

# would you believe ?

—THE BRUNSWICKAN

NOVEMBER 4, 1977

A strange and complex controversy has developed over an unusual experiment conducted by a respected cancer researcher.

Dr. George Moore of Denver Hospital produced cancers in a small group of rats by inserting sterilized dimes into the peritoneal cavities in their abdomens. He and his collaborator then published their findings in the *Journal of the American Medical Association* under the headline, "Money causes cancer: ban it."

The Federation of American Scientists has charged the tests were run just to make a humorous point, and quoted an unnamed scientist at the National Institutes of Health and called the experiment a disgraceful affair and a misuse of cancer funds and laboratory animals. The Federation was concerned that animals had been caused to suffer pointlessly.

Dr. Moore, however, felt that he had a serious point in mind. He feels that all the news about cancer-causing substances is just "silly," and thought he'd try to get his point across with the dimes. He concedes, "Maybe I made the point badly." (Newsprint)

★★★★★

The magic fingers of Dr. John Becknauld are going to be sorely missed by hundreds of dogs and cats in Southern California.

Becknauld is a chiropractor who, just a few days ago, was adjusting the backs and necks of animals until a colleague informed him it was illegal to give chiropractic treatments to animals in California.

The doctor had just moved to the state from Iowa where he had once made adjustments to a prize \$25,000 (dollar) bull that was sterile. With a touch of his magic finger, the bull was producing offspring soon after a treatment.

Now that the doctor has closed his animal practice, he will still be remembered by the hundreds of dogs and cats that visited his Orange County office. Make no bones about that. (Newsprint)

A 16-year-old girl was zapped right off her feet recently while walking her dog in Holbrook, New York.

It seems that when her poor dog relieved himself, he unfortunately chose an electrified sign.

The electricity rushed up the dog's urine, through his body and reached the girl's hand through the leash. Poor Fido was a goner—but the girl woke up later. (Newsprint)

★★★★★

A group of San Francisco artists are literally taking their work to the people. Some city billboards will soon become gigantic paintings.

A non-profit organization called "Eyes and Ears" hit upon the idea of combining "painting and poetry and government grants and public spaces," according to a member of the group. As a result of their promotional efforts, twenty billboards will soon become giant paintings. The display will be the main event in a series which will also include other art forms — poetry, dance, and drama.

While the *London Sunday Times* may regard the project as the latest wacky fad to come out of California, poet Michael McClure considers it only a small step in the right direction. "I don't approve of billboards," says McClure, whose giant haiku will be displayed on one. "But if they have to exist, this is what I would prefer to see on them." (Newsprint)

★★★★★

A new public affairs show called "Consumer Buyline" made its debut in Los Angeles last week and it looks like it's bound to upset advertisers. On the first episode, host David Horowitz gave ten consumers crackers spread with butter or margarine and asked them to identify which was which. To the dismay of Madison Avenue everyone was able to identify which was the butter and which was the margarine. This week, Coca Cola meets Pepsi Cola. (Newsprint)

Go to a beauty salon in Los Angeles these days and you may get a lot more than the old wash and set. Dozens of the posher beauty-spots are expanding their services, their minds, and, they hope, their bank accounts by offering "total beauty and health facilities."

These often include spiritual awakening, vitamin therapy, figure control, wardrobe planning, and total body-hair bleaching. One beauty shop offers a Ph.D. discussing psychocybernetics, or how to control your life through positive mental programming, amidst the dryers and permanent formulas. At another salon, one male hairstylist often meditates with his client before cutting her hair, to obtain "perfect trust" for her, and perfect concentration for him. He often stays in meditation, he says, right through the entire cut.

Other salons require that new clients fill out a questionnaire asking if they have any physical or mental problems. It seems that a nervous breakdown causes zinc and copper deposits in the hair, and attempting to permanent such hair just causes it to turn green. (ENS)

★★★★★

Vitamin E is now being used to help premature infants survive their first critical weeks of life.

Yale Pediatrician Dr. Joseph Warshaw says he's been injecting premature infants with doses of Vitamin E, and the shots seem to help the preemies ward off oxygen poisoning. Prematurely-born babies are usually treated with large amounts of pure oxygen, since they often can't breathe on their own. But too much oxygen poisons their tiny systems, and results in damage to the eyes and lungs. Dr. Warshaw says the Vitamin E reduced the infants' dependence on oxygen and helps prevent the resultant poisoning. And another pediatrician, Dr. Lois Johnson of the University of Pennsylvania, says vitamin E will one day be used to protect the eyes of all premature infants. (Newsprint)

For the first time in its history Columbia University's Graduate School of Journalism has enrolled more women than men. Last year 76 men and 75 women studied at America's most prestigious journalism school. This year the number of women crept to 85, and men fell to 70. Elie Abel (Pron: ell'ie A'bul), Dean of the school, told the *New York Times* "the significant change is that women are now going after the bigger jobs, on the news desks, as editors, and in broadcasting." (Earth News)

★★★★★

People who yearn to free themselves from the grasp of the local utility company by producing their own power will now have an easier time of it — at least in southern California.

With the approval of the California Public Utilities Commission, customers of Southern California Edison can hook up their windmill or solar electrical generator to the Edison grid with a special coupler. When the wind blows and the sun shines, none of the company's power will be used. In fact, if that little windmill produces more electricity than the customer can use, it will feed right into Edison's distribution network, to be used by other people.

