



I feel bad. No, that's not true. I feel really bad.

I'm sitting here reading the Student Council's letter I received over the holidays, the one explaining the building fund; and I can not help but feel bad. After all, last month I claimed the SU were ego-masturbators, thieves whose misplaced morality deserved nothing less than scorn and derision from the people they represent. I now understand, though. Thanks to that letter, I know what the problem is.

It's not politics and promises, and it has nothing to do with right and wrong. It is my fault you see.

I have no pride. Panther Pride, that is.

You see, only a person without pride would concern themselves with mandatory donations. Only the arrogant and pretentious would presume to hold the council to their word when a higher purpose exists. It is the selfish and the weak, not the good, who withdraw their money from the building fund to spend it

for their own pleasure. I am nothing, zip, nada. Merely a vain and self-absorbed man whose worth falls somewhere above pond scum and somewhere below a sac of reprocessed bat-vomit. Why?

Because I have no pride. Panther Pride, that is.

If I had pride, I would understand the true meaning of what an education is. It is not the courses I take or the essays I write. It has nothing to do with the books I read, the level of my knowledge or the professors who provide it. With pride, I would see that the value of my degree is only relative to the beauty and appeal of the buildings in which I study. That's it. Who cares what's taught inside of them. It is the buildings themselves that count.

Why else would someone want to come to UPEI to learn? Imagine how many people have visited our campus only to say: "What!! No pleasant place to gather, eat and study?" Can you conceive of the thousands of brilliant minds we have lost to other campuses because of our University's out-of-date look? It is a wonder that past graduates amounted to anything at all with the state of facilities we're in. But that is all going to change now. Thanks to the vision of our administration and our Student Council, a degree at UPEI will mean something again.

So I will rise above my basic nature and leave my voluntary donation in the hands of the visionaries, thanking them for their chastisements. Because, someday, maybe years from now, I will be applying for a

very important job. My interviewers will have my resume in front of them, pulled from a pile of hundreds of over-qualified candidates. One of them will raise their head and look at me, saying:

"It says here that you studied at UPEI. Would that be the university with all those incredible buildings?"

Then, leaning back in my chair, I will raise my arms in a now confident stretch. Light from the sun outside the windows will bounce off my graduation ring and shine in their faces, exposing the gleam of envy in their eyes. My back straight, my head held high, I will say:

"Yes. That's the one."

And I will say it with pride. Panther Pride. Amen.

## Who needs you?

# They do!

Little Brothers & Little Sisters are looking for you!

## Why not make a difference?

## Call us now...

Big Brothers & Big Sisters  
892-5979



YOU CAN GAIN A LOT BY GIVING A LITTLE.