used to differentiate between victims who have experienced "severe" or "less severe" abuse. Amanda Wilkinson commented that the chart would be less offensive if those who experienced the abuse were not given such de-personalized labels. For me, that was a powerful moment because I know that an idea like that has the power to make a small but much needed improvement in the legal response to sexual violence in Canada.

In the future, the group plans to tackle topics on the media, pornography and the upcoming trial of pedophile Peter Whitmore, a convicted Toronto sex offender who

was released in 2000 and has allegedly re-offended. We are all hoping to add some new voices to the mix this semester. New members are welcome to come to the discussion which is held every Friday at 2 pm in the Sexuality Centre (third floor of the SUB). I can be contacted at masa@unb.ca for any questions or to receive information and resources on the upcoming discussion topic.

For anyone who is interested in a free movie, we are showing "The Accused" on Tuesday February 6th in Room 106 Carleton. This is a 1988 movie starring Jodie Foster and Kelly McGillis. It is a very disturbing and powerful film, especially since it is based on a true story. Afterwards, for those who wish to stay, we want to hold a discussion on the movie.



Stand out.

Athabasca University delivers distance education courses to students across Canada and around the world. As a visiting student, you can take courses to complement your studies at your home university.

Need a prerequisite? Got a scheduling conflict? Need extra credits? AU can help. Offering more than 600 courses in over 60 undergraduate and graduate programs, AU has what you need when you need it. Start your course anytime, and fit your study times to your schedule.

Take the first step. Talk to your advisor and visit our website or call our toll-free information line.

Athabasca University
Canada's Open University

www.athabascau.ca
Canada/US: 1-800-788-9041
International: (780) 675-6100

Dr. Richard E. Lee
Optometrist

406A Regent St. 458-1580
(2 buildings past Harvey's Hamburgers)
New Patients Welcome

BEST SUMMER JOB EVER!

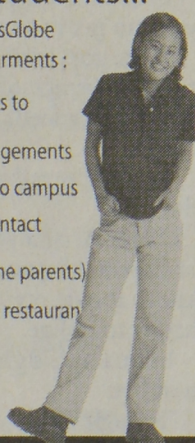
KEN MONT
KEN WOOD

Join our team! Premier brother/sister camp located at the foothills of the Berkshire Mountains in Kent, CT. World class facilities located 2 hours to NYC, 4 hours to Boston. 200 acre facility includes waterfront activities, team sports, individual sports, outdoor adventures, extreme sports, performing and visual arts programs. Looking for staff who have a love for working with children and enjoy being a part of a team. Jobs available include specialty counselors, general counselors, office/secretarial staff, camp store staff and other administrative staff positions. E-mail tom@kencamp.com or Phone Tom Troche at 305-673-3310. Browse our website at www.kenmontkenwood.com and fill out our application. Contact us if you would like to meet one of our staff on your campus.

Attention Students!!!

Welcome home to TransGlobe
Affordable Student Apartments:

- ✓ Variety of rental units to accommodate different living arrangements
- ✓ Conveniently close to campus
- ✓ 24 hr. emergency contact number (peace of mind for the parents)
- ✓ Steps to shopping & restaurant



Let TransGlobe find your home away from home

1-888-310-7000
www.G0transglobe.com

TransGlobe
Property Management Services

STUDENTS!

BE YOUR OWN BOSS THIS SUMMER

RECEIVE UP TO \$3000 IN AN INTEREST FREE LOAN!

APPLICANTS MUST BE RETURNING FULL TIME STUDENTS IN THE FALL.

FOR MORE INFORMATION ON THE
SEED SUMMER ENTREPRENEURSHIP PROGRAM
CONTACT ENTERPRISE FREDERICTON AT 444-4686.



YOUTH
ENTREPRENEURSHIP
JEUNESSE

Enterprise Fredericton
Community Economic Development Agency