

Young UNB foresters take to the trees

(UNB-PRI) Sevogle -- Tuadook -- Blue Mountain.

While those names may not stir memory for most New Brunswickers, they're sure to take on a special meaning this fall as far as approximately 40 of the University of New Brunswick's senior forestry

students are concerned. The three nametags belong to the timber districts surrounding Stone-Consolidated's Roger Lake Camp in the northern New Brunswick woods.

The region with its broad mix of highlands and lowlands, sand-to-stony soils, sugar maples, beech, black and red and white spruce, has become home for a nine-day stretch this month as the students gain a real taste of life in the wilderness and an opportunity to put classroom theory to practise.

When it comes to an outdoor classroom in fact, the UNB undergraduates, their six accompanying professors and eight guest lecturers would be hard-pressed to discover a better one. Eighty-six percent of New Brunswick's surface is forested. The camp itself, located near the Nepisiquit River, is made available to the university by Stone-Consolidated, a Bathurst forest management company. Here in the deep woods, the forestry novices get plenty of scope to practise their skills.

"Without Stone-Consolidated, we would have great difficulty in running a camp like this," says co-ordinator Kris Morgenstern of UNB's Department of Forest Resources. The area, he says, is, in effect, a unique laboratory. Within a 20 to 30 km. stretch, the land goes from flat to mountainous, the mix of timber and small tress and texture of soils varies widely.

"The concentrated nine-day course is an important milestone in the students' education," Dr. Morgenstern continues. "On completion, they feel much more confident and give it a high rating."

The Nepisiquit neck of the woods is Crown land, under the control of the Department of Natural Resources and Energy. Stone-Consolidated holds the licence on this territory and all their management plans for the woodlots are government-approved.

The process is quite complex.

"Every forest stand in the

area is mapped and its history is recorded," Dr. Morgenstern points out. "This includes the composition of the previous stand with respect to species, density and volume harvested; how it regenerated; insect and fungus diseases recorded; stand development; inventory results; stand treatments such as thinning or partial cutting."

Records are also kept on relationship of growth to site quality, including soil texture, moisture, fertility and local climate, and how site quality influences preparation for planting.

"We also obtain facts on fish and wildlife populations, fire history, early logging and exploration of the area beginning in the 18th century."

This entire storehouse of information is right at the students' fingertips.

In camp, it's a life of bunks, packing your lunch at the cookhouse, and evening sessions on subjects from forest management and reforestation to information systems and site evaluations. Guest lecturers, too, cover a wide section of the NB forestry industry -- from the Department of Natural Resources, Stone-Consolidated Inc., the University of Moncton, J.D. Irving Ltd., and Forestry Canada.

During the day, the camp party breaks up into small groups of one professor and five or six students to take a close, first-hand look at the intricate, inner workings of the local forests. Heading up the operation are: Dr. P.A. Arp, geology, soils and site; Dr. G.L. Baskerville, ecology, forest succession, stand development; Dr. M.S. Jamnick, growth and yield; Dr. I.R. Methven, forest fire, ecology, protection; Dr. T.D. Needham, site preparation and silviculture; Dr. D.R.W. Quiring, forest insects.

The fall camp has become a traditional and very successful way of launching the undergraduates' second-to-last year of forestry resources studies at UNB, Dr. Morgenstern says.

News Notes

Assertiveness training group

Press Release

Fredericton, UNB - If you're uncomfortable saying "no" when friends ask for favours, telling your partner what you need, negotiating with professors, dealing with family who persistently try to take charge of your life, or starting social conversations, then you may be interested in the Assertiveness Training Group offered by Counselling Services.

The first part of the workshop involves brief lectures, demonstration of various assertive skills, and practice where participants learn "by doing" in role-played situations. Participants also receive constructive feedback so they can gradually change their behaviour. The importance of non-verbal communication is also emphasized early in the workshop. You may want to tell a friend that you need to study instead of continue talking, but the verbal message can get diluted by an overly soft voice, frequent pauses, or lack of eye contact.

Participants also learn what stops them from being more assertive. They learn to identify and explore the thoughts and feelings that make it difficult to respond assertively in specific situations. Sometimes being afraid of hurting a friend's feelings or losing a friendship can make it difficult to be assertive. But not talking directly to a friend can also hurt the relationship because, as resentments build, they can get expressed indirectly as sarcasm.

The second part of the workshop provides participants with an opportunity to work on personal situations in their own lives. Situations are role-played and participants get feedback on the practiced responses. This provides a bridge to the real situation where participants can try the response for homework.

The group starts October 2, 1990, and will meet Tuesday afternoons from 3:00 - 5:00 p.m. for ten (10) weekly sessions. It is free and open to any interested full-time or part-time students of UNB/STU. Interested persons will need to have a preliminary interview prior to attending the group. For more information or to register, contact Larry Finkelman at 453-4820.

Flex your mental muscles!

Fredericton, UNB - If the nip in the air and the first tinge of colour in the leaves has set off your craving to get out there and learn something new, then the UNB Extension Department has an astonishing array of choices to tempt you.

There's a course on photographing the autumn landscape, and another on developing your camera skills beyond the basics to encompass some eye-catching new effects. You can come and learn the Irish language or study German or French, or find out the inner points of English pottery and porcelain.

If you'd like to be a better informed and more appreciative theatre-goer, than "From Page to Stage" will offer you a behind-the-scenes exploration of Theatre New Brunswick, offered by its new artistic director, Michael Shamata.

You can learn to tune your ear to the finer points of electronic music, or develop your skills in portraiture or drawing or silkscreening, or learn to grow outstanding houseplants.

Perhaps storytelling, writing for the stage, or becoming a children's author would challenge you.

Or maybe you'd like to enhance your parenting skills, or learn how to balance the needs of an aging parent with those of a young family. For the reflective individual, there's a chance to explore the phenomenon of contemporary religious quests. And for those who would like to find their way around the university's computerized library system with ease, there's "A Layperson's Guide to the Electronic Library".

Whatever your interests, you'll find a range of intriguing options there waiting to be explored. For further information, call the UNB Department of Extension and Summer Session at 453-4646 -or stop by the Department's new quarters in the University continuing Education Centre on Duffie Drive, just inside the new Montgomery Street gate on the Fredericton campus.

Extension staff are ready and waiting to take your calls, from 8:30 am to 9:00 pm, Monday through Thursday, and 8:30 am to 5:00 pm on Friday. And don't forget that New Brunswick residents 60 years of age or over are entitled to participate in UNB courses free of charge.

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Fredericton High School with a student body of 3,000, is the largest High School in Canada. It is a community within itself and, as in all communities, it has its share of crime.

Certain people may dismiss some of the following activities as mere pranks but they are all criminal acts.

1. Setting small fires or deliberately pulling fire alarms. This can result in serious injury.

2. Stealing from other students or breaking into their lockers and taking their belongings.

3. The theft of school property such as V.C.s, T.V. sets, books or sports equipment.

4. Vandalism - thousands of dollars are spent each year repairing buildings, school grounds, books, equipment and other school property.

5. Drugs - the illegal sale or possession of narcotics or alcohol.

These are some of the crimes that occur not only in large urban schools, but in small schools throughout New Brunswick as well.

If you know of anyone who has committed a crime in your school and if you want to make your school a better and safer place, call CRIME STOPPERS at 1-800-222-TIPS. You won't have to give your name. If your tip helps solve a crime you are guaranteed a cash award. Please call now!

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