

# UNB 36th convocation held last Sunday

by Pat FitzPatrick

Sunday, October 14, marked an important day in the history of UNB. It saw not only the 36th convocation, but also the installation of Dr. Robin Armstrong as President and Vice-Chancellor of the University as well as the naming of new professors emeriti and the bestowing of honorary degrees.

This year's convocation was no small event, with a total of 283 graduates (137 post-grad and 146 under-grad) and their families in attendance to receive their degrees and witness the other events of the day.

Following the Academic Procession, the Invocation was said by R. Ronald McBrine, rector of the Parish of New Maryland, who wished the gifts of guidance and wisdom upon Dr. Armstrong. Lady Violet Aitken was next to speak. In her welcome to those present, Lady Aitken said that the Convocation, marked by the installation of the new president, was truly "the mark of a fresh start."

After a warm welcome by Lady Aitken, Dr. Armstrong was officially installed in the office which he has held for the past two weeks. After being robed by Lady Aitken, the chair of the Board of Governors and the President of the Associated Alumni, Armstrong was met

with encouraging words from members representatives of the faculty, the Saint John Campus, the students, staff and Saint Thomas University. Also, other universities across the country sent their regards to Dr. Armstrong, with the majority of them sending a personal representative.

Next, in what was proved to be one of the highlights of the Fall Convocation ceremonies, Dr. Armstrong delivered his response. This response served as a means through which he could outline his views of the university and its future. He claimed that he counts himself "... as one of the truly fortunate new university presidents in the country." He went on to say that "there is much to build on at UNB and a great opportunity for achievement as we face this final decade of the twentieth century."

An admitted admirer of the Japanese system of higher education, Dr. Armstrong called for a closer co-operation between industry and universities. "Since universities in Canada are home to nearly all basic research and a large portion of applied research, their participation is essential," he said.

Following the president's response, the audience was entertained by music by the UNB Bicentennial Choir and



Convocation: Dr. Robin Armstrong was officially sworn in as UNB's president on Sunday

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the RCR Band's Brass Choir.

As the Fall Convocation moved into the next portion of the ceremonies, this part centered around the students, the presentation of the prizes began. In this portion, numerous students were honoured, including members of the graduating class and under-classmen.

Following the presentation of prizes, the rank of professor emeritus was conferred upon Dr. James A. Easterbrook and Lauriat Lane, for their outstanding contribution to education in Psychology and English respectively.

Honorary degrees were also conferred upon two individuals, June Callwood, a social activist, and Dr. Althea

Macaulay. Dr. Macaulay, a former professor of Biology at UNB and a longtime supporter of the university in many positions (including acting as President of the Associated Alumni and as a representative on the Board of Governors and Senate) was given an honorary doctor of letters degree.

June Callwood, a journalist, social activist and author, was made an honorary doctor of laws. A well published author, Ms. Callwood also has a long history of social activism with such organizations as the Canadian Civil Liberties Association, Amnesty International and the Canadian Society for the Abolition of the Death Penalty. Dr.

Callwood was also called upon to give the convocation address, in which she expressed a number of viewpoints regarding today's society, including the necessity of safe sex in the era of AIDS.

Last, but not least, in the convocation ceremonies was the conferring of degrees upon graduates. This process included those graduating as doctors of philosophy, those graduating from a master's degree course, postgraduate bachelor's course and bachelor's degree course. Following the concluding remarks by Dr. Armstrong, the graduates left in the recessional march, faces glowing in pride with their hard earned degrees.

## Mood was exciting and tense at Enbicon

Press Release

Friday evening Oct. 12, 5 o'clock the mood is tense and exciting as the game masters prepare for the upcoming convention.

In an hour the blue lounge is converted from a nice comfortable living area into a gaming arena. And another hour remains until the games begin, and the Dungeon Master's are tense.

The tables are claimed by each DM, the room is laid out, the waiting is long and

unnerving. Seven o'clock hits the doors are open, the people enter and the fun begins.

The Enbicon convention started with a flood of people pouring into the blue lounge searching for the table they belong to, with the help desk and the maps that wasn't very difficult.

In it's second year running Enbicon has found itself expanded greatly with a larger selection of games and more games.

The executive committee

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also commented on how impressed they were with this year's turnout which as they say was considerably larger than last years.

With the expanded games and more people Enbicon was also sponsored by some of the larger role playing game companies such as TSK, the creators of Dungeons and Brugs, FASA, the makers of Battletech, Avalon hill, Palladium, RAFM, SSI and more.

With prizes being awarded by

each company for their specific games.

The convention was also supported and sponsored by local companies like a collector dream who supplied \$250 in gift certificates, the smoke shop who gave the convention a large amount of coffee, and a few other local companies.

This year's convention was run by Rick Gaigneur, Mike McGraw, Vance Thomas, Gary Dickson, Chris Boyle and Jason Wheaton, when asked their opinion on how the convention ran they spoke with great enthusiasm on the success of this year's and the expansion of next year's.

But there were also comments of an organized form of chaos and "I've never seen so much caffeine in one place at once." Thanks to the smoke shop for the coffee was expressed.

This core of executives was aided by a large number of volunteer DM's without who's help Enbicon would have never worked.

Games of interest this year were Tavandina's legacy and Advanced Dungeons and Dragons adventure using 3 DM's and three separate party's running through the same Dungeon. And on Sunday afternoon Battletech's the Anvil was run. A game where when

you lose your mech the player who got the killing blow gets to crush your miniature on an anvil.

The winner gets a trophy with their mech and the shattered mech parts on it, this went to Randolph Steeves. These were large games but with many other games like the classic Dungeons and Dragons to the newer Shadow run and Torg, the convention had something for everyone.

The convention also had a miniature competition judged by Chris Boyle. With prizes supplied Rafm miniatures going out to Chris Campbell for best single miniature with his shaven warrior.

John Millers gold Dragon won best monster, the Goblin war giant by Michel Plourde got best Diorama and finally the Best overall Miniature went to Brent Grants chaos sorcerer.

But these were far from the only miniatures, numerous entries were put in by people showing their talent with brush and paint on the lead figures.

As with all good things it must eventually come to an end and Sunday evening is when Enbicon closed for this year. Ending with the awards ceremony and a fond farewell to all the gamers the executives leave to prepare for a bigger and better Enbicon in 1991.



Let the games begin:

Many gamers attended the Enbicon convention which was held last Sunday at UNB.