

## BAR CODES TO SPEED UP SERVICES

This fall the University of New Brunswick introduced a new identification system involving bar codes.

The approximately 10,000 full- and part-time students who registered on its Fredericton and Saint John campuses now have identification cards with bar codes, which are part of an automated system designed to increase the speed and efficiency of a number of the university's major operations.

"The first place the codes will be used is the checkout desk in the university's library system," said Rufus McKillop, associate registrar on UNB's Fredericton campus. They will mean an increase in speed and accuracy over the current manual system for checking out books and issuing overdue notices. The codes will also enable the library to carry out inventories, provide the loan status of a particular book, determine which books are in high use, and identify which areas of the collection need to be developed.

While the university has looked at the idea of a single identification system in the past, the impetus for the present implementation came from Alan Burk, head of the public services division in the Harriet Irving

Library, Mr. McKillop, was struck to investigate the benefits and feasibility of various systems.

Full-time students still receive laminated photo identification cards, but now with bar codes on adhesive labels stuck to the back before lamination. Full-time students will keep the same card until graduation, instead of receiving a new card every year as was the previous practice. A new sticker will be issued yearly to validate the permanent card and will mean saving several thousand dollars, which were spent every year on reissuing cards. Everyone who loses an identification card, however, will have to pay a \$5 fee for replacement.

Students from around the province who are taking credit courses on a part-time basis will receive their first-ever university identification card. Until this bar-coded plastic card was introduced this fall, the only identification card part-time students received was an admit-to-lecture card. Because not all of these students register for or take courses on campus, it will not be possible to include their photos on their cards.

By the end of December, all faculty and staff will also have photo identification cards for immediate use in the library system. "The cards are university cards, not library cards. They can

be used for multiple purposes," Mr. McKillop stressed. "In the future, we expect that the bar codes will form a link between various computer-based systems in the university." Uses could

include identification for meals in residences and registration. Several other universities countrywide already have similar university identification card systems in place.



The University of New Brunswick introduced bar-coded identification cards at registration this fall. Holding a sample of the bar-coded photo identification card on the Fredericton campus is Wayne Carson, left, president of the Student Union. Kitty Bourne, president of the association called CAMPUS which is for mature and part-time students, holds a sample of their card without a photo. At right is Rufus McKillop, associate registrar on UNB's Fredericton campus, who chaired the committee that investigated the benefits and feasibility of various identification systems. (Joy Cummings-Dickinson photo)

On the Saint John campus, both full- and part-time students will have photos on their bar-coded cards. Saint Thomas University, which is served by the same libraries as UNB, has set up a similar identification system for its students, faculty and staff.

Approximately 500,000 books are circulated over the course of a year in the library system. These are checked in and out through a complex and costly manual system. With an automated system using bar codes, the circulation process will be considerably more efficient and more cost effective. The system will provide greater services to users, such as indication the loan status of a book on the library's on-line catalog. Over 275,000 books were bar-coded last summer in readiness for testing the automated circulation system, which is planned to take place during the current academic year.

## Blood and Thunder

Deadline Wednesday 5:00 pm

Yaqzan's recently published Opinion on Human Rights. There he decries the recent judgement of our Court of Appeal which clears the way for a Board of Inquiry established under the New Brunswick Human Rights Act to consider a complaint filed by David Attis against the Moncton School Board. Attis is a Jew. He alleges: "By its own statements and its inaction over Malcolm Ross' statements in class and in public the School Board has condoned his views, has thus provided a racist and anti-Jewish role model for its students, has fostered a climate where students feel more at ease expressing anti-Jewish views, and has reduced the credibility of the content of its official history curriculum, thus depriving Jewish and other minority students of equal opportunity within the educational system that the School Board provides as a services to the public."

### Front Page Material

Dear Editor,

I am writing in response to last week's cover story "Social Mishap in the Ballroom". As one of the organizers of the event I was very disappointed to see that as your headline, Richard Renaud has taken a typical occurrence and blown it out of proportion so that he can make a point concerning alcohol related liabilities. While I agree that these liabilities are a

serious concern, I don't think the issue was relevant in this case.

