



Professors Poyatos, Gomez-Astudillo, and Hidalgo of the new Spanish department.

Spanish department goes independent

By CHRISTIE WALKER
Brunswickan Staff

The Spanish department at UNB has been independent of the Romance Language department since July 1st of this year. Members of the faculty, which include Francisco Gomez-Astudillo, chairman; Alvin J. Shaw, associate dean of arts; and professors Jeremy C. Forster, Jorge Hidalgo, Dexter Noel, Mariano Piquer, and Fernando Poyatos, are eager to promote their new department, which is located in Tilley Hall.

The members of the department are quick to point out that Spanish is the second most important language, after English, in the western hemisphere. In 1964 U.S. Federal agencies estimated that the number of positions

requiring knowledge in Spanish was greater than for any other foreign language. And, of course, any newly acquired skill only enhances your chances of obtaining, not necessarily a better job, but certainly a more adaptable one. By this we mean that in the future employers will be demanding different talents of their employees and this includes their knowledge of foreign languages.

Opportunities for willing students to become exposed to Spanish here at UNB are varied. Naturally the first logical step would be to enrol in any of a number of Spanish courses offered, but there are less formal ways to be initiated.

For instance, when the facilities become available, a Spanish lounge will be situated

in the department, complete with Spanish literature, dictionaries, music, and language monitors so that students can practice. A Spanish Club will eventually be organized for students. The club will sponsor activities such as films, lectures and exhibits all in an effort to broaden the potential students awareness of the Spanish culture and the language itself.

Further information pertaining to the opening of the lounge and its "Welcome Party" and the Spanish Club will be printed in future editions of the Brunswickan.

There is also the opportunity for students to study in Spain during the summer while obtaining credit at UNB. Information on this can be received from the Spanish department in Tilley Hall.

Murray House to be sold

By ANNA SUNDIN
Brunswickan Staff

During the summer the Board of Governors approved a proposal put forward by the Joint Senate Board Residence Committee to sell Florence Murray House to cover the expenses of upgrading Maggie Jean Chestnut House to meet the regulations of the Fire Safety Code.

The two residences, located off-campus have been operating at a loss for some years and after a visit by the Fire Marshall this spring, it

was discovered that both needed to have repairs made to meet the Fire Safety standards. The cost of these repairs for Maggie Jean alone are estimated at \$25,000. These repairs are necessary, but they would not in any way improve the quality of the house.

It was a "hard economic decision" that had to be made, according to UNB President James Downey and it was decided to sell Murray as it was the smaller and the less economical of the two houses.

The repairs that need to be done on Maggie Jean include modifying some fire exits, fire

proofing around pipes and oil lines and storage of combustible materials. The major expenditure will be to create a fire-break between the basement and the wooden floor of the first floor.

Maggie Jean Chestnut House was given by Lord Beaverbrook to the University Alumnae Society which equipped and developed the building as a residence for women students, and then donated it to the university. It is located at the corner of Charlotte and Church Street while Murray House is located at the corner of George and Church Streets.

Cynic-at-large

By NANCY KEMPTON
Brunswickan Staff

How can you best define the average student but as POOR. They are regular patrons of the Salvation Army. They are often seen creeping around grocery store buildings late at night prusing the infamous milk carton. They live on a diet of pizza, Kraft Dinner and tuna casserole without the tuna. The only things emptier than the school book shelves are the kitchen cupboards. They recycle empty beer bottles as ashtrays. I have even seen a few not so empty such ashtrays recycled as beer.

It is very easy to see why so many students are destitute when apartments and residence are so expensive to begin with. But when you consider the fact that Saint Mary's University in Halifax raised its residence fees \$600 in one year, several landlords disallow students to break a twelve month lease without paying a stiff penalty, it is much simpler to understand student poverty. Also consider the government's apparent unwillingness to grant student loans and bursaries, but even worse, their lack of knowledge about such loans and the students applying for them.

But wait. Perhaps more students should take to heart the expression, "waste not, want not." If more students did not consider the "expensive cheap thrills" in life so necessary they may have more money in their pockets for what they came to university for - believe it or not - an education. Are the empty beer bottles being used as a desperate substitute for such a necessary household item as an ashtray? Are they left over souvenirs from a necessary night in the realms of drunkenness? Is the milk carton furniture used to hold a necessary massive record collection?

Yes, I think the student body is entitled to cry out against destitution when it has not been self inflicted. But can you blame the government or landlords from wanting to withhold charity to students when a lot of past privileges have been spent an apartment demolition teams and residence reonation parties.

If you have a financial complaint to voice, make sure you shove all the cigarette butts, empties, and passed out friends in the closet first!

UNB prof wins award in CBC literary contest

By TIMOTHY LETHBRIDGE
BRUNSWICKAN Staff

UNB professor Kent Thompson proved his creative writing expertise by winning a prize in the third annual C.B.C. Literary Contest.

"A Local Hanging," a regional historical short story involving rape, incest, child murder and lynching as well as a hint of the occult claimed second prize in the fiction section. "It was a bit of a ghost story" said Professor Thompson.

He wrote the work throughout 1980 for the end-of-the-year deadline. There were three categories: poetry, fiction and memoirs. Professor Thompson was awarded his prize in May and used the \$2,000 to buy a new stereo, he said.

This is by no means the first literary achievement for the English professor, who last year taught creative writing. He has written three novels, the latest of which, *Shacking Up*, was published late last year. Currently, he is engaged in writing radio drama for the CBC.

Professor Thompson's award-winning story was scheduled to be read on CBC radio during the summer, but unfortunately, due to the N.A.B.E.T. strike, it was postponed and will be read in the near future. It will also be published in an upcoming edition of Canadian Forum magazine.

A UNB graduate Michael Brian Oliver, a student here about 12 years ago, captured third place in the memoirs category.