

Depressions Cafe

BY SEAN DRISCOLL

HEY! You, the one holding this copy of the Cadre! Yeah you! How's it going? How are your classes so far? Say, do you want to go get a snack before next class? Great! Where do you want to eat? Well, I haven't got time to leave campus or get a big meal. I know, let's go to the Pit. Oops, sorry I mean Impressions Cafe. What? You only have five bucks on you? I guess you can't eat there. Maybe when your next loan installment comes in, we can eat there.

Did you ever notice how much you spend at Impressions Cafe for a little snack? I know. I know, you have to eat so you can be more productive in class. I hear ya. I needed a quick bite the other day between classes. I saw cold-plates in the fridge. Perfect snack for the pre-class stomach pangs. How much? I paid \$7.05 for a cold-plate and a milk. The meat on the plate was dry, the potato salad was runny and the cole-slaw...I am not even gonna go there. All in all, my stomach was still empty and my wallet was even emptier.

I tried calling that guy with his mug on the wall behind the cash. His name is Marc Hewitt and he's the GM of Cara Foods. He has his picture and phone number there so we can call him with any questions or concerns we have regarding Impressions Cafe. Guess what. Unfortunately for me, the phone number has not worked all

week. All I got was a recording saying, "the number you are calling cannot be reached from your area."

Then I went over to the cafeteria's supervisor and inquired about the prices. "The prices were approved by the university and it's all in the contract," she replied.

Lastly, after exhausting all the resources that might actually be able to answer my questions, I did a small survey this afternoon. It was simple: "What are your thoughts regarding the Pit, er, Impressions Cafe?"

Kristen Patterson remarked that "they certainly put enough money into the signage. I think if they put as much effort into the food quality as the did into their 'nifty' signs, this might be a place worth eating in."

Paige Murphy observed that "the sign says 'eat fresh' right above the not so fresh sandwiches, and pop, chips, milk etc... are all cheaper at the bookstore."

Rob MacIsaac said, "It's a great place to meet new friends, but the food is not so good and the prices aren't so good. And why is CIMN not being broadcast through the speakers in the pit? I want answers."

Steven Spencer noted that "the only good thing about Impressions Cafe is that it is quick, but there is no food here fit for a meal."

"There's not much food there. Some things are far too

expensive. Why are the tables bolted down? I'd like to see something like a 'do-it-yourself' sandwich bar, where you can add your own toppings and condiments," said Carolyn Hanrahan.

Other students said they had trouble finding a place to sit at Impressions Cafe. Maybe, Mr. Hewitt, some bar stools could be installed in the "Roller Rink" area located in the middle of the Pit.

Other students said they had trouble finding a place to sit. Maybe, Mr. Hewitt, some bar stools could be installed in the "Roller Rink" in the centre of the Pit.

Why were the prices at the Holland College cafe lowered? It's all the same company. Down to the facts. Times are hard. Students need to eat. Someone should be providing good affordable food. Students, I ask you to call email me with any comments I could pass along to Mr. Hewitt if his phone ever works, at <sdriscoll@upe.ca>

I feel, from my own experience, that the staff are all friendly and courteous people. Furthermore, the area is kept clean and neat, however, I get the 'Impression' from the above students and many others that we should rename the Pit. I mean "Impressions Cafe" to 'Depressions Cafe, 2nd Class Food for 1st Class dollars.' Maybe we can rename the Cara Foods to 'Don't Cara Foods.' What do you think, Mr. Hewitt?

Kneeling on the spiral staircase: islanders and others pack old home to hear words

By MICHELLE ROY

Beaconsfield Historic House filled with those wishing to honour and appreciate the history of the late Lucy Maud Montgomery on January 12.

Young and old crowded into the small room and hallways, and many even found themselves seated on the spiral staircase in efforts to hear the inaugural lecture of the Lucy Maud Montgomery Institute's lecture series. Dr. Bolger gave the lecture using the great writer's approach in order to speak about the Island lady who has given so much to so many people for so many generations.

Even for those who could not see Dr. Bolger, his voice still carried into their ears and through their hearts. Dr. Irene Gammel, co-chair of the L.M.M. Institute and professor at UPEI says that Dr. Bolger is a "born lecturer. He has a lot of charisma."

Dr. Gammel adds that "(Dr. Bolger's) lecture was a beautiful opening lecture to launch the series." Dr. Bolger speaks with a conviction that L.M.M.'s writings have an ability to touch us all.

Dr. Bolger explained how her works "commemorate the island" and he explains her true love of the island and its "pastoral serenity and tranquil beauty." This appreciation of the island, as Dr. Bolger explains, is not only apparent with "Anne" but in almost all of her other writings.

For one not familiar with L.M.M. one might think "Anne" to be an autobiographical character. Anne loves and appreciates PEI, she love to write, and in later books is even a teacher. Yet, Dr. Bolger insists these parallels are not autobiographical. "(L.M.M.) says she's not Anne but is closer to Emily." It is her "Emily" series that is just starting to get the recognition that it deserves. This lecture series coincides quite nicely with the "Emily" made for t.v. movie.

It was in 1891 that Montgomery got her first works published. It was a poem and as Dr. Bolger quotes: "It was the first bubble on the cup of success." Lucy Maud revelled in "(climbing) the alpine path to see her name in scroll" explains Dr. Bolger. She continued to write and to see that very same name in print.

Although her life itself was difficult; her childhood had "bruised her feelings", her marriage was not perfect, her husband was mentally ill, and she suffered the loss of a child; she gave readers many happy tales. "She is a great storyteller" says Dr. Bolger.

Dr. Bolger gives us two major reasons for the remembrance of L.M.M.: firstly, because of the quality of her writings and secondly because of her appreciation of PEI.

L.M.M. loved the sea, tells Dr. Bolger. She also loved the red roads when the dew is falling the stars are above her, and she feels like youth is not gone but is dwelling in the soul, recants Dr. Bolger.

Prince Edward Island is her home, her inspiration and her spiritual strength.

One of L.M.M.'s memorable phrases regarding PEI perfectly sums up the essence of Dr. Bolger's lecture: "Even if you are not Abegweit born, you will see why I have come home."

The L.M. Montgomery lecture series continues on Monday January 19th, when UPEI president Dr. Epperly speaks on L.M. Montgomery's visual imagination.

The last lecture in this series is on Monday January 26th when Jennie Macneill, the co-owner of the site of L.M.M.'s Cavendish home, speaks of life in the author's Cavendish.

Because of the popularity of the first lecture, the series will continue at The Carriage House instead of Beaconsfield. Lectures start at 7:00 p.m. Admission is free and all are encouraged to attend.

