

“Are we going to have to drink this?”

by Emily Brown,
VP Communications of EWB

This question came from a young New Maryland elementary student whose class took part in the University of New Brunswick's Engineers Without Borders presentation recently.

A large group of university students came to the elementary school prepared to teach kids about water issues, using the Engineers Without Borders (EWB) 'Water for the World' presentation, a workshop which promotes both global awareness and conservation in our own community. The young fourth and fifth graders helped kick-start the UNB chapter's single biggest presentation to date with lots of enthusiasm, eagerly guessing the multiple choice quiz with UNB's Co-Vice President of High School Outreach, Chelsea Ferris of Saint John.

“How many people die from drinking unsafe water every day around the world?” Chelsea asked the group. The children who had answered the question right – 100,000 people daily die due to a lack of access to water – cheered at their intelligence. Chelsea, noting that the point needed to be driven home, asked the energetic students to think about it for a moment. 100,000 people, she reminded them, was like everyone from Fredericton and New Maryland and the surrounding areas dying every day.

After the short presentation, the kids began work on making their very own water filters. Each group of children was given a country, 'Monopoly' money according to their nation's GDP, and instructions, which were understandable according to a nation's literacy rate. Because some people have to walk so far to get any water at all, let alone safe water, many school-aged children do not have a chance to go to school, and therefore

many cannot read or write as they are retrieving water.

With their Monopoly money, countries had to figure out what materials they most needed for their water filter, and then buy those materials from the World Bank. The rich countries of Canada and the USA had more money than needed to buy all of the materials recommended for their filter, whereas those countries from the 'majority world' had to pick only those components that they could afford or deemed most important. Quickly, students realized they simply could not afford to make a filter that would clean their water properly and began asking frantically for help. As they continued to realize their state, they would ask other countries to trade materials or for the leftover money that the other countries might have. Eventually, the students began to see the point of the activity.

The UNB chapter of Engineers Without Borders has somewhat mastered the art of these presentations, having reached more than 2,500 students in New Brunswick last year. The strong leadership and engaging charisma of Chelsea Ferris and Brian Magee, UNB's VP High School Outreach, has led the UNB chapter to the top of the country in terms of outreach, with the help of their many volunteers.

Roland Cyr's fifth grade science class took part in the EWB presentation. He said that while curriculum does not allow much room to teach his students about global issues, he sees that it is very important. The benefits of such a presentation not only teaches kids about how lucky they are to live in Canada, but it gives them an increased understanding about world politics and engages them to participate in their own local community, all the while maintaining relevance for courses like science, math, and history.

You can meet members of EWB-UNB on select Saturdays at the Boyce Market. If you would like to get involved, please email hso@unb.ewb.ca or find about EWB-UNB at unb.ewb.ca.

Apple Inc. reinvents the iPod with touch

by Alison Clack
with files from Ed Cullinan

Remember the time when mp3 players only held a CD's worth of music for about fifteen times the cost? Seems like a long time ago, and then something changed: the 'iPod revolution' came along. When Apple Computer Inc. introduced its original model, it only had a menial capacity of 5GB, which pales in comparison to the latest iPod's maximum capacity of 160GB, but those five gigabytes changed the way the modern world listens to music. Then came the various generations of the iPod mini (going from 4GB to 6GB, and now discontinued), the iPod nano (going from the first generation 2GB to the new third generation 8GB), and the iPod shuffle (up to 1GB and half the size).

In a world crowded with the Blackberries of the corporate workforce and the sidekicks of the celebrity elite, Apple needed to do more.

In June 2007, the newly dubbed Apple Inc. released the iPhone, an innovative new gadget that can play music, take still digital photographs, browse the Internet using WiFi and EDGE networking, make telephone calls, and send SMS text messages, all through a groundbreaking multi-touch user interface. The iPhone is also able to interact natively with Google maps, a result of



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a partnership with Apple and Google Inc., and is thus able to access real-time traffic information and obtain maps and satellite imagery.

Now there's a new brand of iPod that the masses can add to their collection.

Apple's website states, "Apple introduced the revolutionary new multi-touch user interface with iPhone and now we're bringing it to iPod. With the new iPod touch you can play music and watch videos with little more than a touch of a finger," states Apple's website.

The iPod touch hails from the same multi-touch technology that spawned the iPhone, but should not be perceived as an iPhone without the phone. At 60% thinner than the iPhone and a few mil-

limeters shorter, the iPod touch makes use of a different body shape and chassis that sheds all the extra space and parts of its 'predecessor' – like the camera, external speaker, mic, extra controls, and obviously the GSM card slot. In addition, the iPod touch does not ship with many of the native iPhone applications installed like Notes, Maps, Stocks, Weather, or most notably, Mail. A read-only Calendar application (as opposed to the iPhone's read & write Calendar app, pending a software update) and no internal support for Bluetooth also set the two devices apart.

The iPod touch is a still an iPod, and not an extension into the realm of PDAs and mobile communications. However, jailbreak hacks of iPod Touch and

iPhone software v.1.1.1 are emerging, making it possible for the devices to install 3rd party applications.

