

As Is

Featuring Bob Best

by Erin FAGAN

"You can write that it was an expression of anger (*cough*) anger (*cough*)."

This is how Bob Best describes his recent turn last week as *The Cadre's* "cover boy." He was "captured" by staff photographer Jonah Campbell in his black-suited, casket-pounding role during the Student Union's Halloween funeral procession for affordable post-secondary education.

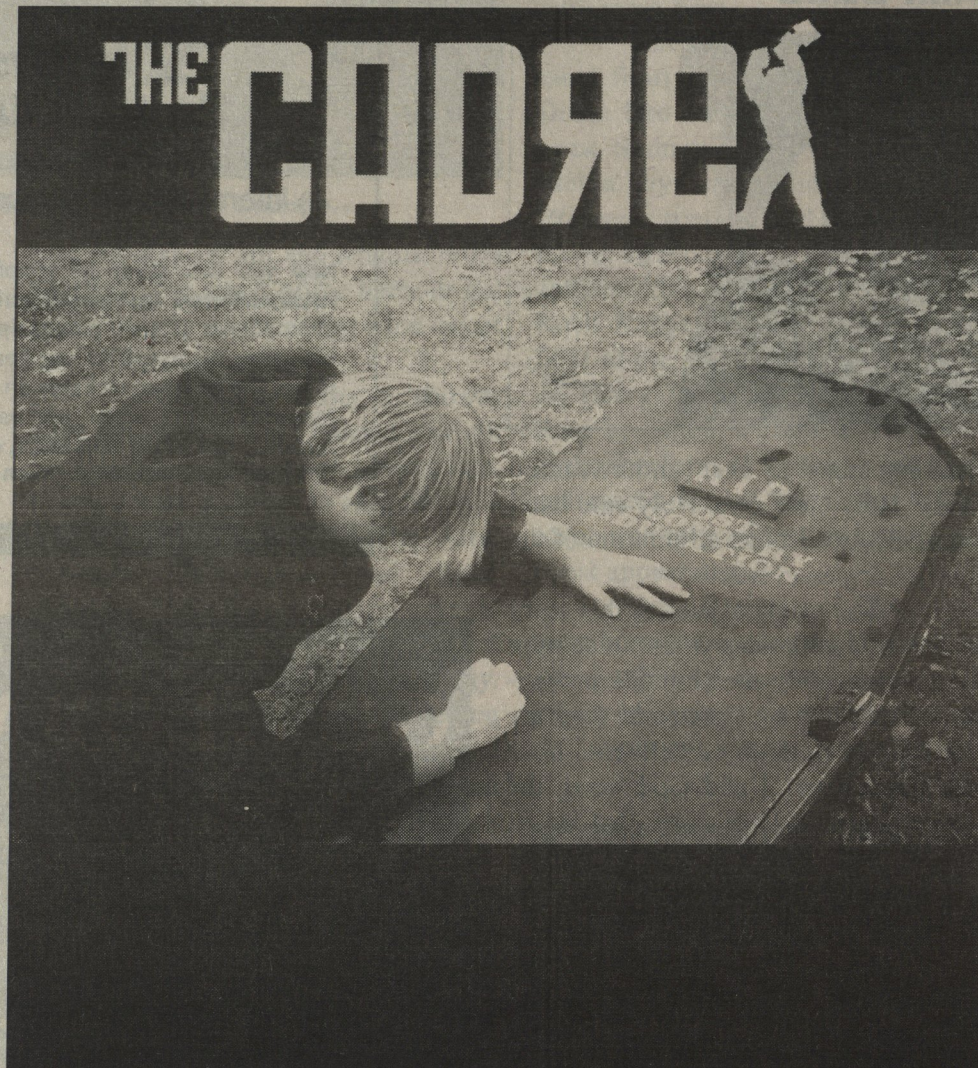
When Campbell, a friend-of-a-friend, asked him for that "spontaneous" moment, the second year Science Rep. said, "I'll do it for you, Jonah."

"Caolan Moore (the Vice-President of Campaigns and Communications) did a really good job putting that together," Best added, describing that, "there was all kinds of coverage for that." Along with the presence of *Live At 5*, *Compass*, and *The Guardian*, he does remember the French CBC cameraman filming his solemnly clasped hands and doing "an extreme closeup" of the head belonging to Jeff Clow, another science rep.

I've caught up with a busy Best in the swank K.C. Irving lobby. We settle into plush leather chairs, nibble on my recent purchase of chocolate walnut fudge, and note the absence of *The Cadre* from the student area tables (grumbles from my corner).

Best has "two reasons ... well, three" for attending UPEI, citing its proximity to home, the fact that "it's a lot cheaper than going away," and the quality education that he believes he is receiving in the process. He intends to apply to Dalhousie for medical school eventually, attributing his interest in the medical profession to lots of money, and it's interesting. "I like that kind of thing." He added that, while he reads a lot, "I'm not a fan of writing, and I don't like math."

Anticipating this career goal, Best also informed me that he is a volunteer at the Emergency Room of the



Just to help you remember.

Queen Elizabeth Hospital. He also plays French Horn with the UPEI Wind Ensemble and as a volunteer musician for a quintet class in the Music Department. In fact, he asks me to include the date for the Wind Ensemble's next concert: the 18th of November, at the Steele Music Hall.

"It is important to be involved," he advocated, explaining his own involvement in extracurricular activities. "It makes your university experience that much better."

As far as UPEI is concerned, Best has several ideas for improvement.

"I think, in general, we could use a lot more school spirit," he said, citing the relatively low attendance at sports events.

"I think it's getting better ...

the union is doing a whole lot. I think it's a turn-around type of year." Best remarked that the new Student Centre, when finished, would be a boost, describing it as "a really nice student-type."

"There is no real central student place ... there's the Pit, but it can only hold so many people, and the lounges."

"It's hard at a commuter-based school like this, its hard to kind of keep that community going."

Incidentally, Best described himself as having been a "big fan of campus radio."

"It's going to cost a whole lot of money," he added, describing his role as a volunteer last year with CIMN: "...mostly just us talking to no one." Best seems to have a certain

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amount of hope in eventually resuscitating campus radio.

"Aside from that, there's posters and that's about it," Best noted on the issues of on-campus communication. He did remark, however, that *The Cadre* has, in his mind, improved: "It's thicker ... it's got meat in it."