

# Vandals hit campus again

## Damage 'insignificant'?

By JOHN HAMILTON  
Staff Writer

Several visible instances of vandalism have occurred on campus in the past week, but Chief of Security Charles Williamson said these were insignificant compared to what is damaged in most weeks.

Among the things broken in the past week are the sign in front of the Alumni Memorial Building (STUD), several panes of glass in the indoor link connecting the biology building and the AUC, and the rear windshield of a vehicle owned by the biology department.

Leo Nealis, a biology department technician, said the back window of the four-wheel drive Scout, used for summer fieldwork, was smashed sometime during the weekend of Nov. 9-11. It was parked outside the physics building at the time of the incident. Nealis said the rear view mirror was also stolen and the vehicle has been repaired. The cost is not yet known.

Dr. Michael Burt, chairman of the Biology Department said the damage was much more disturbing than the usual "high spirited" pilfering of gas tank caps and added that the culprits may not have been students.

"There are so many other people on campus over the course of a weekend that the incident may not have been a student prank," he said.

Burt said three weekends ago there was an incident definitely involving students who as yet remain unidentified. He said four students broke into a research lab in the biology building. If it was not for a group of students standing outside a residence who heard the vandals, and investigated, a microscope worth several thousand dollars would have been stolen. Burt praised the actions of the investigating students as "mature and public-spirited," and added that charges would have been laid against the vandals if they had been caught or identified.



The sign in front of the STUD was one of the many targets of vandals last week. DWAYNE MCLAUGHLIN Photo

# Student concerns discussed at leadership conference

Student concerns at UNB in 1979 centre on topics such as the recent increase in assaults and vandalism on campus, inadequacies in lighting and security, availability of counselling services and the feasibility of co-ed housing. These were some of the areas examined Sunday at the ninth annual Associated Alumni Student Leadership Conference held in the Faculty Club of the Old Arts Building.

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The Conference, open to all UNB students but suffering from rather low attendance, was essentially a free-form discussion of pertinent issues, effectively but informally chaired by SRC President David Bartlett. Student representatives were present from Lady Dunn Hall, Bridges and Neill Houses, the Nursing Society, the Brunswickan, CHSR, the UNB Senate and the SRC. Also participating were several Alumni officials and Dean of Students Barry Thompson.

David Kay, a member of the Senate's Library Committee explained the new cataloguing system planned for the university. Kay said the current card cataloguing system will be closed within six months. At that time new books will no longer be added to the card listings. Instead new listings will be stored on microfiche, microfilm, or both. Microfiche is a system analogous to that used by many auto parts dealers whereby information is stored, in miniaturized form, on a plastic or vinyl sheet which can be projected and enlarged on a screen for easy viewing. Microfilm is similar in the use of a screen but the information itself is stored on a continuous cassette-reel rather than on sheets.

The microfiche system is expected to receive preference due to its lower cost. No matter what system is purchased, Kay said the initial use will be to update existing catalogues. Eventually, all books will be catalogued this way. Under current plans, the "micro" system will be replaced around 1985 by a sophisticated and easily updated computer system possibly linked to a centralized regional storage facility, which would combine the listings of all libraries in the Maritime Provinces. Cost to the university would be in the vicinity of \$200,000 according to Kay.

The question of ineffective campus security and the related topics of poor lighting, rape, assault, and vandalism were discussed. There was general agreement that lighting is inadequate in many areas,

specifically on the path that leads from the SUB to the St. Thomas traffic circle and on the Lady Dunn to Marshall d'Avray route. It was pointed out that the situation is getting bad enough that some girls refuse to attend evening classes. Several remedies were proposed: 1) increased lighting in trouble spots; 2) installation of fences to separate paths from wooded areas; 3) clearing of problematic wooded areas; 4) increased Campus Police activity; 5) closing of two upper gates, at night to reduce undesirable traffic flow.

Dean Thompson said he believed a lot of problems were caused by non-university factions which view the campus as a convenient place to drink and create disturbances. The point was made that campus security are not and should not be viewed as a police force; hence they are relatively ineffective against violent and destructive crimes. Campus Police are better able to cope with that as they are able to pursue vandals on foot. However, it was pointed out that CP's are often faced with minimal administrative support in pressing charges against offenders.

President-elect Perry Thorbourne stressed the fact that victims of assault often must wait up to two weeks before they can receive counselling help, due to shortage of staff in this essential student service. He further stated that reported cases of sexual assault were occurring at an alarming rate, that we have no way of knowing the number of cases that go unreported and that something must be done to step up security.

On the topic of co-ed residences, it was indicated by Mary Ellen Tait, second vice-president of the Associated Alumni-Alumnae, and corroborated by Kay that the system was not working out at Maggie Jean Chestnut House. Both Dean Thompson and President Bartlett were surprised at this, as were most other participants, and said they would look into the situation. Thompson said Maggie-Jean was made co-ed to save the university money, but also expressed the personal belief that co-ed residences effectively decrease noise and damage. With respect to this type of housing, he said UNB was way behind most other universities. The consensus was that the administration should look carefully at the possibility of converting one or more of the existing structures to a co-ed format.

After a short break to enjoy the excellent roast beef dinner provided by the Associated Alumni the discussion resumed. The topic shifted to that of campus athletics and the Alumni's involvement in this aspect of university life. Director of Alumni Affairs Art Doyle said the Alumni want to increase their involvement in this

area. President of the Associated Alumni, Frank Wilson added that they would like to help campus athletics in ways other than sponsorship of athletic scholarships; for example, financing of recruitment drives, purchasing of uniforms and equipment and helping with transportation costs. Lindsay Ryerson of Bridges house said students are not apathetic toward sports, that better teams are needed to draw fans, and this must be done by making UNB attractive to the promising athlete.

The general feeling seemed to be that the best way to do this would be to increase scholarships. Dr. Wilson noted that the Alumni provides about 125 scholarships per year, totalling close to \$48,000. These are distributed to students with special abilities, including numerous UNB athletes. It is hoped this heavy commitment will encourage the administration to do more for campus athletics. Generally, the Alumni would like to see a review conducted as to the University's treatment of varsity sports. Dr. Wilson also outlined a plan to utilize Alumni now living in other cities, as recruitment officers in their local high schools.

A brief discussion took place as to the suitable duration of a term on the Board of Governors. Student opinion was that a high turnover rate was essential to board members staying in touch with the student population. Alumni representatives pointed out that many board members are reappointed to allow them to continue the committee work in which many are engaged at the expiration of their terms. Mention was made of the fact that a fixed-term policy could result in the board being deprived of many members who had served well. Bartlett and Thorbourne spoke up in favour of the SRC President becoming an ex-officio member of the Senate and Board of Governors, thereby increasing student input on administrative policy.

Towards the end of the conference, the subject of open residence pubs was put forth. Bartlett spoke briefly on the progress made by COSAC (Committee of Students Aiming At Compromise) in their dealings with the university. He said chances are good for a return to open pubs for residence students with the issuing of residence I.D. cards. He said off-campus students should not expect to be admitted to these events as they do not contribute to house fees. However, he said each residence student may have the option of signing in one friend from off-campus.

Bartlett has indicated that a statement of some kind is forthcoming with regard to the results of the conference. Those who attended were of the unanimous opinion that it had been a worthwhile and thought-provoking event, and look forward to returning next year.