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Danson sporting a moustache. Nor have I ever heard the popular phrase 'Brother Barney is watching you', spoken with a German accent.

We here in this group feel Ms. O'Connell's emphasis on the military option was misplaced. After all, out of 39 projects around the country, (not 30), only a fraction of them are forced to wear uniforms. The rest are trained for 9 months, (not 10), as undercover agents and saboteurs in Katimavik's unflagging battle against creeping socialism in the small towns in which we are situated. In these death camps we are instructed in such warfare methods as: debarking communist birch trees, teaching the goose step to school children, how to pass poison into homemade granola, the various methods of a field stripping a swede saw, and, if you are especially obedient, the method of circulating propoganda in two languages.

I must disagree with Ms. O'Connell's conjecture that our living conditions are inadequate. The holes in our group's winter pup tent provide us adequate views of the camp's barbed wire and gun turrets.

In conclusion, I would again like to praise Comrade O'Connell's efforts and extend to her a sincere

invitation to visit us here at Dixon House, if she can make it past the guard dogs. Bradalbane
Katimavik Project

Dear Editor:

As a former Katimavik participant, I feel obliged to respond to Kate O'Connell's letter of commination re Katimavik which appeared in the March 22nd edition of the SUN. I feel her blatantly false statements and sadly distorted ideas do a grave injustice to the program.

I strongly disagree with Ms. O'Connell. If anything, I believe that the Katimavik experience tends to shock its participants out of their smug bourgeois assumptions concerning how our "just society" functions and what is important in life. While in the program I and the others in my group were expected to go out into our host communities to do volunteer work with young and old, the imprisoned, the sick, and the mentally and physically handicapped. Often we didn't like what we saw but our encounters with those who are often forgotten by the mainstream of our society certainly increased our awareness of pertinent social problems, and of ourselves as individuals. If indeed it is the government's intent to change young people's ideas, then they may yet succeed, but not in the

manner which Ms. O'Connell suggests.

Katimavikers do not merely do work that others "refuse" to do; however, they do benefit communities by accomplishing tasks which otherwise could not afford to be done. While it is true that they sometimes face some extremely boring work, they also sometimes do tasks which provide scope for all the imagination, creativity and ingenuity which participants are willing to give. As participants are volunteers, they receive only \$1.00 a day but most work hard because they have freely chosen to make and keep a commitment to the program, to other group members and their host communities. For many, this sacrifice of money and comfort for ideals is highly preferable to the sacrifice of ideals for money so often witnessed in our society.

For myself and many other participants, the most important aspect of our nine months was group life. Living, working, eating, and socializing with thirty others from diverse backgrounds continually is intense. Initially it seemed as if we had more differences than commonalities; however, with time we were able to build a group identity and feeling which took us

through a number of crises and misadventures.

I would just like to say that anyone who has a sense of adventure, is willing to forego some of the comforts of home, wants to face challenges and have new experiences, travel and meet new people, will find that Katimavik can offer a full and rich year. Personally I view Katimavik as a worthwhile educational experience complementary to university education by virtue of its practicality. In closing I would just like to briefly list some of the experiences I had so that readers will get some idea of the diversity inherent in programs like this. During my year I taught English to Francophones, and improved my own French. I travelled coast to coast, spent two weeks on an Indian reserve in Saskatchewan, did survival camping in the mountains of B.C., worked with school kids, prisoners and hospital patients, took my turn planning menus, shopping and cooking for 30, planned and hosted a TV show, received basic canoeing instruction, lived for 3 months each in a railway station, an orphanage, and a cabin, and most importantly shared these experiences with new-found friends from every part of Canada.

Yours truly,
Eileen M. Donahoe.

UPEISU: A Financial Success

Looking back over the recently completed year in the Student Union, the student body can be proud of how things turned out, at least from a financial point of view.

The Union began the year in financial trouble and budgeted for a \$19,000 deficit. However there are indications that the Union will be only \$8,000 to \$10,000 in debt.

Getting into specifics the Union saw a number of areas work out very well monetarily speaking. Both Fall-Fest and Winter Carnival held their own and the Panther Lounge was a booming success. The bar profits will exceed \$5,000 this year. That figure represents the highest since the Union opened the operation.

The student radio station, CIMN, was not as costly as anticipated

but that was due to the fact that it was not operating for the better part of the year. The SUN was more expensive than previously anticipated but that was as a result of a lack of outside advertising.

Perhaps the biggest plus was the amount of money that was paid out to our own students in wages. The final figure will be in excess of \$22,000. This is the highest ever and means that over 30% of fees are being paid back in wages.

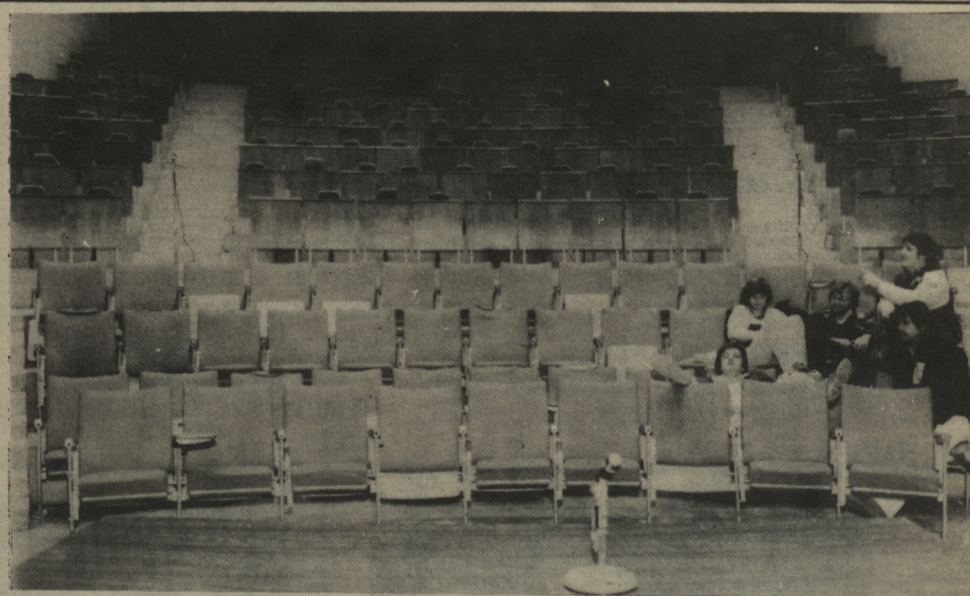
"We are very pleased with the amount that we were able to return to the students this year. It was a goal in the change of the Barn and it appears that in that sense it was a success," commented treasurer John Neville.

Looking ahead the Union will be more stable than originally thought. The necessary increase in student

Union fees will help the Union to wipe its debt off; make its annual contribution to the capital savings plan; and continue to provide the assorted clubs and activities

with the necessary funds.

All in all the financial picture is not great but considering the times it is not that bad.



NEWS FLASH - Another Packed House For Our UPEISU General Meeting!!!