

# The fruit basket guys

By R. BENN

The University community knows them as the "Fruit Basket Guys" and because delivery time is just before final exams and that coincides with Easter, they could be called UNB's Easter Bunny. The Capital Y's Men are members of the local service club who sell fruit baskets to your parents for delivery to your door just before exam time.

The Y's Men have been conducting this project for almost 25 years, a little less than half of the club's years of service to

the Fredericton community. The Capital Y's Men Club is the senior men's service club of the Fredericton YM-YWCA.

The idea for the project was proposed to the club by charter member Ben Medjuck. His son was attending McGill in the early 60's and a Montreal service club wrote the Medjuck family offering to sell them a fruit basket to be delivered to their son.

The Y's Men decided that the venture could also be made to work in this University community. The first year about three to four hundred baskets were sold and delivered. They

Steinbergs of Oromocto and they were actually packed in locally manufactured baskets.

The club members now sell two to three times that number and purchase and pack the fruit baskets themselves. They have long since dispensed with the baskets, discovering that the students were much more concerned with the contents of the package rather than the wrapping. Now, large sturdy plastic bags are used and the savings realized are put into additional fruit.

The day of delivery, the complete club, plus their wives, children, grand-

children, friends and relatives turn out. All spend the morning packing the bags and from early noon until dusk they deliver them.

The club concentrates on soliciting sales from the parents of out-of-town students. These are the parents who, because of distance, are unable to give that last minute encouragement to their son or daughter. Local students (or parents of local students) may purchase fruit baskets by writing: Y's Mens Fruit Baskets, P.O. Box 1265, Fredericton, N.B. E3B 5C8.

Club members are often em-

barrassed by complimentary letters received from parents congratulating them on the project and thanking the Y's Men for the opportunity of giving last minute good wishes to their favorite student.

It is most unusual for a project to be accepted with such enthusiasm by the public and still be a money-making endeavor for the club.

Funds raised by the Capital Y's Men allow the 25 club members to continue their service work in the Fredericton area.

The Y's Men own and maintain Camp Magaguadavic. This summer camp is presently used free of charge by the Fredericton High School and Harvey High School for their "Safe Grad Nights". The camp is also used throughout the summer for a nominal fee by church groups, Boy Scouts and Girl Guides. The club, always open to new uses for their facility, is exploring the proposed use of the camp by the hearing impaired.

The Capital Y's Men support many other worthwhile Fredericton programs such as the Y's Youth Basketball Program, the Physically Handicapped-Able Bodied Club (Phab), Transition House, Community Kitchen and the Fredericton Shelter.

Delivery date this year is scheduled for Saturday, April 9th. Any co-operation the students can give to help the Y's Men make their deliveries would be greatly appreciated.

## Student Venture Program

FREDERICTON (NSIS) --The Student Venture Capital Program will be operating again this summer, providing loans to students who want to

### Youth Council tours province

--The Youth Council of New Brunswick will kick off a two-week, province-wide tour March 14.

"Our objective is to hear the voices of as many youths and youth organizations as possible," council chairperson Dirk Bouwer said. "We want to ask them questions and get their feedback on matters that affect them."

The 15-member council, appointed a year ago, earlier defined six main areas of con-

cern: employment, alcohol and drugs, justice, education, recreation and health. Bouwer said the tour will help the

The New Brunswick Department of Labour, in conjunction with the Royal Bank of Canada and the National Bank

council evaluate existing government programs for youth, and formulate recommendations for action. The council reports directly to the Premier.

The council will stop in Fredericton on Monday, March 29 from 7 - 9:30 p.m. at CS4 teaching theatre, F.H.S.

of Canada, recently signed an agreement which will allow for the program's implementation. Participating in the signing were provincial Labour Minister Mike McKee; Jean Charest Federal Minister of State for Youth; Clarence Deveau and Alain Bolduc of the Royal and National Banks respectively.

The Student Venture Capital Program provides interest-free loans of up to \$3,000 to students to establish a summer business. Students who repay their loans on time are reimbursed 20 per cent of their loan.

"I am well aware of the entrepreneurial spirit of the young people of New Brunswick, and I know they will avail themselves of this opportunity to start their own businesses," Charest said.

"Students should now be formulating their ideas," Deveau said. "It is never too

early to start the leg work that is associated with the operation of a summer business. The more thorough the preparation, the less likely that a situation will arise that the student is not equipped to handle."

Following an interview with local industrial commissioner, applicants' proposals will be submitted to the Department of Labour and a joint decision is rendered by the two governments. Loans are advanced by the National Bank and the Royal Bank.

"The program has helped students launch successful ventures in catering services, landscaping, hot dog vending, handyman services, and the growing and selling of produce, to name a few," Bolduc said. "With a willingness to work and an eagerness to succeed, these young people have shown us that the possibilities of turning an idea into a summer business are limitless."

### Dept. of French

Information Session on 1988-89  
French Courses + Timetables

23rd March 1988  
7:00 - 9:00 pm  
Tilley Hall  
Room 201

All interested students invited  
Refreshments Served

### POLITICS OF FOOD

Developed countries and the world  
food crisis  
**STUDENT PANEL**

Kwami Dawes, Jamaica  
Darrell McLaughlin, Canada  
Sam Tekle, Ethiopia  
March 23, 7:30pm  
St. Thomas University  
Edmund Casey Hall, Rm 103  
**Public invited**

VOTE!

VOTE!

VOTE!

(and vote again)



**Vote!**

Candidate for  
S.U. President