

SYMPOSIUM '79, YOU BET!

Much has been written, said, and conjectured about this novel event scheduled for UPEI - SYMPOSIUM '79. Nevertheless, there remains the student still in doubt; not sure. Quite frankly, there are probably as many reasons as students as to why that should be; yet, can the uncertainty be justified? This complacency marked by the phrase, "I don't care - got better things to do anyway" and outright ignorance heralded by comments such as "What are they doing this for" is at the very centre of the paralysis hindering the bursting forth of UPEI as a university "community". Indeed, as a group of students we all share the guilt as do other members of the university and community at large. However, Symposium '79 lets the universe know that the students here at UPEI are aware of the symptoms of this inflicting disease and have decided to call a "time out" to look the situation over.

Right now, Symposium '79 is only an idea. Consequently, some of the uncertainty can be justified because the idea has yet to be transformed into concrete terms. All of the preparations have been researched thoroughly and confirmed - from cancellation of classes to cream for the coffee. The only ingredient missing: YOU, the student of the university. Your mere presence at Duffy Amphitheatre on Tuesday, November 6th and at the Barn on Wednesday, November 7th will suffice to make Symposium '79 a reality for all the world to see.

Heavy stuff? Well, no, don't be mystified by it all. This is a new idea for all of Canada so for UPEI as well. The important question is: what will I gain from attending Symposium '79 other than making it a reality? A glance at the agenda alone may answer the question but the potential rewards of the symposium have yet to be realized. This is a chance for students from the entire university to come together to share views on themselves. No, not gossip that we all enjoy and see expounded daily in soap operas and social columns, rather ideas based on actual experience - the real thing. Everyone has a certain perception of themselves and similarly so do students. The irony of it all is that when these perceptions are brought into the open, quite often it is found that there are an alarming number of similarities and in some cases differences. In the final analysis, however, the trading of these percepts sheds new light on images people have of themselves, in this case students at UPEI.

If you are looking for a precise answer to what Symposium '79 is, then stop right here because I don't have one. But, I will be able to accommodate your needs Wednesday evening, November 7 and thereafter, the point being that the nature and definition of the symposium will be determined by the students themselves. This is an event where the students at the university will take over and say what they think. As a result,

our administrators and faculty members will be unemployed for a day. However, let's not fool ourselves - it is a fair bet that most of them will be tuned in on the events and share in our bursting forth of ideas. Yes, knowledge is open to anyone who comes in the name of truth. Symposium '79 depends on every student at UPEI being true to themselves, yes you - think about it.

Above all, don't be shy because there is nothing to be afraid of. The purpose of Symposium '79 is simple: to create a forum for students to share views on themselves in the university setting. Yes, we all have views although some are able to convey ideas easier than others. However, no one is being compelled to speak; similarly, there are no restrictions on what you want to say or how you say it. So long as you, the student, come in the name of truth - then whatever happens, happens. Consider the symposium as

being an experiment whose result we can build various conjectures upon, yet never actually define. Being acquainted with the idea for some time now, I'm optimistic but also feel I've said enough on the matter. Really, I'm anxious as hell to hear what other people think. On Tuesday and Wednesday the eyes of other schools and the community will be on the students at UPEI. Let's not disappoint them but, more importantly, let's not disappoint ourselves. Give it your consideration and see ya there!



UPEI'S COFFEE SHOP The EXCHANGE

WED. nights 9PM-12PM

Panther Lounge
UPEI

Admission - 75 cents
Coffee and tea provided

Wednesday, November 7th
This week featuring

WENDLE BOYLE

Folk and Blues

TOP THE SYMPOSIUM OFF WITH AN EVENING OF ENTERTAINMENT AND RELAXATION.



Any questions you may have concerning the agenda or any aspect of the Symposium will be welcomed. Don't hesitate. Contact any one of the committee members.

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| ☆ | Rory Beck | ☆ |
| ☆ | Alan Buchanan | ☆ |
| ☆ | Marsha Gaudet | ☆ |
| ☆ | Larry Green | ☆ |
| ☆ | Bob Kelley | ☆ |
| ☆ | Mark Ledwell | ☆ |
| ☆ | Dan LeClair | ☆ |
| ☆ | Barry MacDonald | ☆ |
| ☆ | Holly MacDonald | ☆ |
| ☆ | Kent Osborne | ☆ |
| ☆ | Joanne Peters | ☆ |
| ☆ | Don Stewart | ☆ |

