

NAIT Nugget

September 8th, Thursday Edmonton, Alberta Issue 1, Volume 9



Mr. Carter

I would like to extend a warm welcome to all of the students entering NAIT for the Fall '77 academic session. The welcome goes out to those of you who are returning for your second year at the Institute, and of course to those of you who are just beginning a program of study here at NAIT.

I extend this welcome on behalf of three groups of people, your Administration, your Instructional Staff and your Support Staff. NAIT works best when all three groups pull together to provide you with that which you came to NAIT to pursue, the best possible training for a satisfying, rewarding and worthwhile career.

We have said to people looking to NAIT for post-secondary education, "If you're thinking career, think NAIT." We mean that, very sincerely, and you'll find during your studies here that NAIT is strongly career oriented. What we offer and the way we offer it is designed to prepare you for your entry position into the industry of your choice and it's also designed to enhance your promotion and growth within that industry.

We like to think, too, that NAIT's real reputation is based on the performance of our graduates. When you graduate from this Institute, you're joining a distinguished group of people who are playing vital roles in the development of Canada. We will do everything we can to see that you are prepared to uphold that reputation, and we trust that

you'll work with us toward that goal.

This year, we'll be using our new facilities in what we're calling the Plaza One and Plaza Two buildings on the main NAIT Campus. This two and half million dollar addition to our facilities is just one more step in the long range growth plans for NAIT. We think you'll be pleased to know that you're here at one of our stages of major expansion.

But we'd like you to know that NAIT isn't all work and no play. From Frosh Week to Convocation Exercises, your academic year will be brightened with everything from beer bashes to cabarets, from Queen Week to Shinerama.

As another change of pace from the purely academic side of things, we have the NAIT Activities Centre. This addition to the Campus is designed to make NAIT a better place to pursue a career. The Activities Centre provides the best in facilities for athletic activity.

All of these things, the student activities, the facilities in the Activities Centre and the instructional programs are part of NAIT. Working with your Student's Association, the NAIT Staff will try and find the right balance of all of these parts of NAIT life so that your stay here will prove to be one of the most productive, pleasant and worthwhile periods of your life.

Again, a very warm welcome to NAIT.

Students Association so what?

Do you know what goes on in this school? Do you know how it is run? Well, if about half of you answered NO to the above questions, it's understandable; because you're first year students and have only been around for a few days. Those of you who were here last year might want to refresh your memories.

Student's Council is composed of a seven member executive plus elected reps from each technology.

Those of you who are in two year programs already have organized clubs with 1977-78 executives. First year students from two year courses should find out who they are, if you don't already know. These people have what it takes to make it through first year, and can be a good source of information. They are also there to listen to anything you might have to say.

If your course means only a one year stay here then, (because you don't have reps from last year) you should consider electing, appointing, or acclaiming someone to represent you at council meetings. These reps might also form the basis of your technology clubs, if there are several classes in your first year tech.

Council meetings are held every second Wednesday during the

year. Even if you are not a class or club representative you are welcome. If you don't like the normal bureaucratic process then there is almost always someone in the Student's Association Offices, E-133, who would be willing to point you in the right direction, give advice on problems, take up your case with the administration or whatever.

If you have no problems or gripes then you will see the workings of Student's Council (particularly Scott McConnell, Social Chairman) at the various functions held during OOK WEEK and through

out the year. Although you will be mostly interested in the training you will get here, preparation for your joy also includes a certain amount of socializing; as in our society very few of us go through a day without some interaction with others.

This year we are going to be having weekly movies, noon-hour concerts, afternoon and night cabarets, Pub-Times, and beer-fests. We're also going to try a number of new things out.

Beer and Skits nights look like they're going to be a really good time. Basically teams will enter skits and compete for audience approval and prize money.

SKI TRAIN: Rather than have several small ski clubs within NAIT we hope to organize NAIT Ski trips. These trips should be reasonably priced and will include hotel rooms, lift tickets, busses to the hill and transportation to the mountains by train. If everything works out we'll have a couple of cars plus a Honkey-Tonk Piano and Bar Car, which will be added to the regular CN Transcontinental for the ride to Jasper and back.

OOK WEEK: Our first annual OOK WEEK is the 12th to the 17th and includes many activities all of which will be entertaining. Check out the posters and handbills, find out what's going on, get a few people, form a team, and join in. Or . . . just come out and have a look.

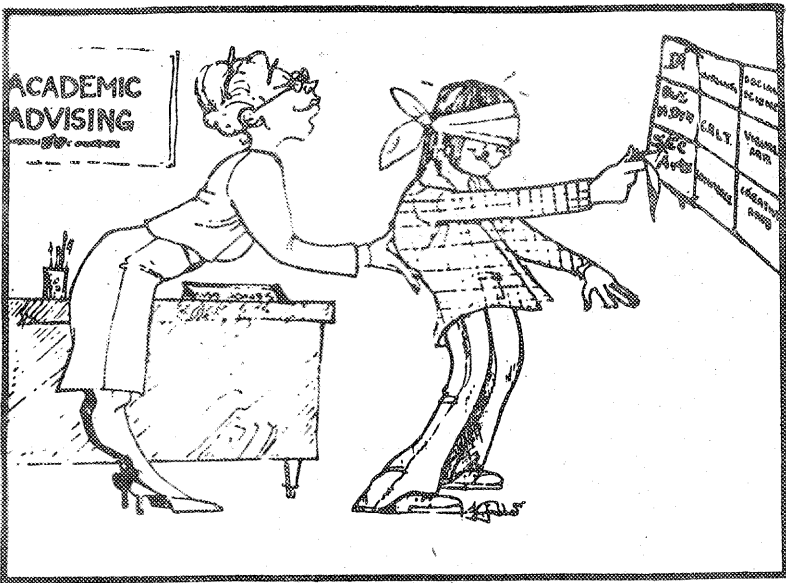
SHINERAMA is a pretty big annual project. It involves NAIT students going out into the city in teams and shining shoes. All donations go to the Cystic Fibrosis Foundation to help kids with CF. In addition to the aid which we are able to provide, Shinerama is excellent PR for NAIT students. We also stand to win seven kegs of beer from SAIT if we collect more money.

