

## GRAD NEWS

**EDITOR'S NOTE:** For this year's graduating class, Class President Tierney Ness has passed on the following information to the 1979 graduating students.

Before you all disperse to your respective hiding places to buckle down for perhaps your last final exams ever — I'd like to inform you of the latest decisions about Graduation (the motivating force behind your on-coming study blitz!) The Class of '79 Executive have met frequently, and we would like to present a schedule. Some things are definite, and others are "pretty sure". But don't panic — you shall all be receiving letters from the Registrar's Office and myself, sometime this month. Hopefully, by then, you'll know just what's happening.

WEDNESDAY, MAY 16

Reception for Activity Awards recipients and presentation of rings. SUB afternoon; Extrava-grad -za, SUB 9:00 p.m. - 1:00 a.m. Tickets \$2.00. Bands T.B.A.

THURSDAY, MAY 17

"Hangover Breakfast" for Grads and any guests. McConnell Hall, 7:30 a.m. - 8:45 a.m. Tickets \$3.50; Rehearsal for Encaenia, Aitken University Centre 9:00 a.m.; Commemorative Service of the 50th Anniversary of the death of Bliss Carmen, Sir Edwin Jacob Chapel 10:30 a.m.; Laying of a new cornerstone by Lt. Governor Robichaud (a Class of '54 Reunion

Project), Old Arts Building, 11:00 a.m.; Class of 1979 Tree Planting, Old Arts Building, 11:30 a.m.; Academic Procession, SUB 1:45 p.m.; 150th Encaenia, Aitken University Centre, 2:30 p.m.; Encaenia Tea for Grads, Guests, Alumnae, Lady Dunn Hall, 5:00 p.m.; Encaenia Formal for all Grads and Guests, Aitken University Centre, 9:00 p.m. - 1:00 a.m., Tickets \$7.00 per couple. Features The Thomists.

There it is as it stands now. The only events still quite tentative are starred. Any questions? Feel free to drop into the SRC Office (room 126, SUB), or contact an Executive member. We are:

Tierney Ness (Pres.) 453-4951 or 4916  
Steve Kelly (V.P.) 455-3179 or 455-8189

Gord Loane (Secretary-Treasurer)  
Chris Nagle (Valedictorian) 455-6375

Tickets will be on sale in the SRC office within the next few weeks (i.e. during exams) and we are setting a deadline for sales as being May 4.

Don't forget our special Graduation Issue of the Bruns — we need about 10 people to help us out in May. Please give it some thought, as it'll be a lot of fun and our own way of celebrating the Class of '79 — the 150th graduating class!

Good luck on your exams. We hope the Grad activities will make all that hard work worthwhile!!

## Wiesner awarded scholarship

Research now going on at the Natural Products Research Centre at the University of New Brunswick, Fredericton, may improve the plight of heart patients the world over.

The Centre's director, internationally recognized chemist Karel Wiesner, has been awarded a \$40,000 Isak Walton Killam Memorial Scholarship for 1979-80. The funds will support efforts to reduce or eliminate the toxicity of digitalis, the most valuable drug in modern cardiology and one of the most widely used drugs in current medical practice.

Digitalis, a natural product currently obtained from plants, is prescribed to increase the force of the heart contractions and slow rapid heart beat. Unfortunately, as Dr. Wiesner explained in a recent interview, the drug also interferes with an essential enzyme in heart function. Over a period of years, patients suffer digitalization, and can ultimately die from the side effects of the drug which heretofore saved their lives.

Dr. Wiesner is working with a group of researchers, mainly post doctoral fellows. They are attempting to synthesize a form of digitalis which retains the drug's benefits, without the side effects.

His research group has already produced one new synthesis of the drug which retains the potency of natural digitalis and has one-tenth its toxic effect.

Compounds produced at UNB are flown to the Mexico City laboratories of Dr. Rafael Mendez,

one of the world's leading experimental cardiologists, according to Dr. Wiesner. Dr. Mendez tests the synthetic drugs on animals and then human patients, and has already found positive results with the first UNB compound.

The first step in the research project was development of a simple, industrially-practical method for synthesizing digitalis. The current project builds on decades of Dr. Wiesner's pioneering work in the synthesis of natural compounds.

Dr. Wiesner noted that a study in a Boston hospital showed that 20 per cent of all patients admitted for any reason were permanently on digitalis, and that many of these patients showed

symptoms of digitalization. The study gives some indication of the potential numbers of people who may benefit from Dr. Wiesner's current studies.

Only three Killam Scholarships are awarded each year, and they are one of the most prestigious awards available to Canadian scientists. Candidates must be nominated for the awards by experts in their own fields. The Canada Council is the granting agency.

Dr. Wiesner is the only member of the UNB faculty to hold the rank of University Professor. He received nationwide attention in the spring of 1978, when he was named to the ancient and venerable Pontifical Academy of Sciences.

## Cancer Warning

More than 100,000 buildings in the Southeast may be exposing their occupants to cancer-producing radon gas.

Between 1953 and December of last year, the Tennessee Valley Authority (TVA) sold more than a million tons of radioactive waste to construction companies. And the companies then used the uranium-bearing slag to build concrete blocks that may have shipped as far away as Florida and Illinois.

The waste came from a fertilizer plant operated by the TVA in

Muscle Shoals, Alabama — and sales of the slag apparently continued for at least three years after the radiation danger was discovered.

Many of the radioactive blocks found their way into school buildings in Alabama, Georgia, and Tennessee. When a TVA official was asked why the government-owned utility continued to sell the slag despite the obvious health risks, he replied that (Quote) "there was no regulation that said you couldn't do it." (Newsprint)

## Pizza-Hut -Licensed

### Now under dynamic management

↙ ↘ (or so the manager says)

Purveying Provocative Pizzas and Succulent Steaks

(say that with a set of dentures) ↙ ↘

No charge for parking- only for the food and other goodies

The only thing we overlook is the Lincoln Road ↙ ↘

Only 7 minutes from beautiful downtown Fredericton (U.N.B.)

We not only welcome students-but Profs and even working people.

<b>Fri and Sat.</b>	<b>4:30pm</b>	<b>'till</b>	<b>2:00am</b>
<b>Other days</b>	<b>4:30pm</b>	<b>'till</b>	<b>Midnight</b>

If you can't stand our new manager-we have take out.

455-4200