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There are meetings open to anyone Mondays @ 4:30 in room 213 in the W.A. Murphy Student Centre. The Cadre is a full member of Canadian University Press (CUP). The Cadre is represented by Campus Plus for multi-market advertising. Campus Plus can be reached at 1-800-265-5372.

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Next meeting: Sept. 27, 2005 at 4:30
Next deadline: Oct. 7, 2005 at 5:00

But I digress...

Ray Keating
Managing Editor

So, last issue I told everyone about my background and urged you all to “seize the day”. I still think that’s a good plan, but there’s more to it than just that. We’re a couple of weeks into the year and for those of us who are here for the first time, the newness is probably starting to wear off. All the hype that was fed to you in your years growing up has proven to be just that – hype. You’re in classes, living your own lives, trying to balance everything and still get some good solid party time in. Everything is right with the world... this is how it should be.

So, you ask, now what should I do? Well, here it comes. You need to learn. When I say that, I want to be clear that I am making no mention of anything going on in a classroom. The key to learning, and I mean *really learning* is to accept nothing at face value. At every opportunity, challenge authority. Who the hell made them an authority anyhow? It would seem to me that the majority of people who profess to be an “authority” are self appointed. If we look back through history, these so called authorities have been the ones who subjected history’s greatest thinkers to persecution for challenging the status quo. Now... I know what you’re thinking... you aren’t big on persecution. I really don’t blame you on that one. The good news is, times are a bit different now than they were a few hundred years ago. You’re not likely to find yourself burned at the stake for expressing differing points of view. Wow... that’s a pretty big relief.

So, now that we’ve cleared the persecution hurdle, we’re in good shape. Maybe I should start off with a disclaimer... even though I’ve heard lately that any article that requires a disclaimer shouldn’t be written in the first place. I would like to make this a blanket disclaimer for anything I have

to say. So, here it is... I am not terribly inclined to go to great lengths to be politically correct, gender neutral, or any of the other things people tell me I am supposed to be. So, if you’re looking for me to stifle my commentary in that manner, go read something else.

Since I am not likely to be politically correct, does that necessarily mean that I intend to be politically incorrect? No. Not in the least. It means that I intend to express my views freely, without worrying about offending people. We got some flack last week for an article in Issue 1 that dealt with STD’s. It was pretty gross. In fact, I wanted to puke after I read it. I hope you all felt the same way. I also hope it reminds all of us that STD’s are a real issue on campuses around the country. Getting some STD that never goes away wouldn’t be a great way to remember your time here. One reader suggested I personally should be ashamed for having run the story. Ashamed? Not likely. I am proud to have run it.

As a student newspaper we need to recognize what we are. We are fringe media. We are the ones who aren’t limited by the confines of big business and corporate culture. We’re the ones who get to tackle issues without worrying whether people will still advertise with us. We are in a truly enviable position.

The great thing is that I really mean WE. That includes every last one of you. Did we gross you out? Did we offend you? Did we forget to talk about something important? Did go on about something stupid? We won’t know unless you tell us. Send us an e-mail. Challenge the status quo. We’re not the authority on anything, but challenge us anyhow. Tell us you hate the content. Tell us we’re boring you. We welcome your criticism; as long as it comes

attached to at least a couple of constructive ideas to help us improve. Of course, letters filled with gushing praise and admiration will also be welcomed with open arms.

Better still, if you don’t like what we have to say, contribute something and have YOUR say. If you do like what we’re doing, contribute something and help us to continue.

Address all contributions letters to the editor to: upecadre@gmail.com. The next deadline is Friday, October 7th.

The thrilling virtuoso traditional music band from Ireland

téada

Friday, October 7th, 8 pm
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5 Promenade Acadienne
Charlottetown

tickets available at
Confederation Centre Box Office
1-800-565-0278

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"Best Traditional Newcomers 2003"
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