

# Letters...

THE LETTERS PAGE is your forum of discussion. Please make your submissions legible to persons other than yourself. All letters are printed verbatim including spelling errors. Deadline is Monday before 5:00 pm. Letters may be left at the SU office in the Barn, The Gem office Rm.01 Utility Bldg., sent through campus mail, or sent via VAX mail to account GEM.

## COULD IT BE... SATAN?

To the Editor:

I've made a deal with the Devil! He said that his control was so great that I couldn't overcome it, but that he'd put me to the test if I wanted it. He said that if I could get all females in America to throw down their pants and come out with their hands up by Thanksgiving, he'd have all nations

throw down all their weapons for the good of Christmas.

But I believe that the forces of good are greater than those of evil. Does this community agree? If so, does the 1611 King James Bible say so? And if not, can you reason out why evil exists as

Dear Editor,

On my behalf, and that of MAPUS, I would like to express our thanks to Student Services, Student Union and the President's Office for their contributions towards the cost involved in sending representation to the Annual Atlantic COPUS Conference, St. John Campus of UNB, Nov. 6, 7, 8th.

I would also like to thank MAPUS for sending me as a representative.

Yours truly,

Paula Gauthier

a challenge to good? To help, consider that if reincarnation isn't true, it wouldn't matter about the evil if we had only one life. But eternal life "is" the bible.

Wayne John-son

16759 Meandro Ct.  
San Diego

## ADMINISTRATION PUNISHES

Dear Editor,

In the November 19 edition of the GEM, I submitted a Letter to the Editor which discussed the rights of the students when criminal charges are brought against them. Unfortunately, I failed to research the topic extensively, and there are a few distinct errors.

Throughout the letter, I made reference to the 'Senate Committee'. I have since learned that there is no such committee. The decisions that were made were done by Mr. Jim Griffith, Head of Student Services.

Secondly, there was, in fact, a crime committed on campus that involved the University. The students involved took the stolen items onto campus before they were caught by the RCMP.

Thirdly, in Mr. Griffith's decision, I stated that the students were initially evicted from

residence, placed on probation, and were given some hours of University work to perform. The decision for probation was actually only made after it was decided that they could stay in residence. Also, the probation only involves residence — it is not academic probation.

I still believe that Mr. Griffith, in his powers as Head of Student Services, acted prematurely in giving his decision. I feel that provincial authorities should have had priority, and that no decision on behalf of the University should have preceded the court date.

I apologize for all mistakes in the original letter, and I hope that this letter of clarification will present my position effectively to the entire University community.

Brian Cormier,

A Concerned  
Sophomore.

## SUZUKI AND SCIENCE

Dear Editor:

In last week's issue of the Gem, there was an article by James Connolly covering Dr. David Suzuki's talk at UPEI.

It quoted Dr. Suzuki as saying, "Science has to show that current ideas are wrong, and that only truth will stand the test of time." I recall Dr. Suzuki stating that more than 50 percent of the material in science textbooks are wrong, and that it doesn't make sense for students to study incorrect material incessantly. Also, he stated that one has to like nature, including ugly insects, to be a great scientist.

What he says may be true for some fields of science. But, as a whole, I think his statements about science have done a disservice to the understanding of science. As Nobel Prize laureate Richard Feynman said, "The basis of a science is its ability to predict. To predict means to tell what will happen in an experiment that has never been done. We must extrapolate the experiments to a region where they have not been done. If we do not do that, we have no prediction." And no science.

What is science? The astronomy textbook by George O. Abell states: "It is the testing that is the part and parcel of science. Science is not just a collection of

knowledge, of figures and test tubes. It is an organized method for exploring nature. Science involves three steps: (1) An observation or an experimental result is noted; (2) A hypothesis is advanced to describe the result in terms of a more general model; (3) The model is then used to predict new observations or the results of new experiments."

If all scientists were to follow this spirit of scientific inquiry, they would not make false scientific theories

which, unfortunately, end up appearing in some textbooks.

Students should rest assured that much of what you learn in many of the undergraduate science textbooks is correct. We should not waste time trying to show all current scientific ideas are wrong.

I will never understand why budding computer scientists must have a liking of ugly insects.

Jim W. Lai

# THE GEM

"Journalism: a profession whose business it is to explain to others what it personally does not understand."  
— Lord Northcliffe

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## This Week's Contributors:

Malcolm Gorrill, the History Society, the Bios, and many many more to numerous to print.

Deadline for submissions is Monday, 5:00pm

Please ensure your submissions are legible to persons other than yourself. We prefer 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.

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 limitations of space or taste.

If you are interested in learning more about your student newspaper, drop on down to our office anytime or come to our regular meetings Monday at 6:00pm.

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

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