

Now we start

The series started in a storm and ended in a storm, with relatively calm weather in between.

Let's hope the selection of a new President for our univeristy, which started last spring with controversy surrounding the non-renewal of current President Peter Meincke's contract, doesn't follow the pattern of its vital public lectures.

Everyone has been carrying on in a very civilized manner through the whole process - - almost too civilized.

But then again, picking a President isn't meant to be a circus, is it?

Certainly for the candidates, it wasn't. Six men (and oh, there's a small storm in itself) fly to the Island on successive Sundays, meet with the Search Committee for President, meet with faculty members, meet with the Board of Governors, meet with the public, meet with students, meet with everyone on campus who's interested, and for two intense days are asked over and over and over to state their views on liberal arts, the Vet College, tenure, research, affirmative action, and the role of President itself.

Certainly I wouldn't do it and then admit publicly, as black sheep candidate David MacDonald did, that I wasn't even sure I would take the job if it were offered to me.

One wonders if his hesitation was in place before he got here, or if it developed soon after.

Still, with all the frantic activity, constant monitoring, and overused muscles, the candidates are no doubt gladly esconced in their respective niches, their trial over.

Now the Search Committee's can begin.

Now, heaven forbid a decision has to be reached, among those ten men (same comment as before) from the Board and Senate.

Just as one might suspect, few people, especially students, realize the urgency of care about the results of this deliberation.

Sad.

Sad because for many people the university is exemplified by its President, and in many far-reaching debates what the President has to say on or off the record has a frightening power. Community relations, government discussions, university association meetings: in all these, the President is U.P.E.I.

No matter how the hockey team is doing.

So until the Search Committee, after hearing and reading submissions from those who have seen the candidates, makes its recommendation to the Board of Governors on March 25, we'll be left wondering and hoping.

Hoping that reason will prevail and the best candidate will be asked to "Come feel our warmth."

Because if it doesn't and he isn't, U.P.E.I. may be in for a long, cold, stormy spell.



Graphic/The Capet Times

LETTERS

Not secretive

Dear Editor:

As acting President at the last Student Union Meeting, I feel compelled to reply to comments made by Nils R. Connors in the past issue of **The Netted Gem**. I hope this will not appear as a defensive reply indulging in pointless rhetoric, as Mr. Connors feels that we, Student Council members, practice so well.

First it appears that Mr. Connors feels that the Council has a preoccupation with petty matters of missed meetings and impeachment procedures. I cannot stress enough the importance of Council meetings and in order for students to be represented properly, Council members must attend.

Also, by picking up a copy of the Student Union Constitution, which is available free to everyone on campus, and referring to Article 14, section E, one will note that attendance at a Council meeting is mandatory.

Thus I would like to suggest that to be represented properly is not a "petty" matter.

I do not feel there is secrecy surrounding the allocation of money within the Student Union, as the budget for the year was passed in an open council

meeting first semester.

Mr. Connors feels decisions are often made under conditions of secrecy and usually without any gauging of student opinions. All council members, including executive, are required to be full time students and therefor I find it impossible to make decisions without taking into account other students.

Furthermore, all council meetings are open to the general public and in the past year we have gone into closed session only three times when it was not required.

The first occasion was concerning a student at another Student Union in the Atlantic region, the second to discuss a proposal from Saga and Student Services, and the third to discuss a small line item of the budget.

I cannot speak for the rest of council as to why they voted to move into closed session, as a motion of that type is nondebatable, but can reply for myself by stating that I feel council could be more objective because of the number of groups involved.

Also, I did not want to see one group played off with another. The personalities involved and closeness of the general election played a part in my decision, as well.

Mr. Connors stated he would like to see the financial statements of the Student Union published in

Netted Gem. This request could be easily fulfilled by speaking to the Editor of the paper. If she felt it necessary, the Council would be more than willing to comply.

