

A word on field hockey

By Michael Zinck

Women's field hockey is not exactly the hit sport of the season here at U.P.E.I. The games draw upwards of maybe 20 people, some of whom are just early for the soccer games.

It is not that field hockey is boring, indeed, it is a fast paced game, with as much action as soccer.

But unlike the soccer team, women's field hockey has a big drawback — it's losing. Not just a few games but most. Yes, it did tie one game, but that is not enough to turn around its lagging fortunes.

Women's field hockey has taken on the appearance of being the campus joke. No one expects them to win ... oh yes, play well, make a good show of it, but nobody really expects them to win.

And true to form, they don't.

But where are the fans?

Canadians hate losers; this we know. But this is your team, the players are your friends and classmates.

Where are you friend?

You're happy they tried hard. You tell them they did well, even if you've never seen a game. So how would you know how well they played.

As I sat watching Sunday's 3-0 loss to the University of Moncton I over heard one former player remark to another how well they played; "The team never got one goal all season".

At that they both laughed. So do a lot of other people.

At the soccer game the week before, when it was announced that the women's field hockey team had tied a game, fans gave a great round of applause, and laughter.

Barb Mullaly and the team members take this all in stride. Yet, in the back of their minds I'm sure they feel the laughter, for they know the joke's on them.

It's then that it stops being funny.

I can't, I'm not 18

BY L.M. and S.M.

For those of you who are too drunk to notice, there are some students at U.P.E.I. who are being alienated. Why? Too many social activities put on by the Student Union et al are centered around drinking, and students who are under 18 are being left out.

Every student should have the right to see and enjoy the bands that perform at U.P.E.I. But those students without valid I.D.'s can't be admitted to dance to or enjoy this music. Why can't these events be wet/dry?

The Winter Carnival is another prime example. Too many of the activities are related to drinking. Let's not have a repetition of the Rocky Horror Picture Show. Show a film that everyone can see and enjoy.

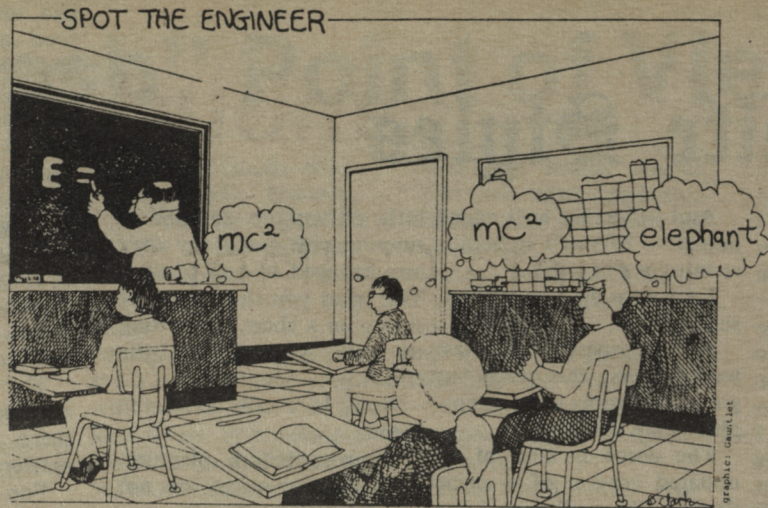
This emphasis on drinking at Student Union events is becoming so blatant that some students under the legal age feel a portion of their student fees should be refunded, as they can't participate in the "highlights" of the social year at UPEI.

The Student Union and various societies are not entirely to blame. The students who are suffering should be doing something to change this.

Talk to the Student Union representatives about having wet/dry events where everyone can enjoy themselves and meet new people.

Something to think about at these kind of events would be a special stamp or bracelet to be worn by those olde enough to drink.

It's all up to those who are tired of saying, "I CAN'T,



LETTERS

Centre original

Dear Editor:

I would personally like to extend my utmost congratulations to you on the beautiful artwork done in your September 20 edition of *The Gem*. The centrefold spread was most original.

The details were so finely and so professionally marked that it took a magnifying glass an 4-inch specs to see it.

In the future, I would appreciate it if the print and details were "just" a little bigger because, as you see, I don't wear glasses and I got a headache from using someone else's.

Yours truly,
Blind as a bat.

An explanation

We at the Gem have heard more comments about the paper in the last week than we've ever heard before. And no, it's not because we finally got around to removing the wax from our ears.

Allow me to deal with your remarks one by one:

1) The centre page was a creative space left just for all our loyal readers out there

who have been demanding a space of their own in the *Gem*. One person we know has been circulating the issue among all his friends asking them to sign it. He's working on Signature No. 3.

2) The cartoon which some of you called "too disgusting for even National Lampoon" was submitted with the *Engineer's* column. By the time a member of the staff finally explained to me what it meant, the paper had been off the presses for a whole day. From now on, faculty columns will be read by all staff members before they are put in the paper, and a vote will be taken on their fate. This is to ensure a variety of reactions to material, and should result in a paper we won't be embarrassed to say we worked on.

Editor

Summer in Germany

Dear Editor:

Last summer I participated in the Werkstudentenprogram (Student Work Program) organized and sponsored by the German Academic Exchange Service, The Canadian Association of University Teachers of German, and the Canadian Government.

I was one of about 150

students selected from across Canada who left for Germany at the end of May for a summer of work and travel.

After arriving in Frankfurt, we separated into groups (depending upon where we would be working for the summer) to begin a four-day bus journey to various German cities.

Since Amerang, the place where I was to work, is near Munich, I got on the bus which would finally halt in that city, the capital of Bavaria. Before our final destination, we stopped in Heidelberg, Stuttgart and Augsburg.

This four-day tour was fantastic, with many of the expenses being paid by the German government. In each city we were given tours visiting the castles, churches and museums. The evenings were free to taste the German culture, whether it was German beer, food, cinema or theatre.

The months of June and July were spent working in and around Schloss Amerang, a castle. The various jobs included building fences, keeping the castle property clean, setting up chairs for the weekend concerts etc.

My experiences overseas will not be forgotten, and I would suggest working in Germany itself or overseas generally to anyone once he or she has a basic understanding of the language.

Marc Smitheram

Tournament unfair

Dear Editor:

Regarding the Business Society golf tournament held this past Friday: it seems that preferential treatment was given to Business Society members whose performance in the tournament did not in certain cases better that of non-business students.

The system used in determining the team champions was a fair one, but the individual champ was decided by a different method. One must question this policy of "bending the rules" to accomodate business students.

Granted, it was a Business Society tournament, but an equitable method of determining the winners should have been used.

One can see an analogy in Alan Eagleson's changing of the Canada Cup format and this situation.

Will next years tournament winners be declared before its completion?

In the future, I, suggest the organizers of the tournament decide on a uniform method of tabulating scores before the tournament, and *not* after the results are known and they appear undesirable to the Business Society.

Sincerely,
An Irate
Participant
Windsor Wight



The Netted Gem

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No, we haven't been dispossessed (or repossessed?) yet. Still standing (more or less) on Fourth Floor Main are: Melaine Clarke, Brian Linkletter, Ron Lewis, Lori Anne Heckbert, Lori MacLeod, Robert Bodrog-Goodland, Sandra MacDonald, Ross Hartinger, Michael Zinck, John Dougan, Jonathan Orłowski, Tony Sauer, John Pendergast, Bob Stanley, Kaberi Dasgupta, Jim Lai, Glen Boswell, Phil Stanyer, photographer Brian MacLeod, production editor Carol Doiron and editor Carolyn Ryan.

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