Finally, all you first year students should watch what's going on this

continued page 2



GREG LESIUK



EDITORIAL

Did It Ever Occur To You That

"Did it ever occur to you that NOW is the future you longed for several years ago."

On behalf of myself, the rest of my staff and the new staff members we hope to have within the next couple of weeks I welcome you to NAIT.

For those of you who are new around here, NAIT could best be described as a glorified high school with all the trimmings. It wasn't me who originally made this statement but I would have to say that it best describes NAIT, at least from the students point of view. You see, NAIT is a big high school in a sense, its main difference is being that we have more recreational facilities, more cabarets, pubtimes, leisure hours (for some students) and more freedom to a certain degree. Here students are not forced to attend classes or do homework but likewise it is the student who suffers the consequences not the system.

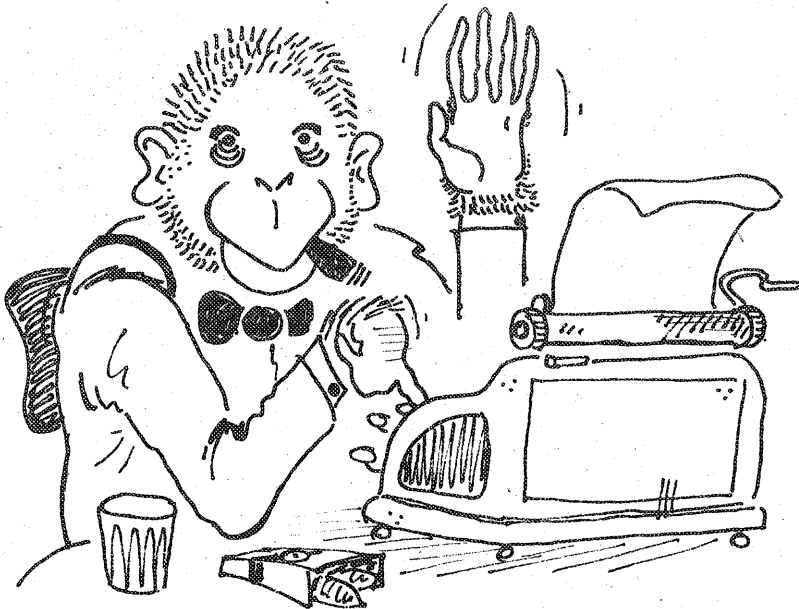
NAIT is the sort of place upon which your future will be built, as the degree you receive when you graduate (if you graduate?), and will open many doors for you in the job world. But that's not all NAIT is to the individual. Its the sort of place where a student is only as good as he or she wants to be. The opportunities to play on various recreational teams are unlimited, the chances to become a part of maybe even the leader of

your technologies club are unlimited. There's even the opportunity to get involved with the student council as a representative for your tech. It will give you the opportunity to see how student governments are run, and at the end of this "college" year, the opportunity to try and get elected to council yourself if you so desire. (Incidentally the first council meeting for this year takes place on Wednesday, Sept. 21st at 4:00 in the large cafeteria.)

Last year the big word around NAIT was PARTICIPATION and though most students did there part to support this cause it would be great to see even more people doing their part this year. If your not that much of a participater, then come down to the NUGGET office and become part of the staff, you have just as much fun if not more by reporting on other students activities. We've got lots of jobs down here and though most of them don't involve writing, the fringe benefits are the same for everyone. So drop on down to the NUGGET office at E 128 or phone 423 on the grey phones, we'd love to here from you.

So remember, personally I don't care what it is you as an individual do to help support NAIT's cause, just do something because the Future is NOW and I can't think of a better time for it to come.

JOIN THE NUGGET STAFF



If you can walk,
we have a
position for you.

POSITIONS:

- Sports Editor
- News Writers
- 'Lance Writers
- General Help

OOK WEEK

On Monday September 12th, the 1977-78 "college" year officially gets started for the 5,000 or so students here at NAIT. Not only does this week represent the beginning of the academic year, it as well is a week set aside for what is called OOK week. Since the Ookpik is the official mascot here at NAIT and nearly all of our athletic teams names is Ooks or Ookpiks, the changing of the name from Frosh week to Ook week seems appropriate.

During Ook week a variety of events and side attractions have been planned by student council and the various techs here at NAIT. Some of the events will be concerts on Tuesday and Wednesday with P.S. & Jamie and Paul Hann. Featured events such as the keg rolling contest on Thursday and the Dong show on Friday will be taking place as well. On Saturday a scavenger

hunt will be taking place and it will conclude in the arena. At 8:30 the beerfest will start and the band playing here will be "Fifth Avenue Allstars." The evening will conclude with the crowning of Miss Freshette.

All in all it should be a great week and one OOK of a way to get the year started.

WANTED

Two persons with a keen interest in hockey to act as statisticians during NAIT Ookpik homegames. Duties would include the recording and tabulation of various statistics related to the game of hockey.

Contact Dale Henwood, E-137, as soon as possible.

Inter-Varsity Christian Fellowship

All students who are concerned with what life is really about, and all who are seeking christian Fellowship. NCF is an inter-denominational student group affiliated with Inter-Varsity Christian Fellowship of Canada, the "Pioneer Camp" people.

NCF activities this fall will commence with a barbecue on Thursday, September 15th, at 6:00 PM, at 13928 - 115th ave. Students who need transportation will be met at the Technical (E) Building entrance on 106th street, at 5:30 pm.

Bible Studies will be held each Monday at 4:15 pm in room E-210, starting on Monday, September 19th. Watch the bulletin boards for further details.

GREG LESIUK (continued from page 1)

year because next year it will be your turn to make a go of it. Because most of you second year students will be hitting the streets of the real world in nine months, take advantage of what we are offering while you still have the chance.

