

## Inside Track

by Allan Patrick

### UPDATER ON RAILROAD CROSSINGS

Last month, I wrote in the Brunswickan of my discontent with the state of railroad crossings in the city, in particular the ones on Beaverbrook and Regent Streets. I also wrote a letter to the Mayor, His Worship Elbridge Wilkins, and I'm happy to announce they have listened, and acted on it. The following is from the letter the Asst. City Clerk, Charles C. Bilensky, wrote to me:

At a meeting of the Safety Committee of Fredericton City Council held on October 21, 1977, consideration was given your letter of October 1, 1977 addressed to His Worship Mayor Wilkins, relevant to railway crossings.

You will be interested to know that the Safety Committee passed a resolution directing the City Administrator write to officials of both Canadian Pacific and Canadian National, Maintenance Division, requesting action be taken to improve the roadbed, particularly at the crossings you indicated.

Thank you for your interest and concern. This is encouraging, and I will be following up on this from time to time to check on their progress, if not their sincerity.

### ULTRA SECRET

A few years back the British Government released at long last what was to be the most carefully guarded secret of World War II, so named ULTRA SECRET. Only now are the British releasing all the details regarding ULTRA and I was amazed that some friends of mine who are WW II buffs were unaware of ULTRA.

It so happens that in WW II the Germans devised a code machine so complex that it would be virtually impossible for anyone to decipher any message sent. They calculated that the number of possibilities for the code would be  $4 \times 10^{42}$ , and thus they made little effort at concealing the transmission of messages with this code machine. It resembled a typewriter with revolving drums such that every time a key was punched the ENTIRE code changed. The person on the receiving end merely had to set the drums on his machine at the same starting point, and it would print out a decoded message simple as that.

But the crunch came when in late 1943 when without the Germans knowing it, the British somehow smuggled one of these machines out of Germany. The British then literally kidnapped the world's top brains, and kept them in a house in England, their sole job being the use of the captured machine to decipher enemy messages.

From there on all history books must be changed. After awhile the British, with the help of ULTRA, were able to know EVERYTHING the Germans were doing, or thinking of doing. As one British Admiral stated, "the effectiveness of our anti-submarine campaign was substantially improved by the fact that we knew where their subs were at any given time."

The British knew when the Germans were going to attack each time, how many planes or ships they were going to use, and even if Rommel had a headache. It seems Churchill's biggest problem was trying to keep the Germans from knowing he had one of the machines.

I for one, was astounded to find out about ULTRA. It changed the entire course of World War II, and yet none but the British knew about it until 1968 when they released the first information about it. The British are only now prepared to release all the data, as they said that machines like ULTRA were in use by certain countries until very recently.

There will now be books and I suppose movies about ULTRA. At any rate, history books must be changed, and a lot of myths must be shattered.

## Godiva Gallops Engineering Week



photo — TRITTS

By ANDREW STEEVES

Engineering Week is half over for this year but already it has proven itself to be up to the usual high standards. Apathy is running for cover in Head Hall as Engineer's are taking time off to organize and participate in this year's events.

Every year sees excellence in one portion of the week's organization, for example it was the Coaster Derby in '75. This year its the publicity for events that takes the honours. The posters are the best in years both in terms of quality and quantity. If anyone doesn't know "what is happening then there is something seriously wrong with their eyesight." Special mention has to go to the Electrical Engineers for their well designed and well drawn posters for Open House.

Organization for this year's Engineering Week involved a lot of people and a lot more work. A tip of the glass should go to: Bill ('Blarney') Mahoney and Denis Dautre for their excellent work in opening night; Tom Crawford, who tackled the difficult task of Open House; Don Bowland and Bob Barelow for Tuesday night's Coffee House; Mitch Smith who organized two Engineering Week Pubs and Ken Vaughn and Bruce Morrison for their work on the Godiva's Gallop Pub. Sport events

were organized by Chris Hunter (Basketball), Mike McQuoid (Softball), Chris Hunter and Dylan MacKenzie (Hockey) and for the third time Chris Hunter (ball Hockey & Volleyball).

Refreshments were well taken care of with Charlie MacDonald organizing the Chugging Contest and Laurie Corbett supervising the popular Beer Brewing Contest. Dave Wilson was the man behind the projector at the movies. Ken Vaughn was the mad genius organizing the Woodlot Beer Rally, Mechanical 3, led by Peter Blight, supervised the Great Canadian Coaster Derby.

The high point of every Engineering Week is the crowning of the Eng. Queen at the Engineer's Ball. This year's ball was organized by John Valentate. The lucky men on the Queen's Committee were Paul Gautrease, Bill Mahoney, Ross Fisher and Bob Lennon. The boys did a great job as this year's Queen contestants were a great addition to the week's activities.

Dave Kerr was a busy man as usual. He combined with Bruce Healy to form the Lady Godiva Committee, perhaps the most prestigious committee in Engineering Week; as well as selling the very popular UNB Engineering Baseball caps.

Special mention should go to Prof Howard McFarlane for his

spirited rendition of 'Alma Mater'. It was the hit of the Opening Night Show. The Bears were also in fine voice for their 'Cab Driver' skit as were the Forestry Engineers and Civil 4. Guest speaker, Mr. Gilles Peron of Opening Night gave a fine address and proved to be very interesting man at the party after the show.

The results of the Coaster Derby and Sports Events will be announced next week.

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There are only a couple of softball scores to report. CE4 beat Forestry 4 by a score of 2-0 behind the pitching of Boyd McKinley and a two run home run by Steve Marr. The Bears played Business 4 and lost but since the umpire wasn't there the game will likely be replayed. There is no word on the EE4 game.

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Congratulations go to the UNB Red Bombers for their fine season. It's too bad they couldn't have gone further but as it is they have a lot to be proud of.

Key those ball scores and notices coming to Room 306 or the Civil Post Grad post box.

## History Committee—there for you

To History Liaison Committee acts as a representative body of the undergraduate students within the Department of History. It is through this body that students have a direct say in the running of the History Department. The committee acts as an organized medium for the exchange of ideas, problems, and suggestions between students and faculty. If you have any problems or complaints about a history course and feel you can not approach your professor then this committee can help you.

At the moment we are seeking student members and ask you to think about becoming a part of this committee. The current members will be graduating in the spring. We invite you to help us keep this committee viable and in the process help yourselves.

We meet monthly. The next meeting will be held Monday, Nov. 7, 1977, at 1230 hours in Tilley Hall, Room 118. We need first and second year students, as well as History Honours and Majors students.

For further information, contact: Michele Le Blanc 454-2370 Mary MacNutt 455-7273 OR Through the History Dept. Office Tilley Hall.

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## Archaeologist Lectures

Dr. Brigitta Wallace, Atlantic Provinces Staff Archaeologist of the National Historic Sites Service, in Ottawa, will present an illustrated lecture on *The Norse in North America* with special reference to their settlement at L'Anse aux Meadows, Newfoundland.

Monday, November 7, 1977 8:00 p.m. in Carleton Hall, Room 139.

In reviewing the evidence for the Norse in North America, Dr. Wallace has read the Norse sagas, examined many of the reputedly Norse artifacts in America and consulted archival materials in Europe. Over several summers, she excavated the sod houses at L'Anse aux Meadows, Newfoundland. Dr. Wallace is currently studying the artifacts and other data from this interesting site.