Edison will credit the do-it-yourself with the excess energy. And when the wind doesn't blow or the sun doesn't shine, the coupler will automatically draw on Edison's supply.

★★★★★

Kevin Erensen of Greenwich, (Pron: Gren-itch) Connecticut is only eight years old, but he must be the envy of kids everywhere who have brothers and sisters.

Kevin is something of an electronics whiz. His latest invention, now nearing completion, is a dreaded Sister Alarm. If Kevin's two sisters try to open his bedroom door when he's not around, they'll be greeted by a deafening bell and a squirt of water in their faces.

Kevin says the elaborate device is needed to keep his sister from messing up his room. (Newsprint)

Have you ever wondered where the Pentagon gets all their weapons and equipment? Well, a handy new book, called the "Directory of Munitions Makers" will tell you just exactly who is making what.

Did you know, for example, that Xerox makes night viewers and lasers for the Pentagon, while Bulova Watch makes fuzes and ammunition manufacturing machines? There's lots more surprises, too. According to the Directory, Continental Can, National Cash Register, Eastman Kodak and Magnayox are all part of what President Eisenhower called the military-industrial complex.

The directory was compiled by NARMIC or the National Action Research on the Military Industrial Complex. They got their information from State Department registration forms obtained under the Freedom of Information Act. And they're hoping that Americans who are disturbed by the spiraling arms race will use the directory to organize disarmament protests and actions. (Newsprint)

★★★★★

When confronted by a mugger in the park, Ricky Jay defends himself by dealing from the bottom of the deck. He's a professional card thrower capable of flicking a playing card with enough speed and accuracy to disable his attacker.

Jay, a leader in the art of self-defense with cards, has taught the delicate art to John Dean, Jacques Cousteau, and Emmy Lou Harris, but can also be found training senior citizens in Los Angeles.

He's written a book called *Cards as Weapons* and is also recognized by the *Guinness Book of World Records*. Says Jay: "Cards are a practical weapon. They're inexpensive and you don't need a license."

The thirty-year-old card throwing champ has started the Columbia School of Card Throwing on the East Coast and is also accepting students for his West Coast Famous Card Throwers' School. (Newsprint)

## Sci-fi fans rejoice-medium brings joy

By JOHN HAMILTON

Metro-Goldwyn-Mayer... 20th Century Fox... Northlander Productions... Northlander Productions? Yes, it's a young student TV and filmmaking club based here at UNB. A branch of CHVW, Northlander is under the direction of Bill Rankine, a second year arts student and avid science-fiction fan.

Rankine is far from being an amateur in the science-fiction business. He has written many scripts for SF and fantasy video shows, and produce at least five movies, including one science-fiction spectacular called "The Peacemakers" a movie which involved his friends as actors and crew. It was filmed in various basements and public places around the city. In addition, Rankine has produced several comic books, sophisticated animated models, and at one time had an agent in New York to sell ideas and promote his name in the business.

Currently Northlander is involved in what is possibly Rankine's biggest project to date, the planning of a fantasy film, "Thera: The Demon Wars". Initial planning

started over a year ago, and during that time Rankine and several associates have developed a whole new world, with the basic story line and several scripts completed to date. In fact, Rankine has written a "Technical and Historical Manual" for Thera, which is a glossary of the characters and places on the fictional planet, intended for future scriptwriters. The Thera series will hopefully consist of at least five shows.

The National Film Board of Canada is very interested in this project and Rankine has a meeting with them in Ottawa in late November to arrange for some financial assistance. This could amount to several thousand dollars. Obviously they see student film-making as an undeveloped art form, and Northlander Productions as a good potential investment.

Rankine says he's not sure when "Thera" will be finished, but it could be several years because "I want to do it right and it will take money." Besides "Thera", he has several other projects on the go. One member of Northlander, Pam Ritchie, is doing a soap-opera

spot similar to "Soap", but with a local university touch. Tentatively called "Bubbles", Rankine says "it's going to be very funny" and that if anyone wants to get involved to contact CHVW or Northlander.

In addition, he is trying to develop new program ideas for the campus TV station. His favorite is a possible series called "The Further Adventures of Luke Skywalker", a humorous series designed to "pick up where Star Wars left off." Rankine mentioned that at present there are not enough students involved in CHVW to do anything ambitious like this, and hopes that more people will become interested when the station goes on the air.

The professional script-writing business is very lucrative, with up to \$4000 paid for scripts and \$600 for story ideas. Rankine is very interested in this business and is thinking of going to university part-time next term so he can devote more time to Northlander. The world of science-fiction is getting more respectable and publicly accepted, and Rankine plans to be a part of this growing phenomenon.

### 1978 NEW MCAT

The 1978 New MCAT test dates are April 30 and September 30. The Spring postmark registration deadlines are March 20 for candidates testing in the United States, Canada, and Puerto Rico; and March 13 for those testing in foreign countries.

Registration materials will be available in the Dean of Science office about February 1, 1978.

### OMSAS

The deadline for submission of applications to OMSAS is November 15, 1977. OMSAS kits will be available in the Dean of Science Office, Room 109, IUC or may be obtained by writing to OMSAS, Ontario Universities' Application Centre, Box 1328, Guelph, Ontario.

### PREMED INTERVIEWS

Any student making application to a medical school for next year should arrange for a personal interview with the premedical advisor. Appointments should be made through the Dean of Science Office before December 4.

R.H. Grant  
Premedical Advisor  
Assistant Dean of Science