



O.K. Fred, let's talk!

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## Sportsplex

New \$7 million Recreation Complex proposed for UPEI location

At a noon press conference on Tuesday, October 6, Gordon Bennett, the Chairperson for the Steering Committee of the Recreation Complex, announced the proposal of a new sport and recreation complex to be built at UPEI. This facility will be for the joint use of the university and the Island community as a whole. Funding agreements have yet to be finalized, but funding for the construction of the complex will not come out of the university coffers. Ongoing operating costs will be shared between UPEI and the local community with UPEI agreeing to distribute as much as it is presently spending to

operate the rink and gym. The rink will be renovated to form a new "field house" and will greatly improve gymnasium facilities. A 25 meter swimming pool is also part of the package.

President Meinke has assured the SUN that any frill, costs, or operating costs that could be left out were cut from the proposal. It is his opinion that this proposal contains the minimum necessary to upgrade the UPEI sport and recreation facilities to a university level.

Note: Wheelchair accessibility and energy conservation, as well as maximizing solar energy resources, have been involved in the proposal.

For more details, see next week's SUN.

## Battle of Ideologies

Last Friday the first faculty seminar of the year was held. This marked the beginning of the seventh year of seminars in which time over 140 topics have been discussed, argued about, or chewed over in one form or another. The inaugural talk of this year's series was given by Professor Donald Nemetz, who spent six months in El Salvador during the '50's as an advisor to the government there.

Prof. Nemetz's talk evolved from his concern that in the game of international politics, the third world countries often become the pawns caught in the middle of a foreign ideological struggle. Whether the issue of foreign intervention in a country's affairs is for resources or political power (usually both), the result always involves an imposition of foreign interests on the existing native culture. "The road to hell is paved with

good intentions," Prof. Nemetz said in reference to the education, health, and social services policies which foreign aid undertakes.

The problems arise because, in almost all foreign aid programs, the good things are based on a literate nation; we teach people to read, write, and other skills but they have very little to read and no jobs in which they can apply the new skills. In developing health programs, foreign aid has been tremendously successful, the only problem is that food production often doesn't increase with the resulting population growth. "Then we have to teach them not to have babies", said Prof. Nemetz. "Success in one area creates more problems - problems which are often harder to handle." In summing up this situation Prof. Nemetz concluded, "We're not as clever as we think we are - not by a half."

This is the problem in El Salvador; American aid is backing the existing government in various areas of social services. To pull out now would mean leaving the Salvadorians with many of the problems which foreign aid has incurred in the first place.

Prof. Nemetz questions the journalists reports which are coming out of El Salvador because they don't grasp the whole situation - "not knowing what to believe I believe none of it". The problem with having the Americans pull out of El Salvador is that this "would automatically leave the field to the left". Prof. Nemetz questions whether this is right because it assumes that the left will do a better job than the government".

Because of this question about which reports to believe, prof. Nemetz cautions that "Canada should

avoid, too quickly, taking sides in this power struggle". Ultimately it involves a "battle of ideologies, which is something that these people (the Salvadorians) don't need."

Part of the problem hinges on the fact that the main export product in El Salvador is coffee, and that the thirteen barrels of oil which one bag of coffee bought five years ago, now buys only three barrels. Put this kind of inflation onto a country which has poor agricultural resources and a huge population growth and you end up with a serious condition that cannot be abandoned by foreign aid.

In conclusion, prof. Nemetz stated that "if their coffee won't buy oil then how else can they be helped?" There doesn't seem to be an easy or simple solution but we can "continue sending down experts" to help with sorting out the crucial areas such as "health and alternative energy".