

# State of the union address

by King Brown

As my term of office draws nearer to an end, I would like to rekindle some imbedded thoughts. This year, through the Executive's initiative and with Council's blessings, we pre-viewed and reviewed the union's structure, role, and responsibility. Such a task led us to meet with past and present members of the UPEISU. Their input gave us a sense of direction to look beyond today. It is at this point that I for one instinctively feel the UPEISU is entering a period of continuous revamping.

Our willingness to take on the task of an internal overview made room to introduce an open door policy. We foresaw that by opening the doors of the SU wider than before, a gradual flow of different ideas may enter the rafters of the Barn. Financial and other incentives were implemented to

attract various student groups. Council, executive, and voluntary/non-voluntary members also shared the ideal to involve in their areas of concern a variety of student interest. The struggle to get an increasingly diversified student body in SU activities is a goal not yet accomplished. Therefore, such a goal should be a top priority of all future councils.

UPEI is one of the few post-secondary institutions which maintains a very democratic governing role. The University's Senate and Board of Governors contain representation from almost all facets of the university. Sub-committees of these two bodies further play this democratic action role by making sure the composition of any committee is wholly represented. The SU input on these boards may be altered any time if we do not heed the responsibility.

It is our duty to the student body to insure the voice of the concerned is heard. A prerequisite should require the interested student(s) to categorize his or her priorities. Thus, one can be assured adequate time is available to fulfill the job's requirements.

Attitudes, a psychological function, has received little attention from the past and present UPEISU Councils. You may well ask how one combines beliefs, feelings and actions within a SU. Ah, my friend, it is not hard; first you ask yourself where is the Barn located? #&%&\* that's right, down in front of parking lot "F", a long walk from the centre of campus or the library. I do not agree with such a presumption in the mental sense. Why? Because the location of the Barn should have no bearing whatsoever on the variety of functions it could be used for. Moreover, the scenario created through its location and character gives the Barn a rural setting, one of the few vital parts of PEI's economy. So I humbly ask of you to consider these above points and reconsider some you may have of your own.

A second attitude which is prevalent around campus is the UPEISU's cliché image. I will not deny that groups of friends use the Barn more than most students. Why not? At least they have an interest to come down and see what's going on. I say with the deepest appreciation that if these students had not bothered to take the time for a visit, much of our activity work would have went undone. Our interest and reliance on these small or large groups will remain if future

councils do not institute policies that encourage a variety of student/faculty participation.

Last, but not least, is the existence of a feeling of lack of student involvement, a curse afflicting many students' unions. This apathetic (its distinguished label) attitude has caused lots of debated on the part of both sides (student populace and council) over the past years. We have placed the blame on students, whereas they point to us for not providing activities which interest them. Where do we find a common ground? I recommend Council diversify their functions and students keeping an open ear on what's going on down in the Barn.

To put my address into a different perspective, I now move onto the recently accepted UPEISU Restructuring proposal. Before getting on to this topic, I would sincerely like to thank Ivan MacArthur (chairman) and the other restructuring committee members for the many hours and valuable input they contributed to the final draft. Also, I extend special thanks to the students and councillors who attended the 81 Spring General meeting. The changes outlined in the MacArthur report (the name it adopted) were by no means an issue for the 81-82 incoming executive. Basically, the objectives of the report were to cut costs and increase efficiency and student employment within the Barn. We (committee members) felt changes in these areas would keep pace with the present and future state

continued on page 9

## Brown's ten building plan

by Dan Daniels

Today, amidst much publicity, Student Union President Philip Brown announced his new "ten building plan".

His old ten building plan, on which he was elected, had a scheduled expenditure of \$10.3 million. Unfortunately, even after Philip's self-imposed 5% pay cut, there was not enough money in the budget to proceed with the planned expansion which included the construction of new residences, a new sports complex and a new Student Union Center.

The new streamlined plan which is more budget minded involves putting existing buildings to better use. Scheduled changes to be made during the summer of 1981 are as follows:

- 1) In keeping with his "students first" policy, all students presently living in Blanchard Hall, Bernadine Hall, and Marian Hall will have a better residence in which to live during the next school year. The new residence, now known as the Robertson Library, will be able to accommodate six students per average sized classroom, as well as an additional 200 on the second floor.
- 2) The new library on

campus will be situated in the Main building.

- 3) In order to accommodate the enormous number of volumes in the Main Library, all professors will be moved to new larger offices in the former residences.

- 4) The only element of the old plan which is contained in the new plan is the transformation of the Alumni Gym into a museum.

- 5) The new UPEI Gym will be situated in the former Psychology Lab. Among other things, this should make for much faster paced basketball games, as the opposing baskets will be only 25 feet apart and the court 7 feet wide.

- 6) The New Building and New Annex will be converted to retirement homes for UPEI professors.

- 7) The treatment and addiction center will be annexed by UPEI to allow freer access to the many students who could benefit from its facilities.

- 8) Finally, in keeping with the feeling that the S.U. building should be more centrally located, the Barn will be moved into the quadrangle between Cass Chemistry center and the Main Library. This should prove no problem once the trees are removed.

**HUNGRY?**

**NEW TO THE FLEET:**

**BURGER SUB    EGG SUB**

**TUNA SUB        FRENCH FRIES**

**GREAT FOR A SNACK!**

**892-0611**
**892-7354**
**838-3412**

CHARLOTTETOWN MALL
115 KENT STREET
MONTAGUE