

SU execs. report

"Communication the key"

A communication network between the UPEI Student Union Council and the student body will be a major goal for this year, said SU President Michelle Dorsey at the Council's first meeting this year.

Dorsey wants members of Council to act as liaisons between the body and students, sub-organizations, faculty, the Alumni Association, residences, and the Women's Centre Committee.

The new emphasis on transmitting opinions and news both ways will "require a lot of work from Councillors," but Dorsey feels it is part of their mandate, and prefers it to past year's when many Councillors were at a loss as to how to serve their constituencies.

"In the past, we've been negligent in academic matters," Dorsey admits, "but we're here as students first, and we have to protect our education."

The fourth year student wants the Student Union to have an effect on policy at the provincial government level, pointing out that unlike other provinces the Education Minister is very accessible here.

"We don't want to be just caretakers for a year."

The meeting also heard reports from the four executive members on how they had spent their summer!

Dorsey met with provincial Education Minister Leone Bagnole; planned both a workshop on student aid and a massive birthday party-barbecue for UPEI's fifteenth anniversary this Thursday; hosted a conference of Atlantic student government presidents; attended two conferences on Canadian Federation of Students (CFCFS); and completely reorganized the Student Union files.

Les Smith, the SU's Vice President External, despite remnants of a hoarse voice left over from Orientation Week, reported on his charges: CIMN, the newspaper, and the yearbook. CIMN has installed a broadcast Newscasts. The *Netted Gem* put out a small Orientation issue and is working on recruitment, and, after Smith attended a SUNS (Student Unions of Nova Scotia) Conference

Vice President Internal Howard Beattie, a past CFS-Services veteran, was elected to the board of CFS's travel agency, Travel-CUTS, and is now treasure on the Board. He too attended two CFS conferences, as well as an entertainment conference given by COCA (Canadian Organization of Campus Activities) which showcased Canadian bands and gave workshops on booking and dealing with agents.

Beattie says work on the improved Panther Lounge facilities have been going as planned, with \$11,500 budgeted for two signs, a dishwasher, glasses, an ice machine, a lit show, and a stand-up bar. He told Councillors of a poster Calendar the SU had printed over the summer; 500 copies of it will be given to residence students and them on a first-come first-served basis at the Barn.

"I didn't go to any conferences," admitted Treasurer Ken Mutter, saying he was kept busy as the only student rep

30 pizzas a night

Barn gets pizzeria

By Carolyn Ryan

Move over, Little Christo's. Here comes Saga and the Student Union.

During the summer, the SU executive decided to go ahead on a Saga Food Service proposal to install a pizza oven in the third floor Barn kitchen.

Student Services is also involved in the deal, which VP External Les Smith calls "a needed service to students".

He quotes statistics which say residence students order about thirty pizzas every evening from Charlottetown pizza restaurants.

If the operation works out, on-campus delivery could begin within a month of the opening.

This may take a while, as Council voted last Sunday night to delay a final approval until a contract can be worked out, with an opt-out clause if the Student

Union is unhappy with the consequences of its action.

Under the current verbal agreement, the Student Union will receive a percentage of the profits, and reserves a voice in some operating decisions such as hours, building traffic, and pizza flow.

One idea was to have customers order pizzas in the Panther Lounge, to cook them upstairs in the now-unused kitchen, and to send them down via an existing dumbwaiter.

Councillor Mary McCarville didn't like the idea of busy bartenders having to take food orders and serve the finished pizzas during Main Events, and was



on the university Board of Governors. Much publicity was generated by the Board's decision not to extend the contract of UPEI President Peter Meincke after this year, and Mutter says the Board is worried about students' feelings on the matter.

After doing the books at the Barn until August 31, 1984, Mutter says the SU has a balance of almost \$10,000 going into the academic year.

Change of address for Gem?

Dean of Arts Verner Smitheram has made a proposal to the *Netted Gem* and yearbook for a change of address.

Currently, the two operations take place on the Fourth floor of Main Building. However, Main Building is badly pressed for office space, and Smitheram, who is in charge of space allocation for the building, has suggested that the *Gem* and yearbook move to the basement of Main, which will be renovated to suit their needs.

Representatives from the Student Union and the staffs of the two organizations will assess Smitheram's offer this month and make a decision.

Smitheram says the relocation would be part of an ongoing plan for re-designing Main Building, and has become more necessary after the Extension Department's move into the first floor office space this term.

