

# NEWS

Deadline: Wednesday at 12:00 noon. News Desk: 453-4983

## Dealing with learning disabilities

by Mark I. Minor

When a student is having trouble academically, perhaps due to problems with reading, expressing thoughts on paper, or possibly just general confusion, where can he or she turn?

The answer is Counselling Services in the Alumni Memorial Building. The counselling staff, headed by Dr. Fred Horsley, can help the student to attempt to overcome such difficulties. Sometimes, a professor may notice that a student's poor performance is not due to lack of effort, and refer that person to Horsley's office. In many cases, a student may discover that he/she has a treatable learning disability.

The fact that one has a learning disability is not usually due to a lack of intelligence or inability to handle university level study, but simply an obstacle or obstacles which, if properly diagnosed, can be dealt with effectively. The student can then do his/her work with greater efficiency and ease. Although Dr. Horsley is qualified to make accurate diagnoses, the individual may need further professional assessment. Such students have subsequently been

sent to the Learning Centre at Marshall D'Avray Hall.

The staff at the Learning Centre could pinpoint problem areas and suggest remedial action. This process takes several months to complete; therefore, in the meantime, the student and Dr. Horsley and possibly a professor could work together to try to improve the student's academic life.

Horsley tells *The Brunswickan* that so far, professors have been very cooperative where learning disability problems have arisen.

When asked what types of remedies could help those with learning disabilities, Horsley said that, depending upon the problem they may include time management assistance, dictation of exams, more time than normal to sit exams, writing exams in locations separate from the rest of the class, books on audio tape and possibly prescribed medication. He added that within reason, any necessary measures would be taken.

Recently, assessment at the Learning Centre has become more difficult for students to access. The Learning Centre, although located on campus, is not a university operated

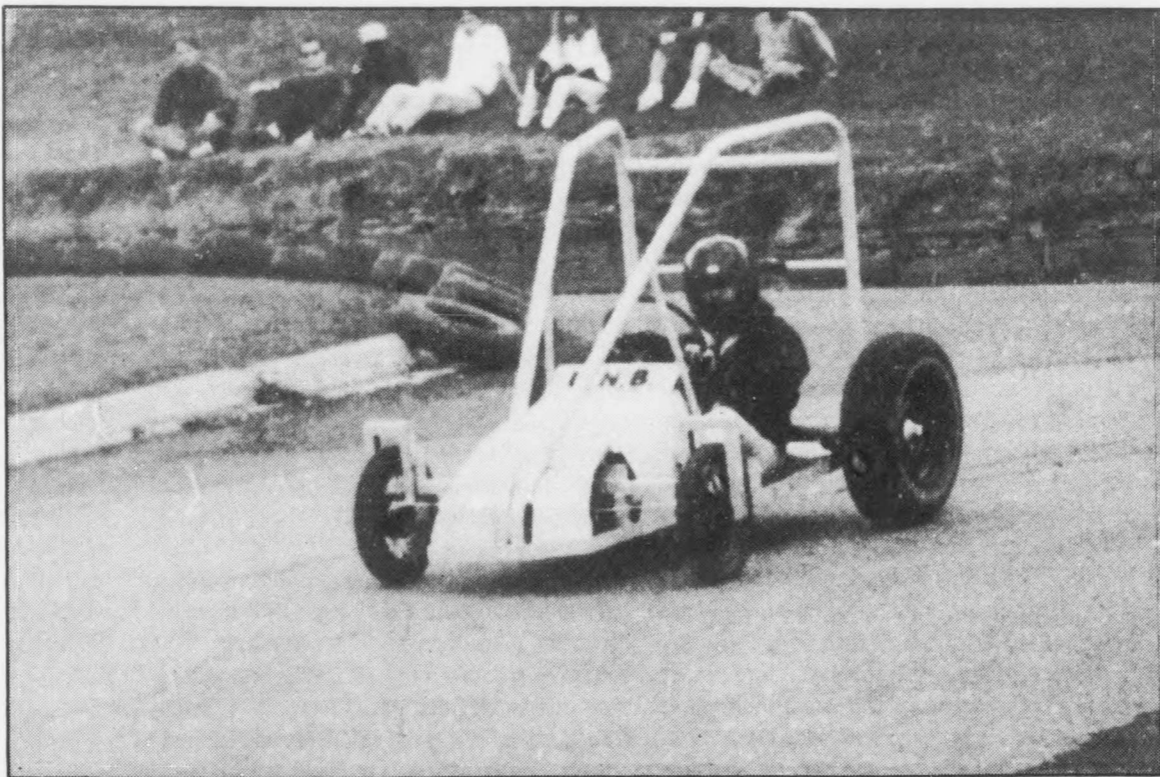
organization.

In the past, when a student was referred to the Centre, the University would pick up the tab which could approach \$700, which Horsley described as reasonable. Funding cuts have

disallowed this service to continue. Such assessment is now an out-of-pocket expense for students. Horsley told *The Brunswickan* that he has been attempting to make the service a budget item once again but that

the money is just not there.

