

# UNB Hosts Atlantic Biology Conference

By Mary Rhode

A first for the University of New Brunswick was scored this weekend as the Biology Club hosted the first Atlantic Universities Biological Conference, February 5-6, 1971.

The conference began on Friday evening with registration of conference participants and interested students and faculty in the Student Union Building. A wine and cheese party followed for the registrants, at the Memorial Student Centre.

Janice Cassidy, president of the Biology Club opened the conference Saturday morning at 9 o'clock. She gave a brief outline of the UNB Biology Club's activities during the current year.

Chairman for the morning sessions, Dr. M. Arankin, Dean of Science at UNB, welcomed everyone with a few introductory remarks. He pointed out that biological scientists had a responsibility to the community at large. They must give information and guidance to aid communities in developing their environment instead of destroying it. He noted that while research is vital to the development of science, the

scientist must use his knowledge and understanding of man's physical world to serve society.

The morning session consisted of six students from five of the Maritimes universities who gave reports on their honours research projects.

Dale Leavitt of the University of Maine reported on the chapter of the American Institute of Biological Sciences. His club is presently working on a booklet to be published by the fall of 1971, on toxic plants, their identification and treatment. He used as an example, the pointsetta plant which is a common plant in homes at Christmastime. This plant is highly toxic and few people are aware of this or would know how to, treat a person for it.

Prof. H. V. Pritchard, acting chairman of the Department of Biology of UNB, briefly commented on the morning's session and thanked the speakers before the conference broke for lunch.

The chairman for the afternoon was Dr. A.J. Wiggs of UNB. Seven research projects were presented in the course of the afternoon.

Joseph Rossignol of the University of Maine presented the

proposal a group of Maine undergraduates are making to the National Science Foundation. They are hoping to receive funding to allow them to proceed with their project.

They are attempting to study the effects and implications from every aspect, sociological, economic, ecologically, etc. of developing a large portion of Maine, as a recreation area for the northeastern seaboard.

A University of Prince Edward Island student, Brian MacPherson Population studies of ruffed grouse on Prince Edward Island. They are trying to learn the habits of the ruffed grouse so that the population of these birds may be controlled to provide the hunter with one of the island's most popular game birds and yet not endanger the species' existence.

The last speaker of the conference was Elizabeth Steele of UNB. Her honours project deals with the Ecology of Pseudomonas aeruginosa in Victoria Public Hospital. Pseudomonas aeruginosa is a gram-negative bacteria, which can cause serious illness, even death, in small children, old people, and anyone in a weakened condition. Surprisingly,

this bacteria is not uncommon in hospitals and Victoria Public Hospital is no exception. VPH is however no more contaminated than many large, ultramodern hospitals. Miss Steele will be presenting VPH with a report on her findings with recommendations for the elimination of the bacteria.

Mary Tweeddale, Science 3, UNB thanked the speakers and chairmen. She expressed the hope that this first AUBC would not be the last and that one of the other Atlantic universities would sponsor this type of conference next year. St. Mary's promptly responded, stating that they would like to be host for the conference next year in Halifax. Miss Tweeddale also stated that a booklet would be published containing the

abstracts of the conference presentations.

Over 60 people registered for the conference, coming from all across the Atlantic provinces and from Maine. All the Atlantic universities with biology departments were represented. The entire conference was student initiated and organized through the work of UNB's Biology Club. From all viewpoints, it was a great success and credit to UNB.

A banquet was held Saturday evening in the Faculty Club, followed by a dance, for conference registrants.

The conference was closed by Dean Franklin. He praised the effort of all the students and emphasized the value of research and its importance in vitalizing science.

## PUBLIC CONCERT

with the

Resident Musicians of UNB

Music for Strings and Piano

Beethoven; 'Turina' 'Dvorak'

Tuesday Feb. 16 8.30 pm

Mem Hall

The Yearbook is Nearing

## COMPLETION

If you have pictures you would like to see included drop them off at the SRC office.

It's a good book. It might be the last one.

We would like to see as many as possible in it.

Thanks Robert Poore, Editor

## Tutoring Service Available

By J. A. Ritchie

The UNB tutoring centre is now operating.

SRC president Stephen MacFarlane explained the service consists of a co-ordinating effort on the part of the SRC office. Students requiring tutors merely phone the office and are referred to tutors who have registered in the respective subjects.

If no tutor has registered for the subject a student wants, the latter may leave his name, but must wait until a tutor registers of his own initiative.

Seven tutors have registered to date. Except for Dr. Norman Strax, these include post-graduate and honours students.

No additional staff will be required to operate the service and consequently it involves

no financial cost to the student body. Fees are set at \$3.00 an hour, but, Mr. MacFarlane added, this matter is between the student and tutor.

Time and place are also up to the individual involved. A lack of publicity for the service is responsible for the slight response as of yet. Mr. MacFarlane stated that the campus newspaper and radio would be

able to publicize the service at no cost to the students. He was optimistic that the operation might be taken over by Rap Room, another campus organization that offers referral services.

The tutoring service, which Mr. MacFarlane described as mainly applicable to first and second year subjects, will run indefinitely.

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## VALENTINE DANCE



Young Married Couples Club

Saturday Feb 13, 9:30 p.m.

Monsignor Boyd Family Ctre

Music: ROCK REVIVAL

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