

ACT Weekend Leads to Good Interaction

On Nov 14, 15 and 16 thirty-five UPEI students met at the old Mt. St. Mary's Residence in Charlottetown for the A.C.T. (Adult Christian Thinking) weekend. The weekend consisted of a series of formal talks presented by students on subjects related to a true Christian way of life, followed by informal group discussions on the subject matter, with a few songs and a lot of humour blended in.

From our objective point of view the preceding is essentially the format of the weekend. From a human and Christian viewpoint, however, something far more intangible happened to the people involved on both an individual and collective level.

When the weekend began on Friday evening we were either strangers or knew one another without really knowing about one another. (One girl, for instance, said she never realized I was a Christian. For a moment I wondered if she previously felt I was a pagan who danced around pestilence to overcome the world. I never knew she was a vegetarian.) Now to this writer's knowledge no one in the group had any aspiration about future sainthood, so, barring an unforeseen shortage of saints, it is fairly safe to assume the people involved were simply ordinary students interested in probing deeper into the importance of Christianity in their lives.

During the next few hours of the initial meeting the group firmly, if silently, established the general rule for the week-

end; all human barriers were to be taken down and individuals allowed to express their opinions freely without fear of rejection. The result of this action was unique, if not amazing. An actual community, in the truest sense of the word, was formed by virtual strangers with the common goal of making the weekend a success for each individual and the general community.

Individually each person had the same opportunity of learning something truly significant about themselves or their way of life in exchange for contributing comparatively little in terms of time, energy, and thought. Some perplexing old questions were answered and some new interesting questions raised, but generally, each individual left the week with a refreshed and strengthened attitude towards Christ's role in their life.

There was also a feeling left with the community in general. For this writer to try and express it is pointless, since one young lady beautifully expressed it during the weekend. She wrote; "Our attitude as Christians toward others should be as true, living examples of God's love. In this type of community we are sharing this weekend it is relatively easy to live and love in union with Christ. But what will happen when we leave this environment? It is much harder to fulfill our Christian commitment when we are surrounded by others who are unaware of God's loving influence in our lives or plainly just don't care.

Yet we must actively try to portray, through our own humble attitudes and mannerisms, that God is beside us and all we need do is reach out to Him. Through the grace of God perhaps we will influence others to at least seriously think about God's love for us. It is up to each one of us to carry the influence of God's love surrounding us here, out

into a world where we may or may not be rejected. But with the gift of Hope, perhaps our task will become a little easier and through this gift we will find the strength to carry on to live a life actively committed to God's will."

The next A.C.T. weekend will be sometime in March and you are invited.

Jack Hanley with some help from new friends.

Photo Club Sealed

On Thursday, Nov 20, at 5pm the door to the photo club was sealed by the Student Union in reply to photo club proposals printed in the Cadre that week.

The problems arose when the finance committee (budget committee) arbitrarily decided photo club members were to earn \$1,000 for the Union, while operating on a budget reduced \$300 from last year. Student Council passed that budget on Wednesday, and on the following Monday the club chairman and the yearbook editor passed in resignations. Later that same Monday, Ray Shalala brought in his proposal. Club members discussed that proposal and came to an agreement.

Sometime late Thursday or early Friday, one of the club members entered the darkroom to find a list of these proposals in what appeared to be a slightly altered form. Again members met and settled on all points. Ray Shalala was away for the weekend, so the Cadre was given the list and its alterations to publish.

On Wednesday, a student waiting in the Student Union office heard plans to padlock

the darkroom being made in one of the offices.

Thursday, apparently while waiting for a reply to an ultimatum, several lockers in the darkroom were broken open and member's personal equipment removed. Also removed from the darkroom were some inoperative pieces of photo club equipment.

The final result of that "game", as an executive member termed it, was to dissolve the photo club, and possibly deprive the yearbook of pictures for this semester.

Apparently these actions were necessary for the executive to realize how much of the club's operations actually depended on member's personal equipment. Club members believe they were victorious, though at their own expense. The club is to be re-established next semester with new members and is to have new operating equipment, the single major request of the former members.

It has not been made clear whether the new members will have to supply pictures other than Cadre photos.

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