

SPECTRUM

Educating the whole person

Two of my sons started school last week. The eldest, John-Harmen, began Grade Two. He informed us, however, that he'd rather that the summer had lasted forever. The summer months had been such a learning and discovering experience that the structured atmosphere of the classroom suddenly did not much appeal to him.

His younger brother, Nathaniel, was the opposite. He displayed an eagerness and enthusiasm for his first day of pre-school that could only but warm the heart of a parent. Can you imagine not being able to sleep the night before because of the excitement of one's first day of school.

Learning is exciting, if only simply because of its discovering nature. Most of us have experienced that. Education holds out the potential for expanding our human horizons to discover worlds we never thought existed and actions we never thought possible. Learning to read and write and then

uncovering the worlds of the great writers and actors of the ages unveils for us an immensity of human knowledge and potential.

That, of course, surfaces in all the disciplines. It is as crucial for the sciences and engineering as it is for the humanities. In fact, it is when they work in concert that the greatest benefit is gained. Competition between, and even ignorance of, disciplines serves only to close down, rather than open up, the potential for learning and discovering. So does the fueling of individual egos and the advancing of individual agendas. These too do not well serve the rest of humanity.

All of this, of course, has to do with the meaning, value and purpose of education. And, what better time to (re)assess this than at the beginning of a new academic year. After all, if we are to spend all that money we ought to have some clear purpose in mind as to why we are pursuing an education at all.

The buzz word today is "getting the biggest bang for the (educational) buck". It was interesting to

see numerous articles appear in newspapers and magazines at the beginning of this new school year highlighting that point. There is increasing concern that educational dollars are not being spent wisely in this country. That indeed may be the case. But I wonder if we haven't impoverished our notion of what education is all about.

It would appear to me that society gains most by having its students become well-rounded citizens. Intellectual development, with its focus on the scientific and rational, is a crucial component of the educating process. Filling the brain with facts is important. But dare we say that it is everything?

Humans are mind, body and soul. If we feed the mind, pamper the body but neglect the soul, we produce imbalanced and under-developed graduates. They may excel in their own narrowed speciality, but have an impoverished sense of what it means to be a human being in this world. This latter is a concern of the soul, of the human spirit.

Without some development and maturing of the soul, of one's spiri-

Metanoia
with John Valk

ture.

Some of that knowledge (the Scriptures can it wisdom) can be gained outside of

the classroom, as my eldest son was only beginning to discover. But the formal setting of the classroom holds out even greater potential, as Nathaniel was perhaps naively anticipating.

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Learning the law

Almost everybody has assumptions of what their legal rights and obligations are. Sometimes these assumptions are correct but more often they are wrong. It is in your best interest to be accurately informed of your rights and responsibilities. As people learn more about the law they gain a new respect for it. An understanding of the law allows them to respond to other people in a civil manner. It is therefore understandable why legal information is required in a university community.

With this in mind the UNB student has initiated the Legal Information Programme to provide every student with accessible information about the law. The cornerstone of the program is the Legal Handbook, *Campus to Courtroom: a Student's Guide to the Law*. This Handbook is distributed province wide to provide clear, factual legal information to all New Brunswick university students. The areas of law that are covered are those believed to be of most interest and relevance to students.

Throughout the school year the Legal Information Programme will be producing a series of articles in the Brunswickan under the heading 'Legal Ease'. The purpose of the column is to supplement *Campus to Courtroom*. The articles are designed to touch on some of the everyday legal issues that you as a student will encounter



as well as some special areas of interest or concern. The articles are written in clear concise language to make the task of reading them less difficult. It is the hope of the Student Union that you will use the articles in addition to the Handbook to further your understanding of the law. You should remember that neither this column nor *Campus to Courtroom* are intended to replace professional legal advice or counselling, you should contact a lawyer.

The Student Union has established the Student/Lawyer Consultation Service for students who wish to consult a lawyer. It is free for all UNB students. You can make an appointment by calling or visiting the Student Union Office in room 126 of the SUB. A full discussion of the Student/Lawyer consultation Service will be covered in a separate article.

The Legal Information Programme publication *Tackling the System* has taken on a new look this year. The 1991 edition has been added to the *Beaverbook*. The purpose of this is to make the Handbook more accessible to the student population. This handbook

covers the steps of procedure for academic and disciplinary matters. You should make yourself familiar with the contents of this Handbook to be prepared to deal with any problems that may crop up during your stay at UNB. You may pick up a copy of *Tackling the System* from the Student Union Office of the Dean of Students.

The Student Union and the Legal Information Programme hope all students will use this column and the Handbook to facilitate a greater awareness of the law. Students have enough on their minds without having to wonder if what they do is right or wrong. The Legal Information Programme would appreciate any feedback you can give to make the programme better in the future. Any suggestions can be sent to the Legal Information Programme c/o the Student Union Office in the SUB.

The Wimmen's Room

This column will be written by members of the UNB Student Women's committee. If you are interested in having your name added to the list of writers, contact: UNB Student Women's Committee Annex C (Anthropology), Rm. 31
MWTH 11:30Am-1:15PM
TF 1:30 Am-4:30PM

UNB's Writing and Study Skills Program

NEED HELP? Worried about how you will make the transition to university? About the number of study hours that are appropriate for your Faculty? Unsure about how to take good notes or how to manage your time effectively?

If you need help to improve your academic skills, the **Writing and Study Skills Program** can help. Individual tutoring sessions are available, free of charge to all UNB students, by calling 453-4646. As well, small group workshops will be offered on the following topics during the 1991 Fall Term:

NOTE-TAKING and STUDY STRATEGIES
21 September 1991, 9:30 am - 12:30 pm, \$5.

TIME MANAGEMENT FOR STUDENTS
28 September 1991, 9:30 am - 12:30 pm, \$5.

READING STRATEGIES FOR STUDENTS
05 October 1991, 9:30 am - 4:30 pm, \$10.

**CONQUERING THE MACINTOSH:
WORD PROCESSING FOR STUDENTS**
19 October 1991, 9:30 am - 3:30 pm, \$10.

ESSAY WRITING: FROM A - Z
26 October 1991, 9:30 am - 4:30 pm, \$10.

LIBRARY RESEARCH FOR ESSAY WRITERS
02 November 1991, 10:00 am - 1:00 pm, \$5.

**SEMINARS and ORAL PRESENTATIONS:
PREPARATION and DELIVERY**
16 November 1991, 9:30 am - 12:30 pm, \$5.

IMPROVING EXAMINATION SKILLS
23 November 1991, 9:30 am - 2:30 pm, \$10.

Pre-registration at the Department of Extension and Summer Session (Duffie Drive) is required for all workshops.
Register early - enrollment is limited!