

Try out TELIDON Jan. 27 - 29

Fredericton area residents will be able to see and try Telidon, a videotex or two-way television communication system, at a series of demonstrations held Jan. 27-29 inclusive at UNB. Anyone interested in attending a session at 10 a.m., 1:30 p.m. or 3 p.m. on the above dates can make an appointment by calling Deborah Johnston at 453-4708 or 4709.

Evening sessions may be available if there is sufficient demand.

Ms. Johnston is the professional co-ordinator of a federally-sponsored subcommittee looking at the social impact of videotex. She is inviting all those who attend the demonstrations to also participate in a "brainstorming session" on the social impact of videotex at 7:30 p.m. Thurs., Jan. 29, in Room D-36, Head Hall, the UNB engineering building.

Ms. Johnston's group is a subcommittee of the Canadian videotex consultative committee (CVCC.) The CVCC launched by the federal department of communications to examine all the technical, economic and human ramifications of plugging

households across the country into a vast network of information and electronic services. UNB psychology professor and associate dean of the School of Graduate Studies and Research Ann Cameron is chairperson of the subcommittee on social impact.

The group is interested in such questions as who will have access to videotex as users and providers of information; what will be the effects on people who don't have access, for physical, economic or other reasons; how privacy will be protected when households are connected to central computers and data banks; and whether the needs of special interest groups can be met.

Ms. Johnston said the subcommittee is also concerned with the possible effects of videotex on employment, since many people may be able to conduct their work at home through use of a system like Telidon.

Telidon is undergoing field trials in various Canadian communities and is also being studied in the U.S.

The Telidon system, developed co-operatively by the department of communica-

tions and Canadian industry, is widely thought to produce visual displays which are superior to those of the competing British and French systems.

A videotex system involves a visual display unit, which may be a conventional television with some modifications. It also includes a micro computer decoder and display generator. A keypad enables the user to call for information, in the same way a telephone dial enables her to request connection to another piece of telephone equipment. The system requires a telecommunications link, such as telephone, cable, broadcast, fibre optics or satellite, which connects the user to a central computer holding a store of information, or data base. The user will have a booklet of standard codes for the information available in a particular data base.

Describing videotex or Telidon is difficult, Ms. Johnston said, and that is precisely why her subcommittee is devoting so much time to the demonstrations. As the public becomes more familiar with videotex and questions about its potential use are raised,

the CVCC and its various subcommittees are awarding contracts for specific research projects to be carried out by experts in appropriate technical and scientific fields.

Leadership meet Jan. 25

A student leadership conference will be held at UNB January 25. Director of Alumni Affairs, Arthur T. Doyle, has announced the Associated Alumni will again sponsor this annual event. The conference, slated to begin at 10 a.m., will be held in the Faculty Club on the third floor of the Old Arts Building. All students are welcome to attend the day long conference.

Topics to be discussed include student services, the quality of

student life both on and off campus, and the role of the UNB student union. Student fees, student aid and government funding to universities are also on the agenda. The role of the residence system, its costs, strengths and weaknesses will be discussed.

Registration is free and all students interested in attending are asked to call the student union business office at 453-4955 as soon as possible.

Friedenberg to speak

Dr. Edgar Z. Friedenberg, professor of education at Dalhousie University will deliver the annual Aquinas Lecture at St. Thomas University January 26. His talk is entitled, "Hegemony in Canadian

A native of New York, Professor Friedenberg obtained a doctoral degree from the University of Chicago at the early age of twenty-five. After teaching at several universities in the United States he joined the teaching staff at Dalhousie University in 1970.

Education: Who says what knowledge has most worth?" The lecture is scheduled for 8 p.m. in the Edmund Casey Hall Auditorium. The public is invited to attend.

He is the author of *The Vanishing Adolescent*, and *Coming of Age in America*. His latest book is entitled *Deference to Authority: The Case of Canada*.

LUNA PIZZA

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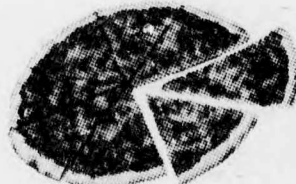


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