He said that he would continue to try to get funding restored but added that one must keep in mind that budgets are not only being cut in his department but virtually everywhere.



One of seven competitors in Saturday's Coaster Derby makes his way along the Derby course. Marc Landry photo.

## AI establishes first group on campus

by Kourosh Mohseni

The first Amnesty International campus group at UNB has been established. Like any other student activity at the beginning of its campaign there has been a lot of confusion in terms of who is doing what.

Amnesty International would like to welcome new members as well as the members of A.I. group 39.

The group often encounters people asking whether Amnesty is a political group or party or if there is any danger of being involved with so called dangerous governments or political systems. They wish people to know that Amnesty International is not a political group, though it fights for the release of political prisoners all around the world.

The next question often asked is whether by writing letters to the corresponding authorities, on the behalf of prisoners of conscience whether the AI letter writers are going to support the prisoners' political or social beliefs or ideologies? The answer to this question is also No.

Who is called a prisoner of conscience?

All around the world there are hundreds of thousands of people detained for their religion, beliefs, colour, sex, language or ethnic origin. People who have not used

or advocated violence. AI considers these people as prisoners of conscience. Their goal is fighting for their immediate and unconditional release using peaceful techniques that Amnesty provides.

What is Amnesty's main global role?

Amnesty International plays an important international role in the protection of human rights. It has formal and official relations with the United Nations Economic and Social Council (ECOSOC); The Council of Europe; The organization of American states; and the Organization of African Unity.

Amnesty International is impartial. It does not support or oppose any government or political system, nor does it support or oppose the views of the prisoners. It is concerned solely with the protection of human rights involved with each case, regardless of the ideology of the government or the beliefs of the victim.

There are about 200 local groups of Amnesty in Canada. The group 39 in Fredericton is one of them. The new established campus group is a part of Youth/Campus network across Canada and the United states as well as other countries.

For more information about Amnesty International, contact

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## 18th Coaster Derby held

by Kayleigh Freeman

The Engineering faculty wrapped up Engineering week on Saturday with a bang, or rather, three bangs.

The Coaster Derby, the traditional Engineering week finale, had ten entrants this year, but due to several accidents, only seven cars ran the actual course.

Jeff Gallant, co-organizer of the event with Rod Green, explained that there were no

casualties, only "broken egos".

The winners of the race included Perry Delano, first prize; Trevor Neilson, second prize and the newly established Roadrunner prize for the events' quickest car; and Darryl Donahue, third prize.

Delano and Neilson are both enrolled in the Mechanical engineering program here at UNB. Donahue is a student at NBCC Fredericton.

The Student Society of

Mechanical Engineers would like to thank O'Leary Pontiac Buick GMC Ltd. for its sponsorship, and Dr. Ed Biden, of the Mechanical and Bio-Medical Engineering faculties, who was the events' technical inspector.

The society would also like to remind everyone that T-shirts are still available—those interested can contact Jeff Gallant or Rod Green at the Student Society of Mechanical Engineers.

## UNB hosts Singapore Experience

by Mimi Cormier

An extravaganza of Asian culture greeted attendants at Singapore Experience '92, held this past Tuesday in the SUB ballroom.

The well-organized and elaborate event put on by the Singapore Students' Association drew about 320 people. Attendants were able to buy souvenirs of Singapore, look at a variety of audio-visual displays showing the Singapore lifestyle, or sample some Singapore cuisine.

Although this year's Singapore Experience '92 had a lower attendance than was expected, Natasha Rodriguez explains that the event still succeeded in its aim, to enlighten people about Singapore's multicultural aspect.

Rodriguez, deputy president of the Singapore Students' Association (SSA), notes that the Singapore Experience was

"well-received" by attendants. She feels that an important part of the event's success was the addition of a live performance show to this year's Singapore experience. The live performance show included a fashion show and a performance of a lion dance.

The choreographed fashion show included 15 models wearing both men's and women's clothing. The clothing represented the Chinese, Malay, Indian, Arabic, and Peranakan ethnic groups of Singapore. SSA president Gary Chong, who was in charge of coordinating the audio-visual displays, also oversaw the lion dance. The lion dance is performed in many Chinese communities around the world and is familiar to people in Singapore. The lion dance is performed on special occasions to bring good luck, and was enthusiastically received by the audience at Singapore Experience '92. Rodriguez says

that the lion dance takes a lot of preparation, since the young men performing it have to be in good physical condition and have to be trained by a special coach. Both the fashion show and the lion dance took weeks of

*Singapore Students' Association event drew an attendance of 320 people.*

preparation. Rodriguez says that the "support was incredible" from those involved.

Besides the 55 members of the SSA, members of the Overseas Chinese Students' Association and the Malaysian Students' Society contributed to Singapore Experience '92, as well as students of other nationalities. Rodriguez comments that "Singapore is so small that people here hardly hear about it," but adds that "all our effort paid off."