# Forum on Gulf Crisis well attended

### by Karen Burgess

Hundreds of students crowded the Edmund Casey Hall Auditorium at Saint Thomas University at 12:30 p.m. on Monday for a two hour forum on the Gulf Crisis.

The 9 member panel speaking at the forum included both students and faculty members of the university.

Dr. Daizal Samad explained that the forum was organized to provide an opportunity for students to hear straightforward information concerning the current crisis in the Middle East, and to ask questions or voice concerns.

The student turnout indicated the immense need for such a discussion, and the fact that many students were prepared to stand in the door ways or sit in the aisles makes obvious the degree of concern that today's young people feel about how this conflict may affect their futures.

Despite the variation of topics presented by the speakers which ranged from Dr. Sylvia Hale's discussion on the media's influence on the public's opinion about the war to Kelly Lamrock's presentation of the official position of the Canadian Federation of Students, there was little or no acknowledgement that the U.N.'s presence in the Middle East was in any way justifiable.

Though the question period at the close of the speeches was relatively short, students questioned this predominantly anti war perspective by asking if letting Saddam Hussein continue his exploits unchecked would not be akin to Chamberlain's fatal "Peace at any cost "policy with regards to Hitler in the beginning of WWII.

Another popular comparison being drawn was that between the current Gulf Conflict and the Vietnam War.

During the question period, most of the questions were directed to Professor Michael Clow who had stated during his speech that he believed public opposition of America's involvement in Vietnam was what led to the eventual withdrawal of American troops there.

Professor Clow continued by saying that he hoped there would be a high number of American and Canadian casualties so that perhaps the public would again exert pressure on its political leaders to end the war.

Several students commented on Prof. Clow's statement: one saying that the main tragedy of Vietnam was the treatment of the Veterans after they returned and asking if it is not important to support our troops now that they are in the Middle East. Another student said that high casualties will not aid in ending war for any significant time period citing that the Second World War was ironically known at the time as "the war to end all wars."

The emphasis on mainly anti-war themes, though not providing a balanced source of information for the students, is indicative of the genuine desire of most citizens to avoid bloodshed on any scale whenever possible.

The forum was well organized and badly needed by the attending students who, like the rest of the country, are continually bombarded with numerous, often conflicting news broadcasts and bulletins, and given very little analysis of the overall situation.

A further event will be held at Saint Thomas this Friday and Saturday to discuss the war in Iraq. Many of the guests at Monday's forum will be speaking and information can be obtained by calling Professor Stewart Donovan or Professor Michael Clow at Saint Thomas University, or the Atlantic Human Rights Centre.

Packed auditorium: The Edmund Casey Hall Auditorium at STU was packed on Monday as students listened and participated in a debate on the Gulf photo by David Smith Crisis.

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## **Camp Nack-Yal**

On Saturday, August 28th, the old wharf at Fredericton was the scene of great activity-camp cots, trunks, tents, canoes, bags, and last but not least, the bean jar, all were hustled on board the Purdy. Even a rainy first day could not dampen our spirits, and the time soon passed with songs, new records, bridge, knitting and such interesting novels as "The Vixen's Love" - Woolworth's Best.

Mrs. Foster Baird chaperoned us for the first few days- a hard job it was, she said, but the little twinkle in her eye reassured us, and in spite of the fact that the morning she left we woke up only in time to sit up in bed and give her the Rootedy Toot" yell as the boat left the wharf, we all missed her happy laugh in Camp.

The first impressions of Camp were pleasant ones. Our little cottage was down on the beach, and the big banner tacked up in front impressed all who passed up and down the river. In front was a long verandah, our dining hall; downstairs a large kitchen, which we appreciated greatly, even though the stove was inclined to smoke at times. Upstairs were the Seniors' Dressing Room and the "Budwar."

Puss started in to pitch her tent as soon as we landed, but the Safety-Pin Crew decided that Tent Full-o-Pep had better wait for a fine day, which turned out to be a very wise decision, for on the first fine day Dean Neales came up from Sand Point to call and with the help of his strong right arm we soon raised the tent poles. In the meantime, where should we sleep? An old open pavilion stood near, so there we set up our cots. What's a little rain in your face when you're camping? Morning found us all happily squabbling over who it was that snored. "Squeak" absolutely denied it.