One might ask, why bother getting the iPod touch as opposed to the cheaper iPod classic or iPod nano? The iPod touch is a whole different animal inside and out, combining classic iPod features with WiFi Internet capabilities and the amazing ability to interact through a multi-touch interface. Flick through your music in stunning Cover Flow or pinch your photos to zoom in and out, the iPod touch can be seen as a blending of beauty and sophistication. The iPod touch also allows you to buy music on the spot through their new iTunes WiFi Music Store, as long as you are connected to the internet over WiFi.

"iPod touch has WiFi built in so when you're on a WiFi network you can search, preview, purchase and download millions of songs from the iTunes WiFi Music Store. The music downloads directly to your iPod touch so you can enjoy it immediately," says the Apple website.

Also, the music you buy on the iTunes WiFi Music Store will sync to your computer the next time you connect your iPod touch with iTunes.

The iPod touch is a state-of-the-art addition to Apple Inc.'s iPod line. While it does not deliver the astonishing capacity of a hard-drive based iPod, basing it on Flash RAM allows for its thinner form factor. If you are disappointed in the lack of the iPhone's availability in Canada (for now), the best you can do is get a 'touch', but don't expect it to remedy your yearnings. It is what it is: an iPod.

Feeling frisky, don't be risky: wrap it up!

by Melissa Fulton,
UNB Sexuality Centre

Condoms are great. They are effective, easy to use, and cheap. Unfortunately, many of us do not know the first thing about condoms, but there isn't a need to worry. Here are some of the most important pieces of information you need to know about condoms.

Next to abstinence, condoms are the best way to protect yourself and your partner from getting a sexually transmitted infection (STI). Condoms are the only method of birth control that will also protect you from STIs. When used properly, condoms are 97% effective at preventing STIs and pregnancy. However, many people do not use condoms the right way! Using a condom incorrectly will make it far less effective, and may actually cause it to break. And since there is no mood-killer quite like a busted condom, here are the steps you need to use them effectively.

And ladies, you need to pay attention, too! Don't fall into the trap of assuming your partner is putting the condom on the right way. Know the right way so you can provide assistance in putting the condom on correctly, if he needs it.

The first step in putting on a condom happens even before you open the pack-

age. Step one is checking the expiry date. That date is there for a reason! If the condom is expired, do not use it.

The next step is opening the package, but don't be too rushed! If you rip into the package too fast, you may also rip the condom. Not good. To open the package, gently squeeze the condom to one side of the package so it does not get torn. And don't try to be fancy and use your teeth to open it because that usually results in a ripped condom.

Now that you are holding the condom, take a look at it. If the condom is ripped, sticky, brittle, or stiff, throw it out and use a different one. Assuming the condom is in good shape, make sure it is facing the right way before slipping it on. If you start to put a condom on and then realize that it is inside out, you cannot simply flip it over because the outside portion will have already touched the penis. The condom's tip should be pointing up.

Now that you are sure the condom is in fact facing the right way, you can actually put it on. If the penis is not circumcised, gently pull back the foreskin. Place the condom on the erect penis (don't try to put on a condom if the penis is still soft or only semi-erect). Next, pinch the tip of the condom with one hand as you roll it down the penis with your other hand. This is a very important step. Pinching the tip squeezes any air out of the tip, which leaves room for the semen. If you do not pinch the tip, the air will take up all the space and the semen will have no place to go, causing the condom to burst or fall off during ejaculation.

Make sure that you roll the condom



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down as far as you can, right to the base of the penis. If the condom is not lubricated, you can add lubricant. Lubricants will ease friction, making sex more pleasurable, and also decreasing the risk of the condom breaking. Make sure to use water-based lubricants, such as KY Jelly, with latex condoms. Never use oil-based lubricants such as baby oil, Vaseline, or massage oils. Oil-based lubricants will degrade the latex and may cause the condom to break.

Now that you have successfully put on the condom, you can have fun! After ejaculation, make sure to pull out the penis while it is still erect. Do not wait until it begins to go soft, or the condom may slip off. When pulling out the penis, hold the base of the condom to make sure it does not come off. Throw the condom in the garbage (condoms do not flush well) and remember that it is a one-time deal. Never reuse a condom.

Besides from vaginal and anal intercourse, condoms should also be used during oral sex. Remember that STIs can be passed orally. There are flavoured condoms out there, so try some out!

On a final note, make sure to talk about safer sex practices with your partner. Sex is such an important and serious part of relationships, and all too often we become too embarrassed to even talk about it with our partners. Make sure you communicate with your partner and tell them your boundaries. If you are having sex, let your partner know that you use a condom every time.

Free (yes, free!) condoms are available at the Sexuality Centre. The Sexuality Centre is located at the SUB, room 203, on the third floor by the elevator.

Questions or concerns? Visit us, call us at 452-6272, or e-mail us at sexual@unb.ca.

The Brunswickan Annual General Meeting



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Questions? eic@unb.ca

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