

100 Volunteers Needed

by Judy Janes

Help! Rap Room is looking for student volunteers to assist in a new project starting for the first time on the UNB campus.

As the name implies, the project involves setting up a place to which students can go at any time of the day or night and talk to other students of matters of personal concern.

"Any student who feels lonely, homesick, depressed, worried, or who just wants to let off steam will come down to the room and rap whenever he likes," said a recent policy statement.

For the project to be a success at least a minimum of about 100 volunteers are needed to help. No experience is needed and they can be from any faculty. The only requirement is that volunteers be willing to lend an ear and a few hours of their time to those seeking assistance.

Rap Room volunteers do not give advice, but act as referred agents on the problems involving legal, medical, financial, or personal matters. Rap Room coordinates with various service organizations both on and off campus in assisting students with their personal affairs.

The primary purpose of the Rap Room project however is that there be a listening ear available for students who just want to talk out their difficulties.

Students who are really interested in offering their assistance to this project are invited to attend the next meeting of the Rap Room on Monday,

November 16th, at 9 p.m. in Tilley Hall, Room 102.

Information can also be obtained by telephoning 454-5725 and asking for Bob, Gary, or Dave, who are committee members for Rap Room.

LBR Problem To Sub-Committee

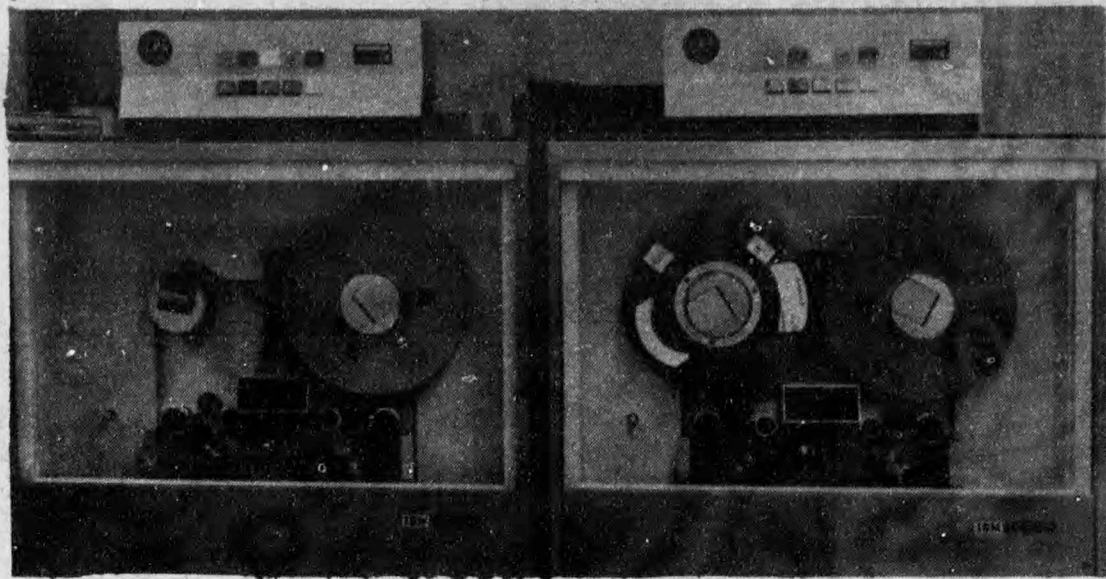
The Student Services Committee has relegated the responsibility for housing the students of LBR next year to the Housing sub-committee. Ruth Spicer, the accommodations officer at UNB, is the chairman of that sub-committee.

The residents of LBR will not have a place to lay their heads next year if a donor cannot be found to provide funds for the reconstruction of the building. Peter Kent, the Dean of Men, said at the meeting that "support may be forthcoming. We're just sitting and hoping at present."

"We have a verbal promise (from the donor) but nothing in writing," commented Kent.

The Dean of Women, Mrs. Kidd, said that there was a possibility that the LBR students would move to the Maggie Jean residence next year.

The chairman of the Student Services Committee, Dr. Norman Whitney, promised "definable information" by the next meeting. "Our sub-committees are very fast," he added.



Two IBM 2401 Mod II Magnetic Tape Units on the IBM System/360 Mod 1-50 in Head Hall. Tapes are one-half inch, nine track, 2400 feet long. All nine tracks are read or written simultaneously, 800 characters per inch of tape. Photo by Jomini

Computers Expensive But Useful

by Gordon Jomini

The IBM System/630 Model 1-50 digital computer, located in Head Hall, and thirty or so key-punch units scattered across the campus, cost the University in the neighborhood of \$32,000 rental per month, equivalent to a commercial purchase price of about \$1.5 million. It is worth the price?

The rental figure does not tell all of the story: some of the machinery is owned by the University, and some more by the N.B. government. IBM maintenance-scheduled and otherwise is included for some of the machinery. However, the computer is never-the-less an expensive bit of circuitry.

The computer is also an educational tool as well as a computing machine. This division of interest is reflected in the two departments directly concerned with the computer -- the Department of Computer Science and the Computing Center.

The Department of Compu-

ter Science started with a Master's degree program and now has, in addition, several undergraduate credit courses (CS2001, CS2002, CS4211, CS4212); these courses are service courses offered to students and faculty in all faculties.

A four year undergraduate degree program will likely be initiated in two or three years time, according to W.D. Wasson, Director of the Computing Center and Head of the Department of Computer Science. Prof. Wasson also said that there will not be a PhD program in Computer Science in the foreseeable future.

The Computer Center is a service organization, providing computing facilities for students, faculty, the University Administration, and external users, i.e., industry (NBTel, Canadian National Railways, N.B.E.P.C.), governmental agencies (Federal and Provincial), and other universities in the Maritime provinces.

Computer usage runs 300 to 400 hours a month, roughly broken down as follows by Prof. Wasson:

external	10 per cent
undergraduate	10 per cent
UNB Administration	10 per cent
Computing Center	20 per cent
Graduate, Faculty research	50 per cent

The apparently high figure-20 per cent - for the Computing Center is not high by industry norms. This time is used for the development and implementation of systems programs and programming systems.

Precise accounting of computer time across the UNB campus is not yet available but will be in a few months when an extensive (computerized) accounting system is enforced. It is hoped that some of the information gathered will indicate areas of low usage. Prof. Wasson said that "our utilization is low"; however, he expects computer usage to "expand

Continued on Page 15

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