Things will change for the better only if people are aware of problem areas and willing to do something about them. Read the NUGGET so you'll know what is going down and the rest is up to YOU.

MAIL'S OUR BAG



All letters will be accepted. Noms de plume will be honored, but real names and phone numbers MUST BE INCLUDED ON ALL LETTERS. Please limit letters to 300 words or less. Libel and slander will NOT be printed.

ATTENTION TECHNOLOGY REPRESENTATIVES

Council Meeting

Wednesday September 21 st

4:00

Small Cafeteria

FREE COFFEE — DOUGHNUTS

the Pleasure Chest



- Lotions
- Marital Aids
- Satin Sheets
- Vibrators
- Intimate Apparel
- Erotic Literature
- Antiques

11830 - 103 STREET
PARK PLAZA SHOPPING CENTRE
479-5242

HOURS:
10:00 a.m. to 9:00 p.m. weekdays
10:00 a.m. to 5:00 p.m. Saturdays
RESTRICTED ADULT

ON THE ROAD AGAIN

BY Steve Heckbert

From Horseshoe Bay I beelined to Mike Wareing's place; I got Ian Drysdale and Mike to Drive me to my cousin's in Port Coquitlam, so I could thumb out on highway 7 and not get busted or hiking on the freeway. What did I see there but a yellow Volkswagon bearing New Brunswick plates?! Commenced the Second annual Re-Union of the Younger Heckbert Men.

I raps on the door and a black fox opens, casting me a quizzical glance. I'm not to be deterred; Is th'r Heckberts in there? She nodded, opened wide. We all went inside. Bob and Don were all smiles when they saw me; we split a welcome home pipe and bolted for the bar. Ian and Mike soon begged off; that left the four of us - the boys and Sadie, the black woman who'd apparently moved in with Bob after his marriage to the high school

sweetheart fell apart. A jim-dan-English band was putting out good head-snappin' rock and roll up front. In no time flat Don and I were bouncin' around the dance floor, ringed with the beguiling smiles of lovebirds.

In the morning, after a big breakfast, Don asked: 'How 'bout we all pile into the Volks and I take you out to Hope?'

That'd be hard t' take."

Bob stayed home to keep Sadie company, and Blondie and I pulled out at 9:30. In agassiz we visited the billiards hall for three

games of snooker, as we had a year earlier. Someday that boy'll learn to shoot...maybe.

'So how was the north country? 'Not bad, not bad. Sure is a change-- just blue 'n white, that's all there is. Hard t' yer on the same planet.'

'Ya? Sounds queer -- any wildlife?'

'Little bit -- arctic fox, dozens of em.. hang around camp like dogs. First one into the' cookshack at supertime.' Don laughed.

'Hungry buggers, eh?'

'I guess. Every now 'n then some Eskimo'll shoot'em all. Forty bucks apiece for the pelts. Some 'skimo trappers are makin' big bread up there.. sixty, eighty thousen' a year--'

'Is that right?'

'So they say..course a white man can't shoot anything..get skinned alive if he did.'

'Oh ya. I guess they wanna cut down on that, eh?'

'an'there's caribou, an' lemmings...those liddle mousy, y' know? the ones'at drown themselves in the ocean periodically, t'keep eown th'population?'

'What? Drown themselves... t'keep down th' population...'

Well I guess nobody understands too well why they do it, but they do. An' there's ptarmigan, snow partridge, y'know? Real stoopid, don't give a shit fer nothin'... walk in fromna the Nodwells, run em over'n Nodwells, run 'em over'n they don't squawk a bit.'

'Dey don' car fer too much, dem?'

'No, man, dey don' dat's for shore. An dere's da musk ox. None of dem I saw. But I hear when dey have a t'ret, lak from wolf, dey gadder inna circle, de un-breakable circle dey call dat, an put dere horns out. Dey won' charge, but when you try fer get indide, by gee lookout, dey put dere head down and paw da groun',and you don' got pas! Dat's how dey pro-teck dere young one, see?'

'O, dere in da middle, dere.'

'Yes dey are so.'

'Well holy sonuva... And we smiled into each other's eyes until we near went off the road.

'Boys, Calgary is a nice town.'

'It is, eh'

Ja, you wanna go dere, you?'

'O not me, no Me brudder says I godda be home in time fer supper.'

'O ya, well, I thought I might be able ta suck ya into somethin there.'

'Ah, no chance, no chance.'

'O all right, I'll ge alone, then, if I hafta. This place ain't so tough anyhow.' We arrived at the scene.

'Well there y go, cous.'

'Thank y'kinely, ol' buddy. Se ya in Baddurs'this summer.'

Sure will.

This guy latched on to me, a young fellow in a little toyota or so. Headed for Boston Bar at the very least and possibly Kamloops. Selling something...stereo sets, if I remember right. We blew past Boston Bar like it hadn't opened...near Lyton my man inquired:

'Would you like to smoke a

joint? Always did have a soft spot for hootch, and like a fool I said sure. We'd been having our troubles sustaining a conversation and the dope got things royally.... I'll cheerfully shoulder half the blame, though the idea of blame

might be wholly out of place. As it was, I passed the trip perusing the canyon and that mysterious boardwalk way up on the sagebrush hills between Kamloops and Cach Creek. I jumped out on the service ship. Thanks a lot, buddy.'

(What do you say when your cake falls flat? Should'a told him I'd write about him. But then he'd likely have held me in dread.) Immediately a surly Indian brave and his alluring squaw gathered me into their beat-up half ton.

Lost Forever

by Stafford Lake

Yes I know her

we did some time together

she was neurotic and naughty

open and very kind

Under the darkness of morning

thinking of a shower and a shave

she opened up and said,

will you make me come in my heart?

Orgasms are empty

where there is love

for them to flow

I left the bed and dressed

and never turned my head.....

