## Nursing students alleviate sibling unease

by Jonathan Stone

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Remember the famous question 'Where do babies come from?'

Now students of Nursing 3172 have gone one step further to answer the question, 'Will I still be loved when my mother has another baby?'

This was done during a pre-natal sibling class held at the Dr. Everett Chalmers Hospital last Saturday.

The class was designed to inform both children and parents how to deal with a new baby in their lives.

"It's good preparation for the child. It's good preparation for the Mom and Dad as well," said student Suzanne Emery.

Each student was matched with a child and their family for the class to provide guidance and to answer any questions the family may have had.

The session began with the pass-

ing around of baby photos, making pressed when three-and-a-half year the children the centre of attention. pressed when three-and-a-half year old Nicole Wentzall successfully

Then a story was told about the birthing process complete with photos and a body map of a fetus in utero so the children could visualize where a baby grows and is born from

Families watched a puppet show in which a little boy confronts his mother about his fears of a new baby. This was designed to assure children that they would still be loved.

Parents were then sent to another room to watch "What about Me?" a video about sibling rivalry while children were asked to draw before and after type pictures of their current and conceived family.

Before coming to the class, children were asked to bring their favourite doll to practice putting diapers on.

The group was particularly im-

pressed when three-and-a-half year old Nicole Wentzall successfully diapered her Barney doll. They were then shown proper infant han-

dling techniques.

This was followed by a tour of the maternity ward so families could see newborns up close.

The event finished with a graduation ceremony where children received a certificate empowering them as certified siblings, and a polaroid of themselves with their student.

They also received a grab-bag containing soap and baby powder so they could help their parents wash the new baby.

Nursing students chose the idea as part of their maternity clinical experience requirement to host a community day.

To prepare for the day, parents were asked to identify what the children already knew about birth, and

how they were feeling about having a new baby in the family.

"Students were careful to ask parents what they would and would not like to see," said course instructor Gail Storr.

While this is a new project for UNB, this was previously done in some American universities. Storr is planning a similar event for next term

Seven families took part in the morning session, with children ranging from three to seven. One woman was already one day overdue.

To find children, the students circulated notices in Doctor's offices and in the obstetrician ward of the hospital. The response was good enough that they had to turn away people.

"Parents are really eager to do anything for their children because it's such a special event," Storr said.

## UNB biology prof to be honoured

Press Release

An enjoyable evening of lively music and exquisite desserts will form the backdrops as the Conservation Council honors its 1993 Milton F. Gregg Conservation Award recipients.

The Milton F. Gregg Conservation Award was established in 1981 to recognize individuals and businesses or groups who carry on Milton F. Gregg's spirit of dedication to the protection of our environment.

The 1993 individual award will be presented to well-known New Brunswick botanist and UNB biology professor Hal Hines.

The corporate award will go to the Port Elgin District Volunteer Action Group.

"Hal Hines' achievements in his efforts over the years to safe-guard and improve the New Brunswick environment have been numerous and significant" explains CCNB Executive Director, Meredith Brewer. "

Through the many committees, projects and campaigns he has worked on, Hines has encouraged people to protect and promote New Brunswick's unique flora."

The Port Elgin District Volunteer Action Group saw a need and followed up on it, establishing a recycling depot, in a rural community, which accepts all materials that have the ability or potential to be recycled in Atlantic Canada. The depot has been operating successfully, using mostly volunteer labour, since 1990.

Celebrated clarinetist, Richard Hornsby and pianist Robert Kortgaard will entertain the gathering with a benefit concert in support of the Conservation Council.

Hornsby and Kortgaard bring together a wealth of talent and experience from established careers. They begun their duo performances when Kortgaard was appointed Musician in Residence at UNB in the spring of 1993.

Following the concert, a banquet of desserts will be presented courtesy of some of Fredericton's finest dessert makers.

Festivities begin at 7:00pm on Thursday, November 18, at the Lord Beaverbrook Hotel, Fredericton.

Tickets for this enjoyable evening of dessert and music are \$15.00 and may be reserved by calling the Conservation Council at 458-8747. Advance tickets can be bought at Westminister Books and Aura Foods.

Good company, great desserts, easy conversation and excellent entertainment make the Conservation Council's evening of Dessert and Music a memorable night out.

If it weren t for the last minute, nothing would get done. -Unknown

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