



jo's

kampus concern

Students Unite

In the last three issues of the CADRE there has been at least one letter to the Editor which has condemned, ridiculed or just bitched about about the Student Union executive and the council. Such terms as "the elite" and "power trippers" have been used to describe position holding members of the Student Union. The Council has been ridiculed by people saying that members of council are making rules for their own benefit and all the council members are padding their pockets from vast monetary outlays from the Union. These preceding comments are common from people who have never come to a council meeting and never darkened the door of the Student Union offices. I'll bet that 9 out of 10 people that are doing all the complaining have never asked an executive or council member why they offered themselves for the positions and what they would like to see accomplished. No, it's much easier to complain than become involved. Involved - that's a dirty word on this campus.

It's funny, people can do dope, they can get drunk three nites a week and sleep around like it's going out of style; but if somebody gets involved, especially in the Student Union they end up being the topic and focal point of mass criticism. I'm not saying that S.U. executive, council and committee people are infallible but at least they're trying to make a students' life on campus a little better.

Now I can hear people saying "Those people are only there because of the money and the prestige." Well if you are one that thinks that, just ask these "elitist power trippers" and hear what they say. I'm sure you would be surprised at their response. Any person on council would probably give up their position in a minute if someone else came along and offered to do it. About 90% of the people who work in the Student Union (council members, committee heads and members), don't get a red cent for their efforts. They have offered themselves because they feel they can put some of their

Get involved to find out what's happening

Granted, most people of a bouyant nature go through their periods of wildness at University. Perhaps its the weather, perhaps it's their moods, or maybe it's the full moon. Who knows? But one thing that is strongly objected to is the fact that a certain number of people in positions of authority on this campus get away with murder as far as rowdiness goes. Yet these same people become the picture of beaurocracy and pure crap when it comes to their official duties, taking some kind of glory in wielding their authority. This is not a sign of power, this is an abuse of responsibility for which the people in question suffer no repercussions.

The main beef, perhaps, is the fact that there are people who get paid for duties which do not even come close to being fulfilled. This fact is apparent in most organizations of this campus, - Student Union, Radio Station, Social Committee, Campus Police, etc. Of course, in larger organizations there usually are areas that tend to

be slack, while others excell. And this is not an attack on these organizations. It is directed towards the individuals who are not doing their jobs.

Perhaps a lot of this irresponsibility can be thrown back to the students themselves. An aura of uninvovement and pure apathy has always enveloped the vast majority of the student body. U.P.E.I. is known for being a "good time" university, which has it's assets, but there is more to higher education than a good drunk or stone Thurs. and Sat. nights. Conceded, the University years are the best of one's life, (or so it has been said). Security, in having a circle of friends, the friendliness of the campus itself is a good excuse to want to become a professional student forever. But University society is a distorted reflection of the Big World out there that everyone is going to have to face at the end of four, five or even six years. (Some people have even been known to stretch it to

energies into constructive work for the benefit of others and not only themselves. The only recognition they usually get is a letter of appreciation or sometimes a pen from the Student Union for their year's effort.

Nobody can get any satisfaction if they don't make known what things they need to be satisfied. When you have a complaint or a suggestion, go to your council rep., or to the S.U. office or to the council meetings. Everybody is heard, even at the council meetings. The executive wants and needs your ideas. Those five people cannot come up with suggestions and ideas for the other 1500 students all by themselves. The twenty three council members can't either.

Get your two cents worth in to the Union. We all pay \$40 and we all have the right

as Union members to find out what's happening and not just guess about it. The council is running out of ideas of how to find out what the majority wants. Don't tear them apart just because they are on council. You voted them there - tell them what you want done. They'll do it or see that it gets done.

Students out-number all others on campus about 20 - 1 Let's make ourselves be heard as a united body.

This week's "Poke in the Ribs" goes to Sandy Gauthier from Student Services. On October she was nominated "Toilet - Paper Queen" and the crowning was held on her anniversary of one years' service to the Student Services department. Congratulations?!



seven for a bachelors degree!) The people who have made it to the upper echelons of student organizations, did not have to use serious ruthlessness or skill to get to the top. Usually its a blend of popularity and experience. And once there, where is the strong competition that is part of the outside society? This is why you will find certain people sitting on their asses with a position and a paycheck and this is why nobody really gives a shit about this just as long as involvement can remain confined to reading a few articles in the CADRE of listening to a few announcements on CSUR. To come right down to it, as

long as apathy remains at an all time high the not - so commendable behavior of some of the individuals involved (and the term is used loosely here) in campus organizations is not going to change. Student Union money and everything it controls and everyone it pays boils right down to the student. Maybe monetary matters hit closer to home, but as students do you care enough about your money to see how it is being utilized? Get involved, and you will find out things that both shock and please. But, if you don't get involved, well who cares anyways?