WANTED

Trainer - Manager

The NAIT hockey team requires the services of two persons to act as trainer and - or manager for the upcoming hockey season. Responsibilities include the performance of a variety of duties related to the day to day organization and operation of the hockey team.

Experience is not necessary.

If you can be of assistance, please contact Dale Henwood at 477-4340 or drop by room E-137.

TECHNOLOGIES

Pick Your Choice

For Your Miss Freshette

Candidate and Get Her

Name Into Scott McConnel

In E 133.

STUDENT LOANS

If you have a Guaranteed Provincial or Canada Student Loan and are continuing full time studies you must restate that loan PRIOR TO THE EXPIRATION OF THE SIX MONTH EXEMPTION PERIOD.

You do this by (A) obtaining the necessary Reinstatement Forms from your bank, or (B) negotiating a new Certificate of Eligibility. It's your responsibility to maintain close liaison with your bank and maintain your loan in good standing.

Right now check your latest copy of the Certificate of Eligibility or Reinstatement Form for the latest academic year and date. Your exemption period expires six months from that date. Even though you may have applied for further financial assistance, this does not automatically reinstate your loan, and negotiating a Canada Student Loan does not automatically reinstate your Guaranteed Provincial Loan, or vice versa.

If you fail to reinstate your loan within the stipulated exemption period you will be required to pay the interest charges accrued up to the reinstatement date.

How to be sure yours continues:

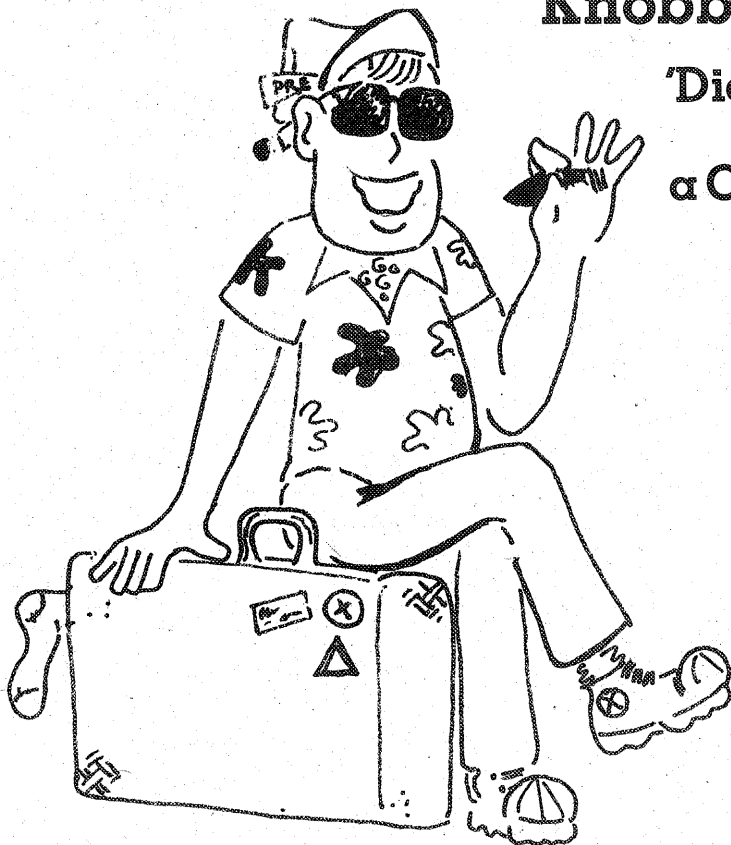
NOTE: You will not be required to pay interest charges on your Guaranteed Student Loan until the six month exemption period has expired. If you should reinstate any payments on your loan prior to expiration of the six month exemption period be assured that the payments are being applied only on the principal, no interest charges have been assessed by the bank. **MEDICAL and LAW STUDENTS** Upon graduation you have a six month exemption period. In addition, upon application to the credit institution (bank), a further 9 month deferment of principal payments only may be granted. This requires you to pay interest charges only for this period of time.

MEDICAL RESIDENT STUDENTS - You cannot be reinstated to interest free, full-time status. A Medical Resident Student is assessed tuition fees paid for by the sponsoring hospital and is in receipt of a salary and therefore considered to be gainfully employed. For further information or advice contact your bank or SFB in Edmonton or Calgary.

Alberta
STUDENTS FINANCE BOARD

Knobber Bones

'Diary of
a Countryman'



'Hoot gets looking pretty scrappy every two years or so. He lets his hair and beard grow out in messes all over the place. He says it hides his face, and he likes that because he's so shy. I don't believe that for a second. What I do think is that he had terrible experience with a barber before he was born. Whatever it is, he sure doesn't like to get his hair cut.

as soon as it became alright to let your hair grow out, young Hoot quit going to the barber shop. For nearly ten years now, I really don't think he's been in the big chair more than four times, once to get ready for you know whatcharge, and three other tim-

es because he could hardly walk, his head got so heavy.

For about a month now I've been dropping gentle hints that maybe it's that time again. I say subtle things like, "Hey Bush-head", or I say "Hey Hoot, where are you?", when he's sitting right beside me. Or sometimes, if I'm in a buggy mood, I just crank the blender up and come at him with it.

It's not that I mind him wearing such long hair. It provides a good handle to pull him around with when he needs pulling around. It's just that he drops hair all over our place - even in the peanut butter. Whoever takes our apartment after we leave will be sure we kept some great, monstrous animal in there.

He's also so defensive about it. It's fun just pickin' at him. I know he really doesn't mind.

Anyway, yesterday we were walking past the NAIT barber shop, and by quite an involuntary action I hip checked his right through the door. The busy girls looked up from their work, and gasped a collective gasp. Talk about a barber-trainee's nightmare.

The fellow at the door, like a good teacher, seized the opportunity to completely bewilder is students, and had the dazed Hoot in a chair faster than a wink. Too much action too fast overloads Hoot, and I figured maybe about fifteen more seconds before he came around. In my minds eye I could see Hoot drowning me in the swimming pool, or locking me in the sauna overnight.

