

# Still fighting the foe whose name is Apathy

UPEI is a campus small in size and significance right? Nestled in a small city in, let's face it, a small province, it has a growing enrolment that probably won't touch the University of Toronto's for a couple of years.

Nothing much happens here?

Ha.

Last year the Atlantic Veterinary College about to be built on our former soccer field started attracting the interest and misgivings of even the most unconcerned groups of UPEIites.

The provincial government decided this "Animal House East" would be a good site for an undoubtedly much-needed nuclear fallout shelter, prematurely, it turned out.

Our soccer Panthers took the AUA title, and dropped a few jaws at the CUAA finals.

Senate dithered all year about a paper by a man named Smith which would have made an altered state of the university.

The UPEI Student Union passed a new constitution.

Security removed several flags from the rooms at Marian Hall while the owners were home for Christmas, then returned them in what could be called embarrassment.

Below the surface bubbled more. Much more.

A student newspaper that used to be called the UPEI Sun was picked up, shaken out, set upright, and given a prod in a new direction. The new name annoyed some readers, but they read it.

You see, the NETTED GEM had made a resolution to BE a newspaper about the time it decided to look like one. Typesetting and some help from a friendly Canadian University Press fieldworker

made the surface difference. The staff did the rest.

That's where you come in-for an experience that's going to be fun, chal-

*Questions to be tackled this year by the Gem:  
... Meincke?...Vet College?...Women's sports?...Part-time faculty?...Student Aid and our rights under a new government?...Lessons of the first fifteen years?*

lenging, and, if you feel like it, a little risky.

A lot of questions can be unearthed and address-

sed only by a curious, alert press. What led to President Peter Meincke's announcement last spring that he'd be leaving at the end of this year, having

been told his contract wouldn't be renewed for more than a year? Is there financial equity between

## What the Gem stands for

The GEM is a weekly publication of the University of Prince Edward Island Student Union, but fiercely guards its editorial freedom. Because we have this freedom, the Newspaper was admitted last year as a full member in CUP (Canadian University Press), a national cooperative body of over fifty campus papers.

The GEM holds three goals as sacred, to be considered before all else, and asks its staff to do the same.

First, the newspaper must provide "a forum for free exchange of ideas and opinions among, but not limited to, the students of UPEI."

Next, the GEM "shall provide current, accurate,

and unbiased articles on provincial, national, and international issues, but with the main emphasis on campus life."

Finally, we pledge to cover "all facets of university life", as far as is superhumanly possible.

These goals were established in a policy paper written last spring by a committee of newspaper staff and Student Union members.

A fourth goal seemed too obvious to add. The GEM, like its forerunners, the CADRE and the SUN, gives UPEI students a chance to become involved in a way that resume writers love; to learn; to enjoy themselves; and to meet other students with similar interests.

men's and women's sports at UPEI? Will the Barn be serving lobster suppers next summer, under Saga supervision? Speaking of sagas, what's to be revealed next about the Vet College by the powers that try to be? Who will be our Fearless Leader this time next year? Will the Pink Panther apply? And is he

hiding something from the Ethics Committee of Senate?

Here's a chance for you to shine. Ask some questions of your own. Draw an editorial cartoon with a witty bite of truth. Discover just what it takes to put together a newspaper--physically on layout nights, and dynam-

ically at staff meetings. Write a non-news feature about something that fascinates you about UPEI. Earn your own by-line. Come up and just talk to us.

It's up to you. Without people caring enough to join the GEM, it will not be able to probe, inform, amuse, or survive.

