

Tri-Beta

**Teresa Tadalán
Margaret Currie**
Reporters

This month Tri-Beta members were able to attend the Regional Meeting of Tri-Beta Districts One and Two (held in conjunction with the Association of Southeastern Biologists) in Charlotte N.C. Other colleges attending the conference included the Citadel, Loyola, Georgetown College, University of Western Kentucky, and the University of Florida. During the weekend Tri-Beta members attended various seminars on subjects ranging from plant geology to ichthyology (the study of fish).

They were also able to give the other chapters present an update on the latest St. Andrews Tri-Beta research. Brian "Rock" Herbert, after leading club members in an extensive research project delving into the mysteries of brown adipose tissue, was finally able to present a paper on this project entitled "Energetics: A Preliminary Study on the Total Energy Dissipation for Thermogenesis in Warm Acclimated Wistar Rats".

Even though the St. Andrews Chapter was a new-

comer to the District 1 Regional Conference, they were able to contend with the more established chapters. In fact, they even received recognition for having the greatest number of members registered at the conference. The award is on display in the Tri-Beta office.

Tri-Beta would like to say a special THANK YOU to Dr. Norm Melvin for giving so much of his time and effort to Tri-Beta this year. Norm's input into planning and guidance of several club projects is greatly appreciated. He is responsible for initiating the Cheraw State Park Project and for giving valuable advice on the lake biomass study. He has also helped to organize the Tri-Beta Plant Sale and has been instrumental in bringing the carp to Lake Ansley Moore.

In closing our last edition of the Tri-Beta update for this school year, we would like to thank and recognize the years graduating seniors:

Chuck Corley, Mike Derrick, Howard Hall, Briar Herbert, John Lenham, and Warren Williams.

Tri-Beta wishes you success in your future endeavors!

Corley Published

Eric Eubank
Associate Editor

Earlier this year Charles (Chuck) Corley became the first St. Andrews undergraduate to publish a biology paper in a scientific journal. An abstract of the paper, entitled "Water Quality and Bottom Analysis of the Lumber River before and after the City of Lumberton", was published in the Journal of the Elisha Mitchell Science Society. This is a publication of the North Carolina Academy of Science.

From November of 1987 until February 1989, Corley conducted a biological study on the Lumber River. The project was originally part of a Norm Melvin Ecology Class during the Fall Term of 1987. Corley deter-

mined that the river was "basically healthy, but the presence of Lumberton did have some detrimental effects on the river."

"In December (1988) Norm and I decided that with some work, I could try to publish my findings," said Corley. In order for the paper to be published, it had to be presented to the North Carolina Academy of Science. The Academy determined that Corley's paper had the qualities needed to be published.

Corley hopes his work will influence other students to publish their research. "I think that this shows that undergraduates can publish their work. I hope other undergraduates will publish in the future. It's a good feeling (to be published)," said Corley.

Library Purchases BiblioFile

Elaine L. Franz
Contributing

DeTamble Library was fortunate enough to have a demonstration model of the BiblioFile Intelligent Catalog available on campus for the period of Feb. 20-March 17. The purpose of the demonstration model was to allow the St. Andrews community the opportunity to evaluate the catalog the library was considering as part of the automated system for the DeTamble Library.

During the period the demonstration model was available, 107 patrons completed questionnaires after trying the BiblioFile Intelligent Catalog. Of this 107, 96 were students, 6 were faculty, and 3 were staff. Two were from the community. The overall reaction to catalog was very favorable, with the majority of the respondents suggesting this was something that would really

benefit the library.

Since the library received a grant from the Pew Fund to be used specifically for automation purposes, the library purchased seven BiblioFile Intelligent Stations, plus the BiblioFile Circulation component. Probably three of the catalogs will be placed on the first floor of the library, two on the second floor, one in Burriss Center, and one will be used in the Technical Services Area of the library.

Some of the BiblioFile Intelligent Catalog features include the displaying of a map of the library. Patrons not familiar with DeTamble Library will be able to print out the map to carry to the shelves to assist in locating books. In addition, since the BiblioFile Intelligent Catalog is linked to the BiblioFile Circulation system, patrons will have access to immediate shelf status if any item is available for check-out. BiblioFile

even allows subject area and shelf-list browsing through the collection for serendipitous discoveries, just as with browsing through a conventional card catalog. Materials selected by the user can be printed in bibliographic form.

The equipment will be shipped to arrive after school end in May, and it is hoped that the catalogs will be operational by the beginning of the Fall term. The card catalog will remain accessible for at least a year to provide an easier conversion to an automated catalog. The BiblioFile Circulation Component may take longer to become operational, since each book in the library collection of over 100,000 will need to be bar-coded.

Information and assistance will be made available by Elaine L. Franz, Instructional Services Librarian.

Omicron Oracle

Christopher Walker
Contributing

If you are like most students, you will probably be working this summer in order to have a little spending cash during the next school year. Since you won't be spending all of your hard earned cash from this summer at once, you will probably need some sort of account to hold this money until you DO spend it. A checking account is easy to set up and convenient to use, since it offers checks and teller cards, but your money actually loses its real value if you don't earn interest. By real values, I mean that you will not be able to buy as much with your money during Spring Break next year as you could when school begins again in the Fall. One of the problems our economy has been subjected to during the twentieth century is a constant increase in the cost of food, real estate, clothing, gasoline, and just about everything else. This increase in prices is known as inflation.

Savings accounts and even some checking accounts offer interest on the money you invest. Banks offer interest as an incentive

for people to keep money in these accounts. Banks take the money that people place in accounts and use it to make loans to other people. SOME interest is definitely better than NO interest, but in the end you barely come out ahead, since inflation has kept pace with the rate of interest banks have offered for these accounts over the past decade or so.

What the typical student in college needs, then, is some type of account that will let him or her get money out of it when necessary, but will also offer enough interest to INCREASE the real value of the money that has been invested. If stocks and bonds are the first things that cross your mind, forget it. Stocks and bonds are VERY risky entities, and unless you are quite knowledgeable about them, I would not recommend this investment. But certificates of deposit ("C.D.'s) are becoming more popular, and are wonderful investments if you plan on saving ALL of your money for a year or so, but if you're like me and want to SPEND it, don't invest in a C.D.

What is left then? There is one investment that has not

yet been mentioned, one that I believe is a sound investment for the needs of college students in the predicament I first mentioned. Money market mutual funds are investments which, with an initial amount of only \$1,000, or more, pool your money with other small-time investors in order to give you a higher interest rate on your investment. You can make additional investments in this account whenever you wish (for any amount), which is great for work/study students or for those who work during Christmas Break.

When can I get my money out? After all, what's the use of putting my money in the account if I can't spend it during the year? When you invest in a money market mutual fund, you are given a checkbook. You are allowed to write as many checks per month as you wish (some banks offer mutual funds that only allow you to write 3 checks per month), but each check must be at least \$250.

This makes it hard to get cash out on a regular basis. But if you supplement a money market mutual fund

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