

A problem for men too

SEXUAL HARRASSMENT

By Michael Zinck

Around the room we sit, not evil, not even really caring what's going on.

It's a discussion of sexual harassment, by men only. The men's forum at last weekend's ARCUP (Atlantic Region Canadian University Press) conference was on sexual harassment, but it didn't start that way.

For we all knew that men have nothing to do with this, it's a woman's issue.

So we sat there joking, wondering whether we should leave to get a few beer, or play a little pool, (including your writer, who sat with his feet up reading UNB's newspaper and loudly suggesting we should go drink a little as this was boring, a waste of good time).

Then it happened, Someone blew up, hit the roof, swore and was angry. He had been to over five conferences all with men's forums and had seen the attempt to pawn it off all as a big joke.

But to him it was real; he had been sexually harassed. And he didn't find it funny.

If you've never been consistently pestered and bothered by someone who wants you, and who doesn't understand the word no, then you don't know!

Things heated up at that point. He was not the only one there; of ten men in the room, two had been harassed to such a degree that they had left the newspapers they were working on.

The argument finally centered around the ability to know and understand *when* you've passed from showing an interest, to going after that women with a single-minded determination to get whatever you wanted. Yes, what *you* wanted.

For what the woman wants is unimportant, as you sit there looking them over, like a cattle auction.

How can you really understand what caring is about? You don't care about caring or feeling, you want them. Like the men in that room it's not your fault. We act, not think.

That is our first problem, and it leads to sexual harassment. What are we afraid of, losing something? What?

Our being a man. Does being an idiot make you a man? Ask a woman.

The understanding that every woman we meet will not be a girlfriend, a date, a lover or a wife, is not an easy thought to handle.

But without the realization that this is true, we are on the road to another case of sexual harassment.

As someone said, he had finally, after months of chasing a woman, asked, her if she felt a relationship would develop between them. She said no. It was the first time he had ever done this and it was hard.

It will be hard for you, too. It was hard for me, it still is.

Yet you can do it, you must. Women will not accept anything less, and they are not accepting excuses. If you're not out to hurt someone, then don't. If you do, then it *is* your fault.



This is the story of a little Atlantic Canadian University

It survived the Sixties
It survived Kent State
It even survived Watergate
But even it could not restrain the evil
which manifested itself

“One Weekend in September”

The UPEI Student Union, in co-operation with various subversive radical influences, presents “One Weekend in September.”

Starring the faceless few, the repressed many, and special guest stars, The New York Graffiti Artists Union-Local (101).

With special guest appearance by selected engineering students as “The Thought Police”.

Don't miss this shocking tale of how an entire campus went completely ribald, rabid and radical all in the course of one weekend.

“One Weekend in September”
Coming to your Campus this Fall

LETTERS

To the unknown irate golfer

Editor:

Regarding a letter about irregularities in the Business Society golf tournament which appeared in the September 27 *Netted Gem*.

It first should be noted that Windsor Wight has come forward and told the Business Society that he did not write the letter, someone signed his name to the letter without his knowledge or approval. Our response is to the unknown author — whoever it may be.

We at the Business Society can take a kick in the butt as well as anyone, but when the kick is coming from a misguided and misinformed person, we feel we must kick back.

In last week's *Gem*, an irate participant wrote that our golf tournament was unfair to non-Business students. He stated that we bent

the rules in picking the individual champ and that an equitable method was not used.

Well, participant, nothing could be further from the truth. How could preferential treatment have been given to our students when the winner of the tournament was a SCIENCE major?

The best business student tied for second.

Since you questioned our method of determining the winner, I will explain it in nice small words. The Calloway system was used to determine the top teams in the tournament. We felt that this would be fair due to the large number of non-golfers player.

We were right. The individual champ was determined by straight gross score. The lower you shot,

the better you did.

You think this was unfair to non-business students? We find proof that the tournament was fair in the fact that the winning team consisted of hackers who had never played before, excluding one player, and the individual champ was a science student. The winning team was not picked before the completion of the tournament.

Also, if you can see an analogy between our golf tournament and Alan Eagleson's handling of the Canada Cup, then you are the only one.

We find it unfortunate that you found it necessary to air your erroneous views in public instead of speaking to us first.

Co-ordinator
Valerie Campbell and
Jeff Dowling

The *Netted Gem* has been informed that Windsor Wight was not the author of the letter bearing his name in last week's Letters column. The letter, which criticized the Business Society golf tournament organization, was delivered typewritten on a sheet of loose leaf to our office last week. We would like to point out that people who are so scummy as to damage a person's reputation in this way are cowards with a sick sense of humour (if that's what it was).

The *Netted Gem* October 4, 1984

Volume 2, Issue 5

This week's good-looking and better-writing staff is: Kaberi Dasgupta, Robert Bodrog-Goodland, Melanie Clark, Bob Stanley, Jonathan Orłowski, Sandra MacDonald, Lori MacLeod, Ross Hartinger, John Dougan, John Pendergast, Michael Zinck, Tony Sauer, Lori Anne Heckbert, Jim Lai, Brian MacLeod, Carol Doiron, Ron Lewis, Phil Stanyer, Glen Boswall, Brian Linkletter, and Carolyn Ryan.

The *Netted Gem* is the student newspaper of UPEI. Views expressed herein are not necessarily those of the Student Union. We reserve the right to edit copy for space, style, or legal reasons. Letters to the editor must be typed, double-spaced, and submitted before one on Mondays. All letters must be signed by their author(s). Phone 892-4121, ext. 387. The *Netted Gem* is a full member with Canadian University Press.