If accepted by the students concerned, the change would occur sometime this term. Smitheram promised the publication of UPEI's weekly newspaper would not be disrupted at all.

seconded by VP Internal Howard Beattie, who, like McCarville, has worked bar in the Lounge.

Beattie was dubious about the dumbwaiter idea, saying, "People have legs. They can handle one flight of stairs."

Either cash or the food service's meal plan coupons will be accepted by pizzeria staff, the majority of which will be students.

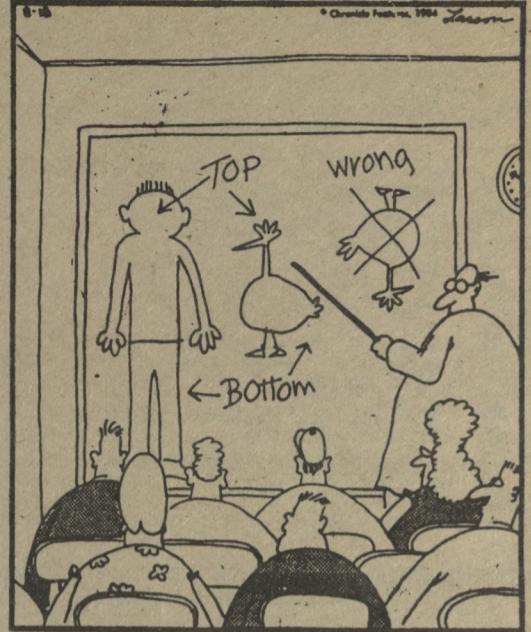
"It would be great if we could do it ourselves, but we just don't have the capital," Says SU president Michelle Dorsey, pointing out that installation necessary renovations, and other initial expenditures would be \$25,000.

As discussions on quality controls and contract concluded, the faces of many councillors assumed slightly hungry expressions.

"I could do with a pizza myself right about now," commented one.

Nine offices could be fit into the rooms now occupied by the paper and yearbook, according to the Dean.

THE FAR SIDE By GARY LARSON



People who don't know which end is up.

Loans hard to repay

by Jon Sullivan and Tony Sauer

"Student loans are o.k. to get, but they're hell to pay back," said Daive MacPherson, from Student Aid.

MacPherson said loans are based on financial need and are meant to cover tuition, books, housing, and transportation. The first \$2400 is given in loan, then up to \$1700 is given in grants, he said.

There is no limit to the number of loans a student can receive, he said.

Out of 1000 loans applications received last year, only 200 were rejected.

P.E.I. has introduced a part-time loan, for students taking less than three courses. Part-time loans go up to \$2500.

"This program got off to a tremendously poor start," he said, but added he hoped publicity would increase applications.

the amount in student loans is annually adjusted upwards, he said. This year it's \$5 more per week.

Once a student has left university, the first payment is expected in six months, but this can be increased to 24 if a person remains unem-

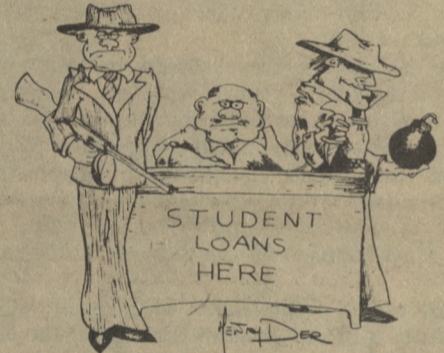
ployed.

The current interest is 13.75%.

MacPherson encouraged students whose applications were rejected to appeal their

2 or 3 weeks.

Student services can also help a student in financial trouble, said Marion Basha, a spokesperson for Student Services.



case. "Some students just start twitching when they have to deal with a bureaucracy."

"We deal with a snow-storm of paper, and sometimes we don't understand what a student is trying to tell us."

"Students shouldn't take the shaft and keep quiet. You should call or write a poison pen letter. Just because your loans been denied doesn't mean you're a dead duck in the water."

There is no deadline for applications, he said, and the normal processing period is

"We can loan a student up to \$100 in a crisis," she said.

But the university can't loan to a student who has outstanding debts, and the loan must be repaid before the student receives his/her marks, she said.

Michell Dorsey, SU president, said the workshop was the first one organized at U.P.E.I.

"Awareness on campus must be raised about (academic issues)" she said. "Past councils have been negligent of academic concerns."

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