

# A cool beer & a quickie?

By ANDREW STEEVES

Engineers are often accused of being dull, uncouth, conservative types whose vision of the ideal life is "a cool beer and a quick lay after a long day of pushing numbers". We are told that we are cold and inhuman; soulless illiterates without any aesthetic sense at all. It's at this point that Engineers start to get angry.

The above description of Engineers is a stereotype which is exaggerated and unfair. However like many stereotypes there is a grain of truth at its core. It's because of this grain of truth that the Engineering Faculty has made non-technical courses an integral part of the Engineering curriculum. The hope is that Engineers will be exposed to different ways of thinking and perception and, as a result, get a more balanced, more rounded education. It seems to be working because there are a number of Engineers who are taking extra courses in philosophy, psychology, and business.

A balanced, rounded education is not what many Arts students receive. It's strange - but typical - that the people who give Engineers the hardest time should be on such weak ground themselves. If an Engineer is too rational, an Artsman is too emotional. It's hard to argue seriously an argument against nuclear power from someone who doesn't know what a half-life is and is lucky if he can balance his bank account. The same argument from an Engineer suddenly becomes 100 percent more credible because he speaks from a

position of knowledge, not emotion.

It's a strange set of affairs when a person who is totally "illiterate" in Science ridicules a person who is ignorant in the Arts - and gets away with it. The fact of the matter is that both the Engineer and the Artsman run a risk of being too specialized. Today humanity needs more understanding; there is a real need for people with a strong background in both Arts and technology. However, if the UNB faculty curriculums are typical of all universities, these "generalists" will be coming from Engineering, Science, or Forestry because only these faculties are balanced in favour of the future. The Artsmen will continue to have his head in the clouds and his feet in hot water.

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Speaking of hot water it seems that the Civil Stars are up to their armpits in the bubbling liquid. Coach 'Punch' Steeves has slapped down heavy fines and an 8:00 p.m. curfew on the team. However centre Phil 'Esposito' Cox of the Stars pointed out that the players aren't being paid and then went on to remind the coach that the Stars play most of their games at 11:30 p.m. In other words curfew and fines were ridiculous. Yesterday the Stars announced that centre Philip Cox was on the trading block.

One ball hockey team that has been doing very well lately is the Engineering 23 squad. Last Wednesday they humbled the Forest Engineering V team by a 7

to 3 score. On Monday they showed little respect for their elders by edging the Civil Stars by a narrow 9 to 0 margin.

In ice hockey the Civil 3 outfit is all smiles this week. Reporter Mike MacQuoid reports that "Civil 3 cruised past Mechanical 7 by a 7 to 0 score." The results of the Electrical, Civil 4, Surveying etc games were not received by press time. They must have lost, right? And how about those basketball scores? Bill Stroud are you out there?

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There will be a big Engineer's Pub on Friday night. The band will be "Five a Side" a group whose speciality is dance music with a play list featuring the likes of Boz Scaggs, the Eagles and Red Cherry. Tickets will be available at the door in a first come first serve basis. You'd better come soon as this is the first Engineer's pub of the year and it's sure to have a good turnout.

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As a final note I would appreciate it if all the Engineers and other students who live off campus would carefully read the letter in this weeks Bruns concerning differential SRC fees and give me their opinions on it.

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Send your scores and comments to me via room 306 Head Hall or the graduate mail box on C level. Take care until next week.

# New thermonuclear fuel

Russian scientists are experimenting with fusion reactions using laser beams which could provide the world with cheap, relatively safe thermonuclear energy.

Fusion is the source of the sun's energy, and the fuel is hydrogen. For some time scientists have hoped to generate energy on earth by imitating on a small scale what happens in the sun. A fusion reaction requires two types of hydrogen, one found abundantly in sea water called deuterium, and the other tritium, found in lithium.

In the Russian experiment, called Delfin, a tiny pellet of deuterium and tritium the size of a pinhead is held in a steel reaction chamber with transparent windows. Then 216 laser beams hit the pellet simultaneously from all sides. This heats the outer layer of the pellet to a temperature of 100 million degrees centigrade, and

forms a dense plasma on the inside, where the fusion reaction takes place.

Fusion has several advantages over conventional nuclear power plants. The fuel is virtually free, unlimited and non-radioactive.

The reaction cannot get out of control and cause a nuclear accident. And finally, the only pollution caused by the reaction is thermal, or heat pollution. There is no radioactive waste to hide away for thousands of years.

# Hypertension

In the three years between 1973 and 1976, black infants born in the nation's capital were three-and-one-half times more likely to die before their first birthday than white infants born in the same city.

