

# Rap Room commences operations

By GAROLD MURRAY

The Rap Room, located in the same building as the Men's Residence Office, has commenced operations for another academic year.

Rap Room Personnel Manager, Bruce Martin, stated the organization's main objective is to make people more comfortable in a university setting. They do this by providing an attentive ear for an individual's problems or by simply being there to talk.

Should the Rap Room volunteer on duty not be able to advise a student on a particular problem, he can make a referral to one of the social services in the Fredericton area; for example, Legal Aid or Family Planning. This year the Rap Room hopes to provide callers with general information about the Fredericton area and on campus activities.

The organization's steering committee which formulates policy recently had its first meeting of the year. One proposal called for a series of lectures to be given to workers by individuals on campus who are in counselling or related fields. A workshop involving the Rap Room executive and the campus Counselling Services was arranged for Thursday. They planned to discuss what Rap Room could be doing on campus and downtown. Training sessions with qualified counsellors from the Fredericton area will be set up for interested volunteers. These training sessions will be compulsory, only if the volunteer wishes to have his name on the Emergency List. The Emergency List consists of those people the Infirmary staff can contact, should they need someone to sit with a patient.

Their budget for this year is in the area of nine hundred dollars.

According to Martin the money is spent in the following areas: advertising, telephones, speakers, films, miscellaneous (office supplies, etc.), furniture, coffee and emergencies. The last item covers such expenses as taxi fare to the hospital should somebody be in dire need of medical attention.

In an interview with the Rap Room executive they stressed the fact they do not want the image of dealing solely with drug cases. They are anxious to meet the needs of the greatest number of people on campus. For this reason they do not want to emphasize one type of problem over another.

Rap Room Chairman, Judy Amos, stated one difficulty the organization faced last year was that it was becoming a drop-in centre for volunteers and friends of the volunteer on duty. She felt this may possibly have deterred individuals from seeking Rap Room's help. She hopes this problem will be solved by insisting friends stay behind when a worker comes on duty.

Another problem Rap Room has is convincing the student body that you do not have to have a monumental problem. Whatever the problem they are there to listen and offer help.

Amos gave her assurance that all matters are kept confidential. Names need never be used. A record of cases is kept to show the Administration that Rap Room is doing something constructive. On this record persons are referred to as one male or one female.

At the end of this month Rap Room will hold a general meeting at which workers can air complaints regarding policy and new workers can discover what it is all about. The number of workers this year is approximately one half that of last year. They are asking for our help.



Photo by Mike Carr

Rap Room has opened for another year, offering peer group counselling to students at UNB.

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## Young PCs active on campus

By GERALD THOMAS

During noon hour this week the UNB YPC's were distributing party literature and an Election Act questionnaire in the SUB lobby.

The purpose of this campaign is to stimulate student interest in the YPC and elections in general. Results of this survey, if substantial, will be presented to the the Legislative Committee presently reviewing the Election's Act.

Cynthia Urquart, President of the YPC's also disclosed their plans for the fall to encourage and inform students in party activities.

On October 12th there will be a "Campus Visitation" by two M.P.'s. One member from Ontario, the other from N.S. will speak to meet with students. They will be followed in November with a Visit by Canada's youngest ever M.P. Sean O'Sullivan.

It is hoped to place Mr. O'Sullivan in a situation similar to "Under Attack's" format. Also planned is a dinner for YPC's and party dignitaries.

One interesting point included on the questionnaire is the concept of "mobile polls". In an effort to get greater voter participation the poll would be picked up and taken door to door.

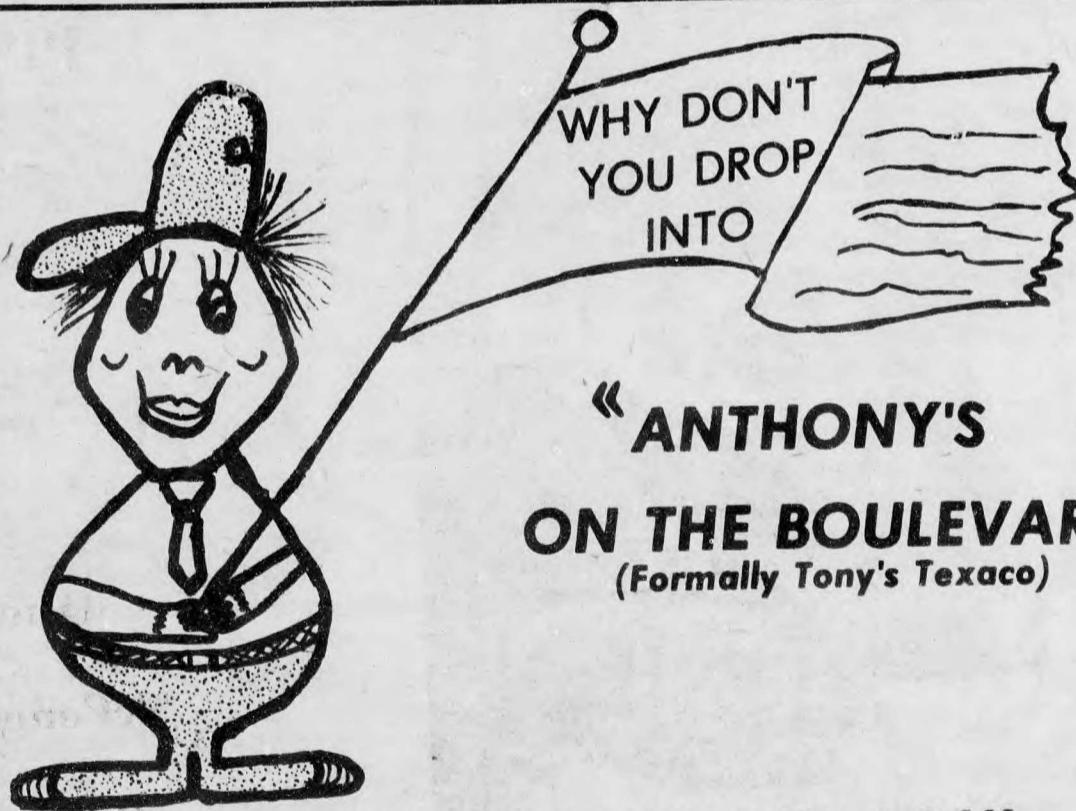
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