

Inside Track

by Allan Patrick

PETERSON RAPS CARNIS KNUCKLES

As we all know, Fredericton City Council in particular Councillor Dave Peterson last week gave UNB Winter Carnival (and the students of UNB for that matter) a vote of non-confidence with respect to our Winter Carnival Parade.

Typically, over the years there has been a large amount of drinking associated with the 'Carni Parade. Point is, by the time the students start the final preparations for the floats early the morning of the parade, and by the time the parade finally leaves the campus, five or six hours have passed. Due to the time of year, it's bloody cold out, and consequently alcohol is seen by most as the best way to solve the problem of trying to stay warm. This has been the case for so many years that it's ridiculous to imagine it as a recent problem.

My only beef is in the spirit of the parade. Over the past ten years the quality of the parade has been on the decline, to the extent that there are a few floats each year that consist of no more than a few poor people and a case(s) of beer on an empty float. The ice sculptures have suffered a similar fate over the years, and I feel that this is probably the reason that City Council has focused their attention on the drinking. In the absence of well decorated floats, the drinking becomes all the more obvious.

In summary, I can't really blame City Council for their statements, but I do question the validity of the Winter Carnival Parade when, like so many other institutions on this campus, apathy lowers the quality to the point of questioning its continuance.

LET'S DEBATE!

There is a new club on campus as of Tuesday night, the first meeting of the UNB Debating Society. At present the society consists of seasoned debaters who earned their stripes in high-school competition, where the sport is competed on a provincial - regional AND national basis. No such league now exists for colleges in Canada or regionally, and until now UNB didn't have a club. After being quite popular during the sixties, debating almost disappeared at UNB, save for the MacKay Shield which is contested by residence students each year.

Well, this will hopefully change. These students are trying to get more members and as the club grows, the ability to compete on larger scales will appear. The new club is already talking of hosting a conference in the near future and stimulating competitions among our own students.

Their next meeting is at 7:00 p.m. next Tuesday, January 31st, in room 6 of the SUB. The emphasis will be on new members, even if they have never debated before. This is one club that sounds like it will be interesting and fun. I'm going to the meeting - all are invited to attend. For further information, phone Larry Hargrove at 455-6352.

SUGARLOAF EXPEDITION '77

This week a group of students in the UNB Ski Club will leave for Sugarloaf for a weekend of good times that have become a tradition among Ski Club members.

It's too late for those of you who haven't planned on going this weekend, but the Ski Club has organized a similar trip for March Break. It will consist of 5 days skiing, leaving on the Sunday morning and returning after Friday's skiing. The cost including lift tickets, transportation and accommodations is only about \$120. This is a good deal whether you know it or not, and those wishing to capitalize on it should inquire to the Ski Club. If you are not already a member of the Ski Club, that'll cost you an additional \$2.

HEARTY LUNCH, PARDNER?

This week for the first time in ages I had lunch at the Ponderosa Steak House. The last time I had the Shrimp and Steak dinner and was a little disappointed at the shrimp - how many cafeteria-type restaurants do you know that can fry shrimp right?

Anyway, I had the Super Burger Dinner, which gives you a 5-ounce burger with cheese (take that, quarter pounder) and fries as well as the All-you-can-eat Salad Bar. The cost - \$1.79. After three plates of terrific salad, I was "full" of praise for the Superburger, and plan to return (on an empty stomach).

Whats the point of learning?

By ANDY STEEVES

Engineer's love numbers, right? (And 'figures' too, of course). At least everyone says we do. Well for all those Engineers who really do like figures here's a quantitative view of the state of Engineering in

Canadian universities. Its an interesting view because it says a lot about the popularity and growth of Engineering and the employment possibilities for Engineers.

There were 3,900 graduates from Engineering and applied science programmes across Canada in 1976-77. That represented about 5 percent of the 84,600 students who graduated

from Bachelor's programmes in Canadian universities. In comparison there were 34,100 graduates (40 percent) in Arts and 12,600 graduates (15 percent) in Education. There were 250 Forestry students.

Engineering graduation has declined slightly over the last four years. There were 4100 Engineering graduates in 1973-74 which represented 5 percent of the 74,900 graduates from all programmes in that year. At that time there were 29600 Arts graduates (40 percent) and 13100 Education graduates (17 percent). There were 200 Foresters.

It's interesting to notice how little the composition of the graduate population changed over the four years, after all 1973-77 was not exactly a booming period in Canada's history. The percentage of Arts graduates actually increased and yet Arts graduate have great problems in finding fulltime employment. Engineering held steady, which makes sense as the last four years have not been very kind to Engineers either.

There were some changes — increases in the percentages of Science, Medicine and Business graduates and decreases in nursing and some of the smaller categories - but they were quite small. Such a steady composition in graduates explains why fluctuations in the job market hit so hard.

UNB does not emerge as a power in the education numbers game, most of that clout goes to the diploma factories in Upper Canada. It supplies about 1 percent of the total graduates to the Canadian total. About 2 percent of all Engineering graduates come from UNB (90 out of 4000) which means any joint action by UNB graduates on salaries or working conditions would be slightly less effective than a spit in the breeze. Foresters fare a bit better, they represent about 13 percent of the Canadian total, which makes them the Creditistes of Canadian Forestry. Our Arts graduates represent about 2 percent of Canadian total with our Education graduates representing less than 1 percent.

Of course, the idea of UNB competing in a numbers game is a bit ridiculous. New Brunswick has 2.9 percent of the Canadian population and really can't afford to run a diploma factory. And besides we are all getting a quality education here. Aren't we?

Speaking of numbers, the EUS is still looking for volunteers to help with the upcoming Atlantic Student Engineers Conference. A recent general meeting had a good turnout especially from Civil 3 but there is always room for more help.

The outcome of the Civil crest competition was still in doubt at presstime. There will be more in this next week, but in the

meantime a salute of the mug should go to Nancy McNamara and the rest of the 'crest committee' who took it upon themselves to improve the Civils'

act. At the moment the Mechanicals have the best crest in Engineering, maybe the new

Civil crest will give the Mechanicals some competition.

Speaking of competition brings to mind what is perhaps the biggest sports story of the year. The Civil Stars won a game. And then they won another game. Two games in a row. The sports would be shocked but not as badly as FE 5 and Forestry 5 which lost the games. Actually it's just been a case of the Stars settling down and now John Langton, Brent Howe, and the rest are playing well.

Engineering 2-3 continues to impress everyone and they are now in playoff contention. The big gun for the team has been Greg Siduck with seven goals to his credit.

In ice hockey Civil 3 continues to struggle a bit. They tied last week 1-1 with Law 2. Gerry Thibeault, coach of the team, played nets for the Civils who were missing several players. Civil 4 won their match 4-2. And that's all the sports scores that were received.

If any Engineers wish to work on the polls for the upcoming SRC elections contact SRC vice president Susan Shalala. You get the minimum wage for easy work. All Engineers who wish to run for Council or Senate had better submit their nominations toute de suite as they close on February 1st.

Have an N.C.O. (Nice Cold One)
at the Riverview Arms
during the Cold Rush Days.

Fri. & Sat.
Jan. 27 & 28

"The Foxtooth Bluegrass Band"
(Folk Music Overdrive)