Considering that over 600 people attended at least a portion of the social with the only incident being the "mishap" on the stairs, I think the Dunn/Tibbits house committees should be praised for their initiative in making socials safer. As mentioned in the article, taking socials to the SUB has been a long time goal of the residence administration, primarily to reduce alcohol related incidents and to cut down on damages within residences. In this respect the "Residence Rant" was a complete success.

It is unfortunate that Mr. Renaud chose to present the social in the light he did. Had he truly researched his article it would have been obvious that this social did a lot towards reducing the University's liabilities. While I agree with the thrust behind the story, I think Mr. Renaud could have found a better example to use. Even he is not sure if this incident was the result of alcohol or a pair of high heeled shoes.

I would suggest that you base future headlines on facts, not supposition, and on incidents that are worthy of the front page. I am sure that a University our size has more newsworthy happenings each week so that we don't have to resort to a girl falling down the stairs for a headline. Sincerely,  
Stephanie More,  
President Lady Dunn Hall.

P.S. Richard - should you see me slip on some ice some evening as I walk home from the Social Club be sure to get a picture to go along with the headline. I've always wanted to be on the front page.

### Editors Note

The publication of the article referred to above must be seen as the responsibility of the BRUNSWICKAN Editorial Board and not that of Richard Renaud our reporter. We are sufficiently convinced that the details outlined in the story are accurate and responsibly researched. If there is any information that would counter this assurance, we implore our readers to contact us immediately. We deem such stories most relevant to student life and remain convinced that the story deserved the prominence it was given.

### Ad Complaint

This is a complaint directed to the Advertising crew of the Brunswickan.

Being the latest to have been greatly inconvenienced by your organizational skills, I will extend my hard feelings to you. I am referring to an announcement

Continued from page 6

prepared by the Student Environmental Society for the first general meeting this past Thursday, October 5th. The notice was targeted at 9000 Brunswickan readers. Had we known our advertisement would be discarded instead of printed, we would have used an alternative method rather than depending on you.

We expect an explanation for this turn of events and hope that the problem will be rectified for the future.

Sincerely,

Raia van Ingen  
President of the Student Environmental Society

### Priorities

Congratulations are in order to Campus Entertainment for bringing us another quality concert. Kim Mitchell and Barry Canning really delivered - unfortunately the same can't be said for the security at the event.

In the stands, an all out war was waged on the deviants who dared to smoke or put their feet up on the seats. Meanwhile on the floor, a couple of bone heads were making life miserable for some guys who were half their size.

I'm not writing this letter to be negative towards the entire staff because some of them did a fine job (especially the guy who confronted King Kong without any backup). I hope that the Campus security get their priorities straightened out so that at the next concert a good time can be had by all.

Concerned Rock Fan

### Sue Who?

Your editorial of September 29, and the front page story in the same issue, present a sad commentary of our society.

In your editorial you assert that "Students should be encouraged that they have the right to sue if they are allowed to enter a drinking establishment when they are intoxicated; and being given too much to drink by bartenders. . . this, of course, is as long as some alcohol related problem occurs."

I assume that you are both a lawyer (since you confidently state people's rights) and a sociologist (since you are apparently, opposed to the idea of taking responsibility for one's own actions - unless one is a bartender, of course).

Your correspondent Richard Renaud takes things a step further. He carefully spells out the grounds for legal action, and the parties to be sued; all that, despite the fact that the victim of the "social mishap" claims that its cause was her "shoes with heels". Perhaps someone will now encourage her to sue Mr. Renaud for a libellous report about her apparent intoxication. Then Mr. Renaud could, of course, be encouraged to sue his Editor for allowing him to say such things and you, in turn, could sue the printers for putting the whole report on paper.

Maybe the printers could sue their parents for not encouraging them to be lawyers.

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On a October, and rather thought, cheer up have nev restaurant Club,