But the plastic sheet was on him, and the chair was tilted back as far as it could go... and still Hoot wasn't leaving.

He tilted his head, and looked over at me. Two coal black eyes were laughing at me thru a haze of hair, beard, and eyebrows. He lifted his hand ever so slowly, and pointed at the chair next to him. Who was I to argue?

Walk a block a day -
It's the first step.
Walk a block today.

by Richard for Carol

by Richard

for Carol

Chopping frenziedly at accumulated ice:
a man in the street.

a thaw has set in:

slush runnels carry a winter's snow away, but
slowly

as--thunk, thunk--the axe grounds itself

here again ... again, again

biting, gouging, releasing. . .

streams carving channels cool and sensuous,

rushing channels full of joy.

By next morning

the black-topped tarmac will be bared again.

The man pauses,

and discovers,

that my feet are wet.

review copy

Cover Your Ass

by Bureaucrat X

publication: September
price: \$8.95

Now, from Hurtig Publishers, a smashing inside look at what makes bureaucrats run . . . and hide. Read behind-the-scenes accounts of the incredible and sometimes zany games that provincial and federal bureaucrats play. And their devastating effect on the Canadian public and government expenditures. You'll want to put *Cover Your Ass* on your shelf of self-defense manuals, right along side of *The Peter Principle*, *Parkinson's Law*, and the best of James Boren.

Hurtig Publishers
10560 - 105 Street
Edmonton, Alberta T5H 2W7

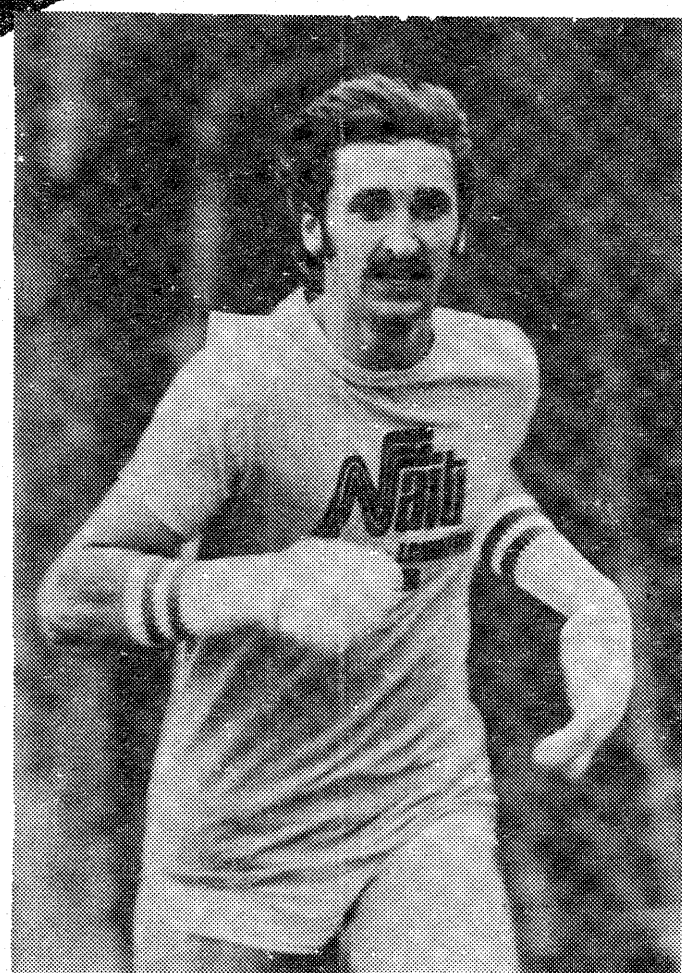
Nait CROSS COUNTRY TEAM

Organizational
Meeting

TUES. SEPT. 13

5:10 p.m. - Gym.

Coaches - John Reeves - S-109
- Frank McNamara - J-105



MEN & WOMEN WANTED

Dear Technology Reps:

Congratulations on your new positions. I hope I can count on you for continued support in the activities being planned for the coming year.

Attached is a schedule of all the Ook week activities. This year

Ook week begins Monday, September 12 and concludes September 17. Also, there are applications forms for the events taking place during the week. Please note all DEADLINE DATES!

I hope you will get involved in all activities being put on. It is up to you to get your technology to

participate and show your new Frosh that you've really got spirit!

If I can be of any help, please phone 477-4327 - Black phone, or 431 - Gray phone, or drop in to Room E-133-C.

Sincerely,

Scott McConnell
Activities Chairman
NAITSA

OOK Week '77

WELCOME FROSH!

Here is a list of all OOK WEEK activities for your enjoyment... Get involved & HAVE FUN!

Monday, Sept. 12 * Club Displays

Intramural Information

Tuesday, Sept. 13 * Concert - 11:30 - 1:30 p.m.
- Auditorium

Wednesday, Sept. 14 * Concert - 11:30 - 1:30 p.m.
- Auditorium with Paul Hann
Bar-B-Q - starts 5:30 p.m.
- Cafeteria

Thursday, Sept. 15 * Keg Rolling Contest - starts 11:30 a.m. - Football Field
- cash prizes
- trophies

Friday, Sept. 16 - * Dong Show - starts 11:30 a.m.
- Auditorium
- cash prizes
- trophies

Saturday, Sept. 17 - * Scavenger Hunt - noon til 8:00 p.m. (concluding in Arena)
- Beerfest - 8:30 - 1:00 a.m.
- Arena with
"Fifth Avenue Allstars"
- Crowning of Miss Freshette
- Beerfest

*** Late entrants may register with the Activities Chairman in Room E-133-C no later than 3:00 p.m. the day before the event!!!**

***It's Your Week . . . Get Involved!!!**

NAITSA GAMES ROOM

There's

Your Supplier Of: Hockey Sticks

POOL TABLES

Hockey Tape

PINBALL GAMES

BOWLING ALLEYS

Pucks

FOOSGALL GAMES

Badminton Birds

Racquet Balls

Curling Brooms

Bowling Shoes

ANNOUNCING

OUR NEW

WINTER HOURS

Mon - Thurs - 11 A.M. - 8 P.M.

