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September 15, 1989

The Brunswickan 13

GET POLLUTED ON THE MIRAMICHI

--AS IF THE MIRAMICHI ISN'T POLLUTED ENOUGH!!!

BY MELYNDA JARRATT

Residents of the Miramichi who are concerned about the environment will get a boost Saturday when students from UNB join them in their fight against industrial polluters.

Sixty young people from the newly formed Student Environmental Society (S.E.S) on UNB's Fredericton campus will tour several known pollution sites and make a brief visit to the MV Greenpeace--the Greenpeace organization's flagship--as it makes its first trip to New Brunswick.

The Domtar plant has been linked to polyaromatic hydrocarbon (PAH) contamination of the Newcastle water supply. PAH's are known cancer-causing agents associated with birth defects in humans.

At the Domtar site, students will get a first hand look at a chemical lagoon, what Van Ingen describes as, "a big, black mucky pond, worse than the sight of an oil spill."

"Many people have never seen a real source of groundwater contamination," said Van Ingen. "When they see a REAL chemical lagoon, they will become more

MAKE A STATEMENT AGAINST ENVIRONMENTAL POLLUTION ON THE MIRAMICHI. JOIN RAIA ON THE POLLUTERS TOUR. PHONE 453-4926 FOR YOUR TICKET NOW!

S.E.S. president Raia Van Ingen, said in an interview yesterday the trip is designed to increase awareness of industrial pollution and uncalled-for environmental abuse.

Van Ingen stressed that all the issues on the Miramichi are unresolved and new ones continue to be identified. She added the tour coincides with the MV Greenpeace's visit to Newcastle as part of the organization's pulp and paper campaign.

Ms. Van Ingen explained that for \$10 students will be bused from Fredericton to Newcastle where they will undertake tours of several industrial polluters. Their "ticket" for the tour is a T-Shirt which loudly proclaims "Dioxins Kill".

Ms. Ingen said one of the sites on the Miramichi tour includes a chemical lagoon at the Domtar Wood-Preserving facility in Newcastle.

critical of destructive industrial practises."

Other sites on the tour include the proposed antimony-trioxide plant in Morrison's Cove near Chatham. Antimony-trioxide is a fire-retardant used in plastics and materials. Residents in the surrounding area are concerned the plant may emit dangerous pollutants--such as acid-rain-producing sulphur--into the air.

Van Ingen won't rule out a tour of the Miramichi Pulp and Paper Mill in Newcastle. Owned by Repap Enterprises, the mill has been severely criticized by Greenpeace, the Conservation Council of New Brunswick, and the Miramichi

Environmental Society, a local group headed by Ben Baldwin, a geologist and organic farmer--and coincidentally-- Van Ingen's stepfather.

As president of the M.E.S., Baldwin has spearheaded local calls for action against



RAIA VAN INGEN IS ORGANIZING THE S.E.S. TRIP ON SATURDAY.

industrial polluters. He of the environment, the S.E.S. on campus. has become a popular "Our children are going. Contact Raia Van Ingen figure in the area for his to inherit a dead river," at 453-4926 immediately no-nonsense approach to he warned. if you would like to environmental pollution. Those who are partake in the Tour of environmental pollution. Similarly concerned Polluters on the Baldwin condemned about the Miramichi Miramichi. Bus departs political and industrial River and other natural from the S.U.B. at 10.30 leaders for their lack of sites in New Brunswick a.m. on Saturday consciousness in matters are encouraged to join morning.

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