

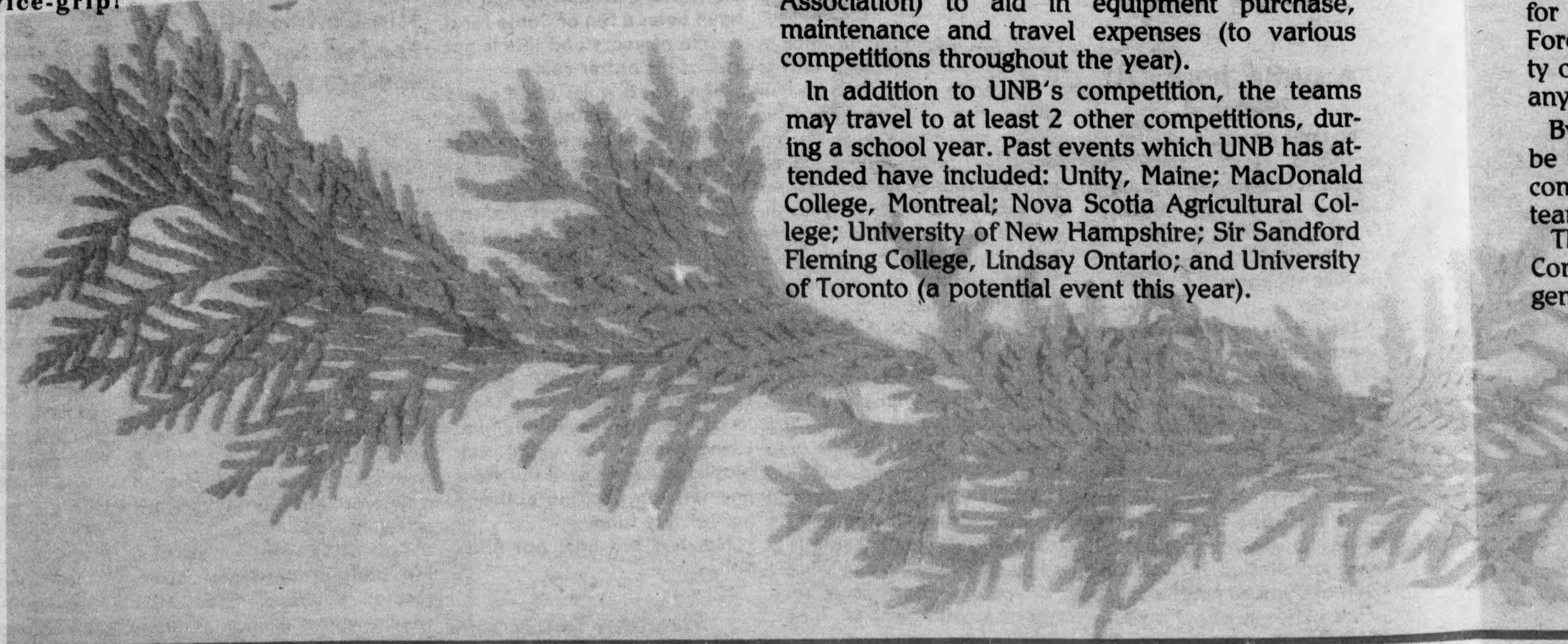
# UNB Foresters on the cu



Blow by blow account of firestarting



Talk about a vice-grip!



Brr--zz . . . The droning sound of chain saws combined with that of splitting woods mask the quieter strokes of the cross cut and swede saws. For many weeks now, foresters have been visible -training in the early evening - in the parking lot below Chapman field. Saturday, October 17th marks the annual UNB Intercollegiate Woodsmen Competition. Fielding 30 teams from across eastern Canada and the U.S., UNB's Woodsmen's Competition has become the largest international competition in Canada, ranking among the highest in North America.

The Woodsmen's Competition, which had its beginnings many years ago (at College Field) initially took the form of friendly competition amongst faculty and students in forestry. Then, during the mid-60's, a more formal intercollegiate competition was established along with Faculty Night as part of what is now referred to as 'Forestry Week'.

Saturday's competition has mushroomed into an international event with a reputation that has gained such respect among forestry and related schools that teams from distances as great as Northwestern Ontario (Lakehead University -Thunder Bay) and University of New Hampshire, in the states will travel to N.B. for the 1 day event.

Preparations were underway earlier this summer, as co-ordinators, Paul Robertson and Neil Morehouse, began the process of inviting potential participants and rallying up sponsorship from local merchants. The arrival of September brought together UNB foresters and alumni who were eager to try-out for UNB's 2 men's teams and 1 women's team. Evenings of practice culminated in time trials (if necessary - dependent upon the number of participants) to select 6 members (plus 1 spare) for each team.

Fund raising efforts are continuous as the woodsmen team members require assistance (above support received from the Forestry Association) to aid in equipment purchase, maintenance and travel expenses (to various competitions throughout the year).

In addition to UNB's competition, the teams may travel to at least 2 other competitions, during a school year. Past events which UNB has attended have included: Unity, Maine; MacDonald College, Montreal; Nova Scotia Agricultural College; University of New Hampshire; Sir Sandford Fleming College, Lindsay Ontario; and University of Toronto (a potential event this year).

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