Friday - 11 A.M. to 6 P.M.

SKATE SHARPENING

Starts October 4

ONLY **75¢**

IN BY 2 P.M., OUT BY 5 P.M.

DOWNSTAIRS ACROSS FROM MENS LOCKER ROOMS IN
E - 25



students association

NAIT MUGS \$1⁹⁵

Racquetball Racquets
\$12⁹⁹
\$21⁹⁵

Squash Racquets
\$12⁹⁵
\$19⁹⁵

Lab Coats
65% Polyester
35% Cotton
\$12²⁵

Campus Kits
\$1⁴⁹

PHONE
477-4235

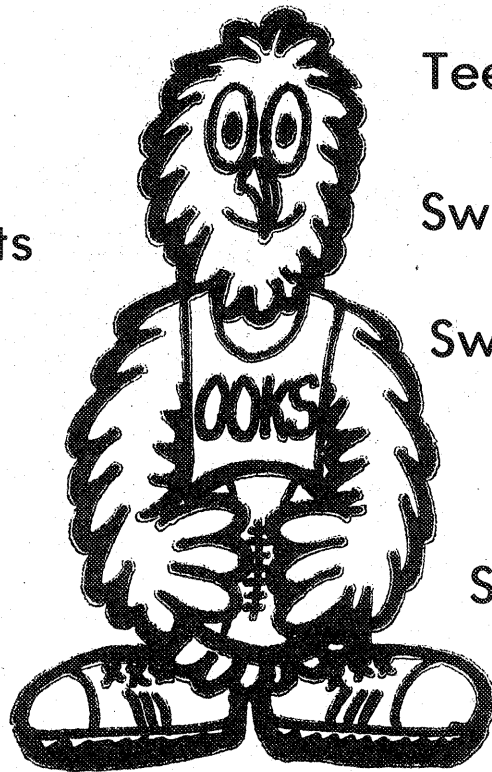
Tee Shirts \$3⁷⁵

Sweat Pants \$7⁷⁵

Sweat Tops \$6⁹⁵

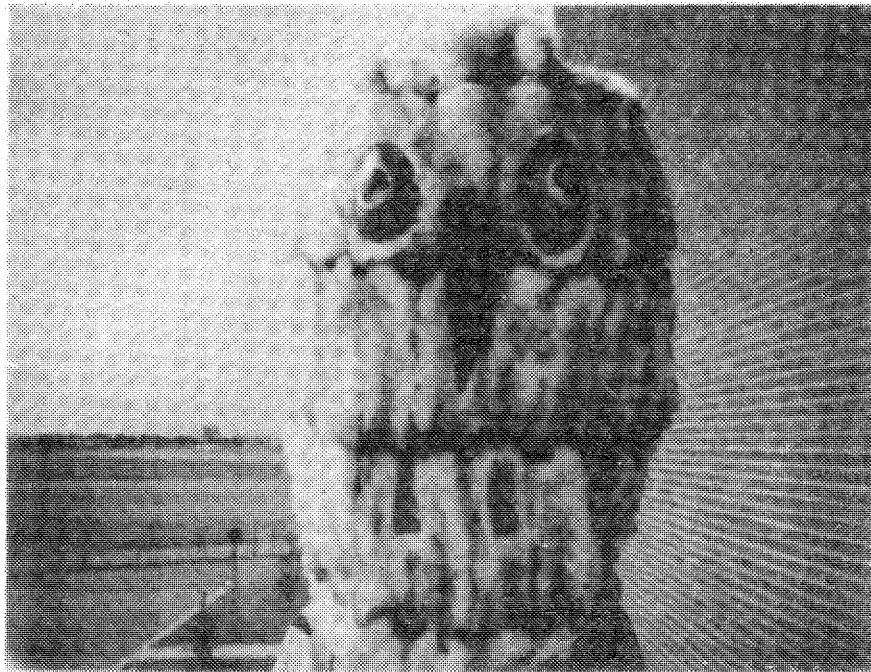
Personal Items

Stamps & Stationery



LOOKS STOP

The Ook Is Here



Everyone at NAIT knows the Ookpik is the official athletic symbol for the Institute, but how many know about the original Ookpik?

Each of NAIT's interscholastic teams are called the Ookpiks, or Ook for short, and the history of the game goes back to the early days of the Northern Alberta Institute of Technology. NAIT was opened in the 1963-64 school year to a handful of students.

Gary Meadus, who was and still is, Director of Student Services, busied himself with things like forming a student government, choosing school colors and starting athletic teams, the least of his worries being to pick a name or mascot.

The Department of Indian Affairs and Northern Development was aware of Gary's problems and decided to help him out in the mascot department. NAIT had welcomed many northern Canadians as students, and the Indian Affairs Department thought that a mascot would be a small

way to say thanks. Because NAIT was the most northern Institute of its kind at that time, they thought a northern animal would be appropriate. What better choice than an Ookpik.

And that's how we got our rather unique name and mascot. But is there really such an animal? Do Ookpiks really exist?

Of course! The Ookpik is Eskimo for Artic Owl and the name is given to a sealskin handicrafted model of the Artic Owl originated by the Eskimos. It's used often as a symbol of Canada at International Trade Fairs.

But how did the Artic Owl get the name Ookpik?

The story is very old, many many years ago in a small Eskimo village way up north, there lived a young boy called Inuk. Inuk was out playing in the snow one summer day when he saw something in the snow.

"Mother, look at this!" Inuk was running. He called out to his Eskimo mother and asked her to look at what he had. His mother waited at the door of the tent. She smiled to herself. What was it that so excited her son?

Soon he was at her side, all warm and out of breath. In his hands he carried a large nest. It was strongly and most cunningly put together with twigs and clay.

