

## A Great Small University - A Great Big Heart

UPEI Community Pitches in To Help Tsunami Relief Effort



Julie Bull  
Reporter

When horrific scenes where shown on our Televisions and cries for help were heard, the people at UPEI did not sit idly by. Nature has proven to be devastating for so many people around the world and the recent Tsunami has left so many people in silence and awe. The realization that life can be cut so short plays hard on so many of us. The thought that so many people lost their families and friends and so many are still left to wonder, make us feel helpless. We are half a world away, but the catastrophe that has occurred is close to our hearts.

Kevin Lewis, Chief Development Officer in Advancement Services, was eager to share in the advancements that are being made at UPEI in relation to relief efforts for Tsunami Victims. Lewis informed us that to date there has been in excess of \$14,000 raised for medical relief. He was enthusiastic and energetic as he sincerely thanked those that have made contributions in this time of need.

Through the family of UPEI Professor Wimal Rankaduwa in South Eastern Sri Lanka, and in cooperation with regional authorities there, we will transfer funds that can be used in the best way possible. Other gifts designated to Western Thailand (all gifts collected at AVC have been designated here) will be

directed through charitable agencies in the area of Koh Kho Khao. We are helping in this area as a way to say thank you to the local community people who were so kind to one of our vet students who was in that area when the tsunami struck.

Lewis whole-heartedly thanked all those that are making an impact of the relief effort. Without the support and kindness of so many people, we would not be able to help those who need it the most. I want to acknowledge the UPEI Student Union for organizing their fundraisers, and the many people who volunteered at the donation tables in the W.A. Murphy Student Centre and the Atlantic Veterinary College Foyer. I don't want to single out donors, but I would like to give special acknowledgment to Ray Murphy of Murphy's Pharmacies for donating the proceeds of his generous A20 percent of sales a day to the UPEI Tsunami Relief Fund.

Progress of the Relief Efforts at UPEI will be made available on the website ([www.upei.ca](http://www.upei.ca)). Also, if you would like more information or would like to make a donation, please contact Kevin Lewis at 894-2888 or [krlewis@upei.ca](mailto:krlewis@upei.ca). Remember that no donation is too big or too small and that every cent will aid those that are left in dire straights.

## Political Prisoner Awareness Group Visits UPEI

Matt Campbell  
Reporter

The Tre Arrow Defense Committee headed by Benjamin Shannon and Mynah Meagher recently visited the UPEI campus for their first stop on a tour raising awareness across the country in regards to an environmental activist jailed in Victoria, BC.

Arrow, who has a case pending in the courts, is accused of detonating a number of logging trucks in Portland, Oregon. If convicted, Arrow could serve up to an eighty year sentence. The awareness group claims Arrow is a political prisoner and has been targeted unfairly by the American government as a threat to society.

The event drew in a total of thirty people including Charlottetown's well known activists Blair Ross and Leo Broderick.

Due to last minute reservations Ben Shannon was unable to make it to the presentation.

Mynah spoke to the audience about her friendship with Arrow and the lifestyle that he chose.

"I met Tre and lived with him in Halifax. He organized peaceful awareness and vocalized his ideals about the most gentle way to live on the earth."

On June 7<sup>th</sup> 2002 Tre scaled a building in where he remained for 11

days protesting timber policies. Proceeding numerous protests Arrow was recruited as a green candidate and ran in the congressional election. Arrow tallied 15 000 votes.

Arrow's supporters view his incarceration as a miscarriage of justice. And although there are many Arrow

supporters, the alleged Eco-terrorist has gained an equal amount of opposition.

Mynah spoke of how the media have coined the term Eco-Terrorist.

Ron Arnold coined it. He contracts himself to PR groups

who are hired by lobby conglomerates to spread media propaganda. Justice James Reddin himself declared that the controversial term 'terrorist' was not to be used in regards to Mr. Arrow."

The group also claimed that the Portland tribune owned by the local logging company.

Arrow was taken into custody in Canada after refusing to reveal his identity when he was allegedly caught for shoplifting a pair of bolt cutters from a Canadian Tire store.

Now Arrow is asking for refugee status in Canada.

Arrow's extradition hearing is set for the 17-19th of April 2005.

