

EDITORIAL

Editorial Policy

LAST WEEK I stated that The Gem would not print any more letters calling into question the ethics or reputation of Professors Mazer, Percival, and Rahman. Well, since then we've received so many letters about the issue that I have invited both original

parties to contribute letters as long as they weren't libellous. Why? After a re-reading The Gem's editorial policy on letters submissions, which is "we will print anything except that which is malicious" By malicious it means 'libellous' or personally vindictive. So The Gem

will adhere to this policy and allow Mazer, Percival, and Rahman to continue should they wish. In fact, Rahman has a short letter in this issue. Don Mazer was contacted, but did not have time to prepare a response for this issue.

Alcohol Down Our Throats

WIN LOSE OR DRINK scream the posters around campus. 'Hmm,' says the average student, 'sounds interesting'. It turns out that the contest, featured by the Junior Class and sponsored by Island Breweries is yet another drinking game, one that rewards the winners of each round with the delightful opportunity to chug a glass of draught. Also, draws will be held each hour for a free jug and all you have to do to get a ballot is buy a jug yourself.

When will the student union stop allowing these kinds of 'games' to go on in our Barn? Games were you cannot play without getting drunk and to participate you must buy the product of one brewery.

The Hawaiian Pub sponsored a while back by the Student Union itself is another example. Sponsored by Molsons, this wet/dry pub had chug-a-lugs contests, give-a-ways, and the cooler stocked only with Molson products. Of course, the dry students weren't left out of the fun. For them there was a contest to see 'who could act the most drunk'. Delightful. In return for selling only their product, the students got a Hostess and DJ for the night, straight from Molson's.

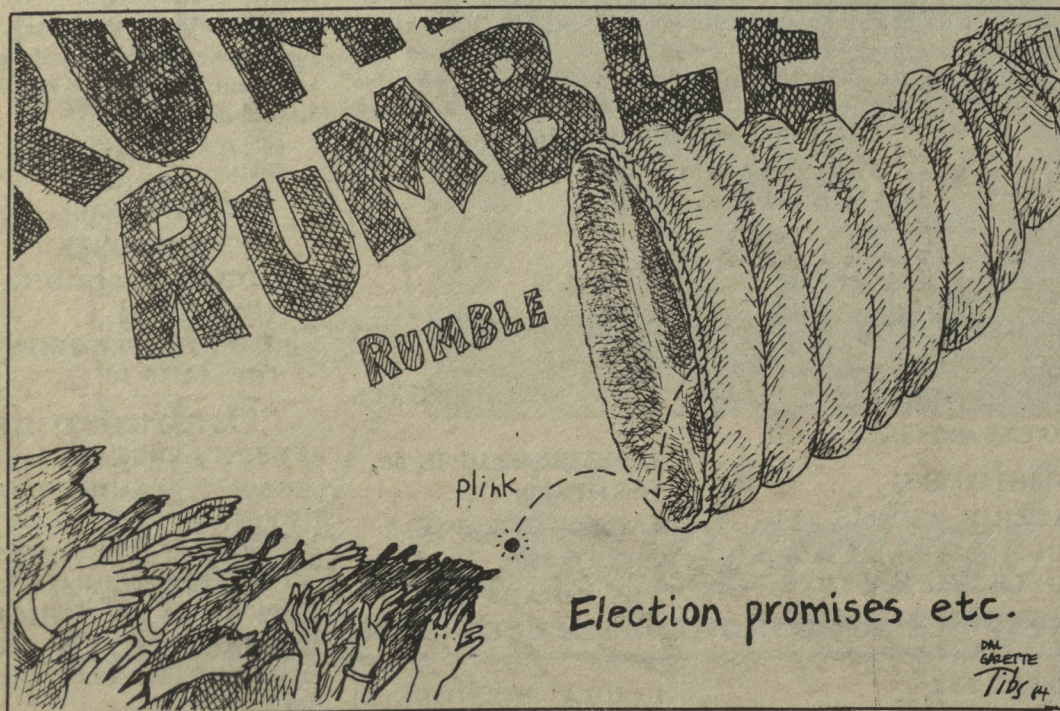
It seems that UPEI Students don't have the imagination to set up their own contests and sponsor their own events so they must bring in a beer company to do it for us.

The companies who sponsor these 'attractions' are interested in getting as much of their product sold during the night as possible and to get students who don't drink, either their brand or at all, to try it.

What kind of message is the Student Union, who condones and sponsors these activities, sending to students who haven't yet reached legal age? That you must drink to have fun at The Barn? That you must drink to participate fully as a student at UPEI?

If a person chooses to drink that's their decision. However, they should be allowed to choose what they drink and the quantity they can handle. When it comes to playing games, the same choices should be available.

—Derrick Webber



THE GEM

"The most essential gift for a good writer is a built-in, shock-proof shit detector."

— Ernest Hemingway

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The Gem welcomes contributions of articles, poems, short stories, or ideas. Please ask for a copy of our 'GUIDELINES FOR CONTRIBUTORS'. Contributions can be dropped off at the Barn, sent through VAX MAIL to GEM, or stuck on our door down in the basement of the utility building.

We cherish typed and double spaced submissions and submissions on computer disk or through VAX mail. For legal reasons, all submissions must include the author's name and phone number. However, names will be withheld from publication on request.

Deadline for submissions is Monday, 5:00pm

The GEM is published by the University of Prince Edward Island Student Union. Views expressed are not necessarily those of the GEM staff, the UPEI Student Union, or of anyone in particular.

We reserve the right to edit submissions due to space or taste limitations.

Our office is buried in the UTILITY BUILDING, Rm.01. Phone 566-0629 or 566-0530 or send VAX mail to account GEM.