The student newspaper of the University of Prince Edward Island

## The Netted Gem

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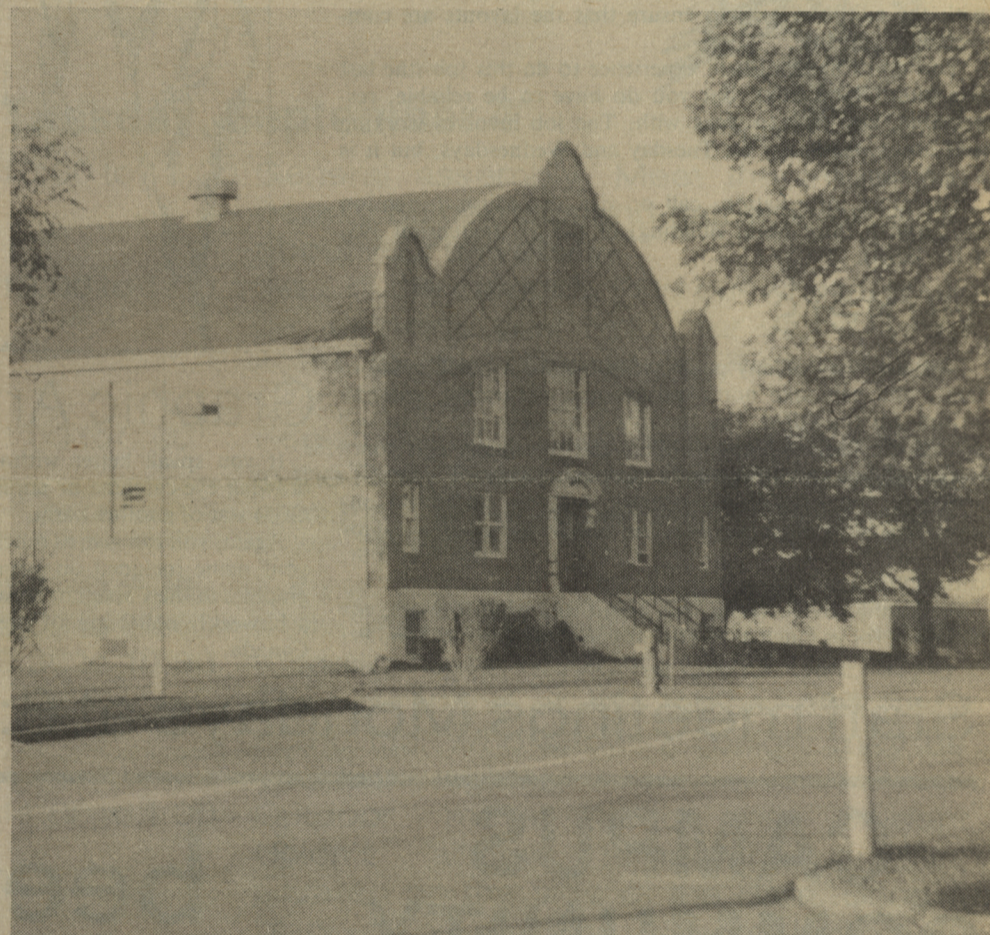


Photo: MacLeod

## A Week in the Life of a Gemmie

A NETTED GEM week starts at staff meetings on Monday night at 6:30 (to be negotiated with staff when class schedules are earned). There, staff members suggest and volunteer for story assignments, decide on a topic for the editorial, vote on policy changes, and air

problems. We also sort out details of pizza layout nights and such.

Stories must be on the editor's desk by Monday noon, to be edited and marked for the typesetter. This gives staff one full week to work on assignments--news stories are usually 1½ to 2 typed

pages.

On Tuesday, layout begins. Most of it is done in the evening, and the production team (anyone who wanders in) pastes the typeset articles to layout sheets the size of two regular newspaper pages. Ads, photos, headlines and graphics (mostly

cartoons) are added, and the whole thing is juggled until everything fits, or everyone falls asleep, whichever comes first.

Layout nights are when normally sane people are prone to fits of hysteria and/or giggles.

On Wednesday morning the finishing touches are

added, usually in a mad rush, and the layouts are sent off to our printer, Williams and Crue, around two in the afternoon. Bodies drift off to work on the stories they took on Monday night, and generally take it easy until the same time next week.

We're on the fourth floor of Main,  
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