

# The Brunswickian



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## Names Project Canada Quilt deeply moves viewers at UNB

by Allan Carter

Many people from broad cross-sections of society entered the Lord Beaverbrook Gymnasium at UNB to observe the Names Project Canada Quilt wondering what the boxes of Kleenex were for.

According to Grace Getty, president of AIDS New Brunswick and co-ordinator of the AIDS program at UNB, these people understood the reason for the Kleenex boxes after looking at a few of the panels and being deeply moved.

The Canadian Names Project began in 1988 as a special memorial to those who have died of AIDS.

Last week from Thursday night until Sunday, about 185 panels (two-thirds of the entire quilt) were in Fredericton. Six of these were made in New Brunswick, one by a man who worked at UNB.

Most of the panels were made by friends or relatives of those who have died of AIDS. But some panels are made by organizations or universities such as Acadia University. Their panel was made in memory of all those

people who died of AIDS and who were involved with the university.

Getty believes it is "a personal kind of remembrance" for each individual. The majority of people who were being remembered were in the age

group of 30 and, for most, only their first names were on the panels.

In addition, there were a number of panels for people who died alone. Getty believes the quilt makes it "more real for people" and can act as a grieving process

for people whose loved ones died of AIDS.

About 2,000 people saw the quilt over a 3 and a half day period at UNB. In the middle of the gymnasium was a "signature quilt" where visitors could write their own messages.

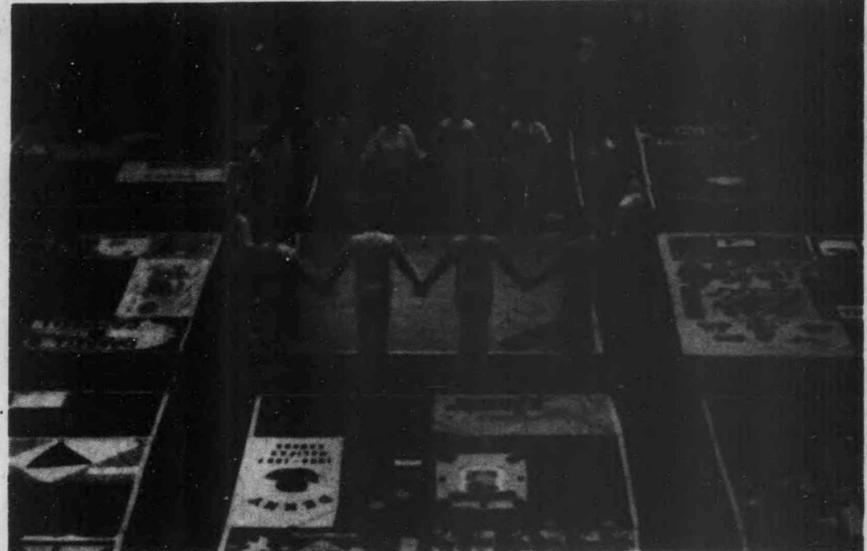
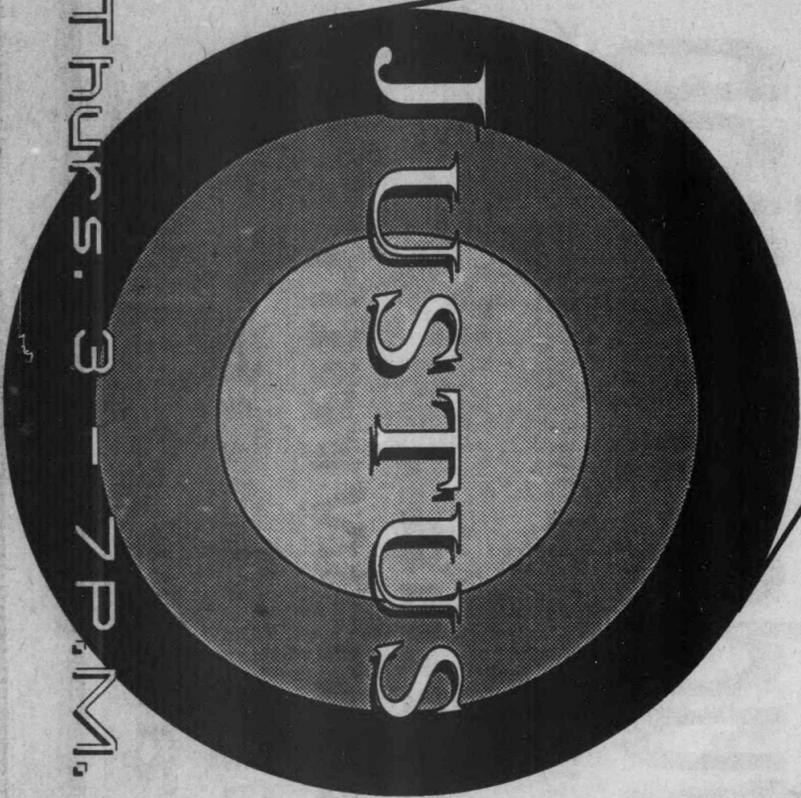


Photo by Marcel St. Pierre

Some of the 185 panels of the Canadian Names Project to remember those who have died of AIDS were on display at the Lord Beaverbrook Gymnasium last week.

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