Inside the nest, resting on a layer of soft white down, was an odd looking egg. It did not look like any egg Inuk's mother had ever seen.

Where did you find this strange egg, my son?" she asked him.

"I found it on the cliff in the valley, Mother. It was firmly fixed

on a spur of rock. I had to climb part way up the cliff to get it."

"Why did you take it, Inuk. Why did you not leave it there so that the mother bird could hatch the egg?"

"Because of Kigovik the hawk," Inuk answered. "He was there by the nest. I got there just in time before he did to this egg what he had done to the other three. I know that the mother will not return to the nest. She will be afraid to do so after what the hawk has done."

"But, my son, even if the egg does hatch, how will you take care of such a young one? But I see that there is a crack. This means that the young one will soon leave the egg. See, it moves!"

"I will take care of it, Mother. It will be the young one of a hunting bird. I know that it will. They always build their nests high up on a cliff. We will get along well together. I am a hunter, and the son a hunter. It will eat meat, just like us. I will manage to provide meat for it." —Inuk gently put the nest down on the sleeping bench that filled the back half of his parent's tent. The tent was their summer home. He lay down on his stomach beside the nest. His head was cupped in his hands.

This is a strange looking egg, he thought. One might call it a round egg. But it was not quite round. In one direction it seemed to be a little longer.

The egg really looked as if it were made from something soft. It might have been squashed a bit.

"Mother, come quickly," Inuk called in great excitement. His mother, Nanarak, who had been outside of the tent scraping a sealskin, came in with the Ooloo knife still in her hand.

She sat down beside her son and watched with him. The egg rocked a little. The thin white skin inside the egg tore and a black line appeared on the shell. Still it held together. Then the woman put out her hands and gently took the egg.

"My son," she said, "it is a hard struggle just to be born. This little one in the shell is trying so hard. Let me help it a little."

Under the slight pressure of her fingers the crack opened wider. Then she let the egg alone. It moved this way and that way. It even rocked a little.

Then, wonders of wonders, something started to come out from the shell! Inuk at first could not tell what it was. The feathers or hairs or whatever they were, were wet and sticky. The little bird was really tired out it seemed.

Then all of a sudden a perfectly

round head emerged, with two large, glowing eyes and an owl's beak.

"What big eyes it has, Mother, and what a large beak," "Yes indeed, my son. But what sort of bird do you think it is?"

"Why Mother," Inuk said, as he gazed at the round head. "I think it is a baby owl."

This is a strange egg, Inuk. See how much the shell clings to the bird's body. I wonder what remains in the shell?"

As if in answer to the question, the little bird gave a wriggle and the two halves of the shell fell aside.

"Mother," whispered Inuk, "Look at it."

"Yes, my son, I see it. This little one that has come to our tent by your hand is indeed unusual. You speak well to say that it is an owl. It doesn't look like an owl. But first let us place it in a warm place by the lamp."

So the nest was set up close to the Kpplik or stone lamp. Nanarak trimmed the moss wick. Soon a lovely warm flame burned all along the whole length of the stone lamp. The little bird snuggled into the warm soft down that lined the nest. It tried hard to stay awake. Inuk watched the eyes close and open once or twice. Then it fell asleep.

Inuk reached out his finger and stroked the bird very gently.

"Mother," he said, "this little one is so soft."

While Inuk sat and watched, his mother hurried to speak to the old woman. She was old and wise, so Inuk's mother asked if she ever heard of a bird like this one.

The old woman came and peered into the nest. In the light of the lamp her wrinkled old face showed astonishment.

"How frightening," she muttered almost to herself, "it is as if one should be afraid of it. But it is so round and so different from the other birds."

"Oh, my grandmother," said Inuk, calling the old woman, "what kind of a bird do you think it is? To me it looks like a baby owl. This is why it looks different. Do owls look alike? Have you seen one like this before? What name would you give it?"

"I don't know," said the grandmother. "This is one for which I cannot readily find a name on my tongue. I, who gave a name to every person in our village am unable to do this for a bird."

"What about the great round head, old one? Why should it have such a large head? Do any of our legends tell of a bird like this one?" asked Inuk's mother.

"The old man is the only one who knows about our legends and

he can no longer see. But one day Inuk must take this to him. From what I know, one would expect much wisdom from such a large round head. It resembles an owl, as the boy says, and the silent one who flies and sees well in the dark does possess wisdom. It also seems to be a gentle bird and one that will do much good."

Together the three left the tent after carefully closing the flap. They wanted the little bird to rest well after his ordeal.

In the evening, Inuk's father, returned home. He had been hunting seals all day on the ice. His cloths were still wet from crawling up to the seals. Inuk's father sat on the sleeping bench and began to take off his wet clothes. He extended his arms to warm his fingers at the flame of the lamp. At that moment the little bird awakened and stood up. "Hey," gasped Inuk's father as he saw it for the first time, "what is it?" Little wonder that he was taken by surprise. He had gone all day and knew nothing about the exciting events that had taken place.

He went closer to examine the bird. In the glow of the lamp, and in the dusk of the tent at this evening hour, the little bird's eyes fairly glowed. Each little hair on the large head was erect. A halo of light surrounded the entire head. It was a most appealing sight.

Just then Inuk burst into the tent, accompanied by his mother and the old woman.

"Father," the boy called to his father, "have you seen the nest that I brought home from the cliff, and what has come from the egg which I took before Kigovik could get it?"

"Yes, Indeed Inuk. How surprised I was to find your little friend here and so comfortably settled by the lamp. You were wise to take the nest when there was only one egg in it, Inuk. But what sort of bird is it, does anyone know?"

"Well Father, I have tried to find out from grandmother as to whether our people have ever spoken of such a bird in their legends. Do you see it's round body and that large round head?" said Inuk's mother.

"Yes, it looks like the large owl that sees so well in the dark," said Inuk's father.