I realize the Student Union is the publisher of the paper, but the executive does not feel we have the moral right to dictate what the paper should print, as no one should attempt to control the press.

Another option open to Mr. Connors is to drop down to the Student Union office where he can pick up all the statements he would like to see. I must warn anyone that requests the information that the Student Union Treasurer must be given 24 hours notice to insure all statements are up to date.

This clause can be found in the Constitution under Article 8 section D, "powers and duties of the executive."

In closing I would like to encourage all students to attend council meetings, as well as take an active role in the upcoming elections to be held on March 13 and 14. Any information concerning Student Union meetings and there whereabouts can be directed toward Michelle Dorsey, Student Union President at extension 395 or any executive member.

Your input is always welcome and appreciated on any matter concerning students.

Sincerely,
Howard Beattie
Vice President Internal
UPEI Student Union

Aggravating scoreboard

Dear Editor,

I wish to make a minor complaint about an aggravating detail from the UPEI-UNB hockey game on Sunday, Feb. 11.

I do not know who is responsible but at various times during the game the scoreboard indicated such false scores as 13, 14, 24 and 93.

While I had no difficulty remembering the score, it was frustrating for people who had left their seats temporarily, especially since these sundry wrong numbers were left uncorrected for lengthy periods.

Generally, it was annoying! This, I admit, is minor and it may well not be the fault of anyone at UPEI, but if one does use the scoreboard, why lie?

I would think that someone in the Panther organization should be interested in seeing that both the scoreboard and the operator thereof, are functioning at full capacity when the playoffs begin.

A "class" team deserves a "classact".

Thank You!
Panther Fan

or
"Keep Them Guessing!"

Comment — house party

Blanchard Hall is having (will have had, by the time this is printed a house party, in honour of the U.P.E.I. teams that ranked first this year.

The Panther teams have done very well this year, and for that they are to be congratulated. But a couple of things about this party bother me.

Once again, a reminder that the ladies' team also put a good deal of time and effort into their sports. Could they not be remember too, and maybe even given a free beer?

Let's give them a vote of confidence too, and next year they could become winners on a national scale. But they won't do it without support, and don't they deserve some recognition?

The organizers are probably hoping to finance the freebies

for the team members with the money from extra beer sales to the jock-watching girls they will most likely attract to such an event.

This is disgusting.

These guys are human and, believe it or not girls, none of them is perfect. Whether they enjoy being idolized or not, they do not deserve it any more than anyone else. Sure, they're good at their sports, but everyone has a talent. Why don't the exceptional academic, musical, or other talents receive the same treatment?

Equality is a nice word, but in order to add some meaning, women have to stop treating men as superiors. Females are great at complaining about being treated as inferior, but when will they realize they sometimes bring it upon themselves?

The Netted Gem

Volume 2, Issue 19

Thursday, February 28

Groan, grumble, gripe, growl gracious us, how absolutely icky it is to be back after our lovely week off. Oh well, only five more issues and six weeks of classes left ... sorry. Noone wants to be reminded. Today we are Robert Bodrog-Goodland, Glen Boswall, Kaberi Dasgupta, Carol Doiron, Lori Anne Heckbert, Ross Hartinger (Sports Editor), Jim Lai, Ron Lewis (Advertising), Brian Linkletter, Brian MacLeod (Photography), Jonathan Orlowski, John Pendergast (Constitutional Expert), Nancy Ross, Carolyn Ryan (Editor), The Shadow, Bob Stanley, Phil Stanyer (Advertising), Jill Warburton, Dave Yorston (Photography), and Michael Zinck.

Views expressed herein are not necessarily those of the Student Union, the staff, or anyone in particular. We reserve the right to edit copy for space, style, or legal reasons. Letters to the editor must be typed, double-spaced, and submitted before noon on Mondays. All letters must be signed by their author(s), but names may be withheld upon consultation with the editor. Phone 892-4121, extension 387. Staff meetings are Mondays at 6 p.m. All students are welcome to join the staff.