On Tuesday we were glad to welcome our old Chaperone, Mrs. Kierstead, back to the fold, and in spite of a rough crossing from Woodmann's in the row boat, she allowed us to initiate her in the art of canoeing the very next night, when we went down to Sand Point for a dance.

One rainy day, a strange man dressed in a raincoat and sou' wester came up to camp with some good spring water for us, and pulling a key from his pocket, held it out with the words: "Here's the key to the best camp on the river - Dint Moore's." When we asked where it was he answered "Up the river a little way."



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# **Debate on UN** resolution today

#### **Press Release**

The St. Thomas University Debating Society will be hosting a public debate on Friday, Jan. 25, at 12:30pm in the Ted Daigle Auditorium. The resolution is Be It Resolved That: This house supports the UN resolution to use any necessary military force to retake Kuwait. The Speaker of the House will be Prof. Richard Myers of the STU Political Science Department. Speeches from the floor will be very welcome.

The debate is part of the STU Debating Society's mandate to encourage the advancement of rhetorical skills through argumentation.

By debating controversial, and occasionally silly, topics,

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the debater becomes more aware of general philosophical and contemporary issues which affect us all.

The debaters, who will be Patrick Toner and Dara MacDougall for the government and Kelly Lamrock and Steve Moore for the opposition, are all debaters who have had many years of debating experience for STU, both at the national and international levels.

The STU Debating Society, in fact, has just finished participation in the XIIIth annual World Debating Championships, held in Toronto over the New Year. The level of debate is expected to be high and a large audience is anticipated.

Not knowing quite what to think at this strange offer from a total stranger we all stood still in amazement, but fortunately Gracie had enough presence of mind to take the key. After enquiring round a little we found the camp. The little sign over the door "Dinty Moore's" seemed to gibe us a friendly welcome at once. The living room contained two great treasures, a piano and a Victrola with some wonderful records. Dinty's kindness in giving us the use of his camp will always be remembered by UNB Co-eds.

Mr. Key was often on hand to take us all for a sail and the whole camp enjoyed the Westfield Sports, "Dutch" furnishing the transportation over and back in his "yacket." The strange part was that no matter who went one girl was never missing and Dutch was heard to declare that he couldn't sail the boat without his skipper. Kit, too, developed a strange attraction for the swing.

Gracie's favourite dish at Camp seemed to be jelly. Not even jam could take its place.

Elicen and Han displayed an amazing lack of appetite, and just as the whole camp settled down to supper, could be seen valiantly striking out for the distant Westfield shore, undaunted even by a cold dip in the briny deep when the canoe turned a somersault.

The last night proved the most exciting of all. Intending to sleep in the open, the Safety-Pin crew had taken their their tent down. Puss's was still up. While the majority of the girls were at a bon-fire, to which Mrs. Key had kindly invited us, a wild wind and rain storm came up. One of the canoes was blown for some distance up the beach. Puss' tent was rescued in the nick of time, and with all its contents was dumped in the kitchen. All ran rescue their scattered possessions. Then, as we were tired, cold and hungry, we had a feed in the kitchen, and sitting around on the piled up heaps of belongings, we ate Doe's nutbread and brownies, and drank cocoa made with our everlasting supply of Carnation milk, to the inspiring strains of "We Have no Bananas." About two o'clock the camp was able to settle down, if it could be called that, for beds which have stood in an open pavilion during a hurricane aren't the most comfortable places to sleep.

The next morning was so beautiful that the storm seemed only a nightmare, and with great regret we waved good-bye to Crystal Beach.

We were all very much disappointed that Liz could not come to Camp, and took great pleasure in making her Honorary Camp President. The gramophone, which she has given us, will be an instant trouble chaser to all who listen to the beloved strains of "Runnin' Wild."

The UNB Co-eds wish to express their hearty thanks to Nack-Yal, the founder of the Camp, to the Chaperones, Mrs. Kierstead and Mrs. Baird, and to all the people of Crystal Beach who were so kind to us, 'specially Dinty.

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