"And the feet are large enough so that he will walk on the snow when it is soft, just like Achigyak the partridge does," said the old woman as she warmed her thin hands at the lamp.

"But he must be given a name, Inuk. He is your bird. What are you going to call him?" asked Inuk's mother, as she swung the

cooking pot over the flame.

"What shall I name him?" Inuk gently lifted the bird from the warm nest. He held him at arms length.

The round head and the unblinking eyes faced him.

"I shall give him the only name that comes to my mind. There can be only one name, which surely will be on many lips. I name him Ookpik, that is what his name will be, Ookpik the owl. (reprinted from "Two stories of Ookpik", by Dudley Copland).

Inuk was a very intelligent young man. Every year the word Ookpik is on everyone's lips. Everyone who knows anything about NAIT that is.

So much for the history of the Ookpik. Now a little bit more about the NAIT original. Since 1963, the Ookpik has been kidnapped so many times no one knows for sure the exact number. Those big ugly SAIT students were the worst culprits. They used to make a habit of coming to steal the Ook. They'd do almost anything to get it too, break windows, get into fights, drive madly through city streets and any number of other death-defying feats to obtain the priceless owl.

It was given up for lost at one time, SAIT had it for almost two years. NAIT's Student Association had another one made, but it was only a reproduction, not the original.

The fake Ookpik can be seen in the trophy case in front of the gym, but the original is safely tucked away somewhere. It's just too valuable to be left on display.

So now you know the absolute true story about the Ookpik.

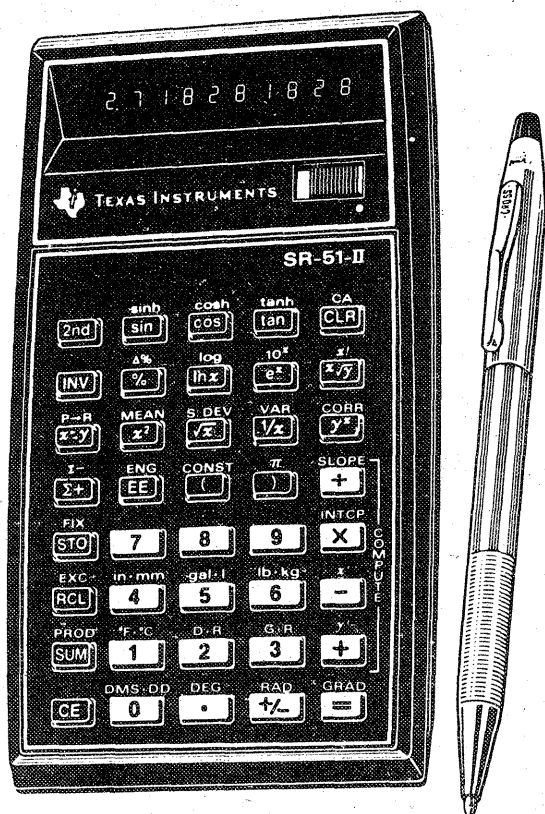
NAIT's athletic teams are fortunate in having a name that probably no other team in the world can boast of. There's only been one problem in regards to the name . . . what do you call a female Ookpik?

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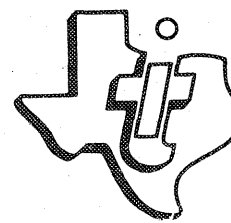


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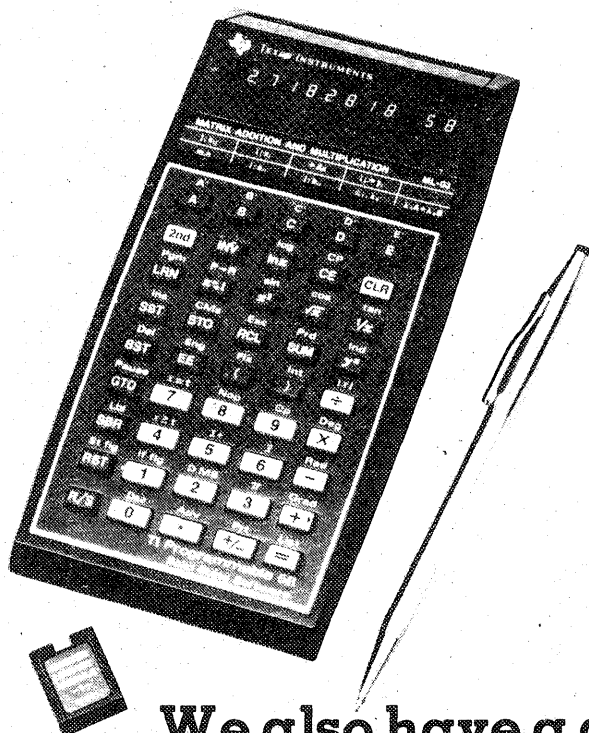
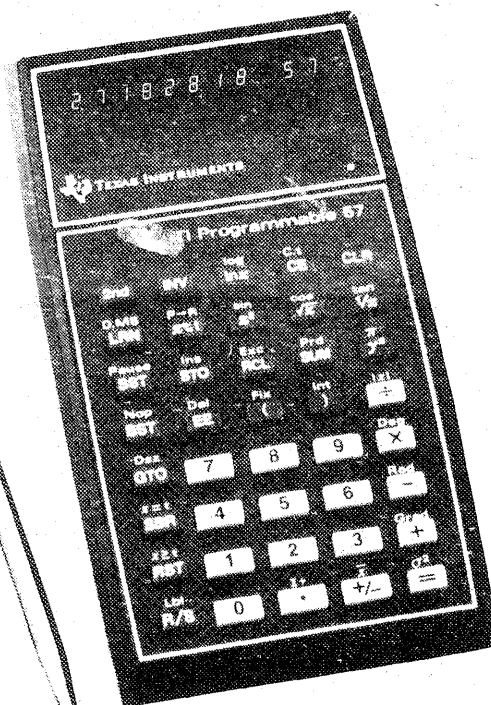
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