

Fun in the Sun

by Tara Inman

February 16 was a typical snowy, blustery PEI winter night. In spite of the poor weather conditions, 33 slightly stressed, yet excited UPEI students loaded onto a bus that would take them away for a week of relaxation and sun at Daytona Beach. We met up with 9 people from Mt. Saint Vincent and 2 from UCCB along with our Breakaway Tours tour guide in Sackville, and from there we were Daytona bound! Thanks to our two great JS drivers, the bus ride went fairly quickly, and we arrived in Daytona on Sunday afternoon, just as the Daytona 500 was getting underway. Once we got settled in at the "luxurious" Fountain Beach Resort, everyone went their own way to explore the sights and see what Daytona had to offer. Aside from its world famous beach, Daytona has a large assortment of tacky tourist shops. You know the ones. We've all seen them in one place or another boasting their fine assortment of quality souvenir T-shirts, keychains, beer mugs, and post cards. Sunday night, most of us went to a Breakaway Tours welcome party at a club called Jambalaya which featured a live reggae band, free draft, a limbo contest, and a wet T-shirt Contest (and to think, I thought these only existed in the movies).

Throughout the course of the week, everyone more or less did their own thing. Breakaway Tours had a number of activities organized that took place day and night, including pizza parties, a volleyball tournament, and assorted special events at a variety of nightclubs. On several days a shuttle bus ran to Orlando to the various attraction of interests such as Disney World, Universal Studios, Sea World and also to the Flea Market. Some of us decided to rent cars and tour on our own, too. My roommates and I did this one day and spent the entire day at the Disney-MGM Studios, and the entire night at Planet Hollywood and Pleasure Island (where it's New Year's Eve every night!). Some people decided to check out the local shopping scene, while others spent their days relaxing on the beach and working on a nice tan to bring home and make all their friends jealous.

I know that no one who had to spend spring break on PEI really wants to hear this, but the weather was gorgeous

the whole time we were down there. Apparently we had just missed a cold spell that passed through the previous week, luckily our vacation was full of sunshine. Ha! Ha! Ha! (Sorry, I just had to). Overall, everyone seemed to enjoy their week. All too soon it was Friday night and we were at the Breakaway Tours farewell party at the Coliseum. Tears were shed, beer was drank, bags were packed, and the next day, a slightly saddened group of students reluctantly boarded the bus that would "whisk" them back home and back to the stress of school, as Daytona Beach prepared for the excitement of Bike Week.

I can't speak for everyone, but I know that I had a blast this year for spring break in Daytona Beach, and from what I've heard, everyone else had a good time too.

The Breakaway Tours people really went out of their way to make sure that things ran as smoothly as possible, and thanks to them, we all have a lot of great memories to bring home with us. Spring Break '96 is one I'm sure I'll never forget. I got to know a lot of new people, I got to lie on a beach in the middle of February, and I got to meet Mickey Mouse! In closing, I feel I must share with you the official Daytona Beach Top 10 List (according to my roommates and I):

- Daytona Beach 1996 Top 10 List**
(or, things we learned while visiting Daytona)
10. Point Break waitresses. . . (enough said!).
 9. Your mom is right, don't talk to strangers (especially on public transit).
 8. The plunger is a simple, yet great invention.
 7. Liquid mold.
 6. Seagulls, while preening, are frightfully easy to scare.
 5. Disney World is fun for all ages.
 4. 1 - hour photo finishing in American time is equivalent to approx. 3.5 hours in Canadian time.
 3. Free beer
 2. Free beer
 1. The word "resort" does not always imply quality accommodations.

To all those who were with us for Spring Break '96: see ya in '97!

To all you who didn't go this year: don't you wish you had come?

Leadership Awards

1. Students eligible for a leadership award must be a full-time students who have satisfied the entrance requirements to the University or who have passed at least eight 3-semester hour courses in the previous year of study.

2. Awards will be given to students who have made, are making, or have demonstrated the potential for making a significant leadership contribution to University life.

3. An award may be given to a student participating in University athletic activities but only if the student demonstrated significant leadership ability through his or her participation.

4. An award may be received once by an individual.

5. Nominations for awards may be made by students, faculty or staff at the University.

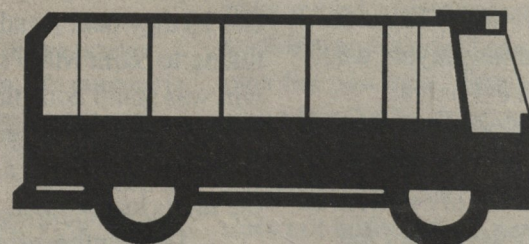
6. Recipients for the awards will be chosen by a committee approved by the President of the University.

Please send curriculum vitae and two letters of nomination to:

Mike Read, Department of Student Services

All nominations must be received by Friday, March 15, 1996

**THE STAFF OF
PANTHER PRINTS
WOULD LIKE TO
THANK THE
BIOLOGY
DEPARTMENT**



YOUR GENEROSITY WAS APPRECIATED.
SPECIAL THANKS GOES TO GILBERT FOR
ALL OF THE LESSONS.