Figures show that during those three years, for every 1,000 live births, seven-and-one-half white infants died, while for black

infants, the figure was almost 28 per 1,000.

Washington, D.C. health experts contacted by the Washington Post said that one major cause of the high death-rate for black newborns was a lack of motivation in seeking help on the part of their mothers.

Washington, D.C. has six neonatal intensive care units, three of which are top-notch. However, one-fourth of the black babies in that city are born to teen-agers, many of whom get no nutritional counseling and no pre-natal care whatsoever. As one doctor put it, "... a lot of (poor) women walk in already in labor with their hypertension and their diabetes."

The city has just been granted federal funds to try to reach these poor, high-risk mothers. (News-cript)

Get smart

# U.S. abortion law opposed

Backers of federal abortion aid are bringing suit against new legislation which restricts federally funded abortions. The new law limits abortion funding to women who are victims of "promptly" reported rape or incest, whose lives are endangered by the pregnancy or who run the risk of long-term severe health damage as a result of motherhood.

In its suit the Center for Constitutional Rights will argue that the new restrictions are

rooted in religious belief -- particularly Roman Catholicism -- and as such impose one religious viewpoint. The suit claims that the restrictions are therefore in violation of the Constitution, which forbids the mixing of church and state.

The suit will be tried before the New York district court. Similar moves by pro-abortion groups are also expected in state courts and legislatures across the country. (News-cript)

# Inside Track by Allan Patrick

## REGISTRARS OFFICE BEEFS

You no doubt have noticed that Viewpoint and the Editorial this week both refer to the policies of the Registrar's office at UNB, or rather, what my be wrong with them. The Editorial speaks for itself, and Viewpoint shows that a number of students are concerned and in some cases angered by the thought that in their own mind, their academic success has been limited or interfered with by the ever-tightening policies of the Registrar's office. My job for the next few weeks will be that of an observer; I will try to get as much information as possible about how the students as a whole feel about this issue. If the students feel strongly enough, I will present their recommendations to the Senate Student Services Committee and, if possible, to the Senate in the form of a motion. In short, if you have strong opinions about the policies of the Registrar's office, forward them to me.

## YEARBOOK ERROR

In the 1977 UNB Yearbook that just arrived, there is an omission that must be noted. In the year 1976-77 the Executive of CHSR was:

- Station Director Allan Patrick
- Station Manager Matthew Penny
- Program Director Mike Bleakney
- Business and Ad Manager Greg Mulock
- Chief Engineer Ross Duncan
- News and Public Affairs Director Peter Rowan

The names listed are those for this year's executive. I don't know quite how the error occurred, but the CHSR pages in the Yearbook were poorly executed, to say the least. Information was available, and good pictures of the station and staff could have been obtained, if they'd only asked. I feel sorry for the Execs who deserve a lot of credit, and for the staffers who won awards at our Anniversary Celebrations. We can chalk this up to inexperience, but at what price experience?

## INEXPENSIVE TEXTBOOKS?

After my first class in Anthropology 3172 [Symbolism and Ritual] I proceeded to the bookstore to buy the texts for the course. I discovered that one of the books for the course was not only a beautiful textbook, but a good value as well. The book is called Stones, Bones and Skin and is printed by the Arts Council of Canada. This is really a nice book, filled with photos and of high quality. There are a few ads in the front and back, and so the book only sells for \$4.95. I heard that next year the book will be printed minus the ads and the price will jump to \$27. couldn't last long now, could it? It is good enough that I am going to buy a couple of extra copies for gifts, and I recommend it to anyone.

## GETTING THEIR COOKIES TOGETHER

Last fall I wrote of Voortman Cookies, which hit the market here this past summer. They are the best store-bought cookies on the market, and all their varieties deserve a try. They have a new one on the shelves now - Coconut Delight. These are terrific, and the price of 79 cents makes them about 6 1/2 cents apiece. Try them. They are a little more expensive than your average "Dare you to eat one" cookies, but they also taste better than plaster-of-Paris.

# Identity and alcohol

Wayne "Red" Knaak, a visiting lecturer from Michigan State University will be lecturing on

state agencies on the problems of alcoholism, and has served on various University Committees

"Identity and Alcohol" Monday, January 23, 1978. The lecture will take place in Tilley Hall, Room 325 at eight p.m.

charged with the development of programs to combat alcohol abuse.

"Red" Knaak is a part of a team that presents workshops on alcoholism and youth all over the U.S.A. He has served as a consultant to various local and

He is an active member of Alcoholics Anonymous and is currently completing an M.A. in Criminal Justice.

Sponsored by the Men's and Women's Residences of UNB.