

# Student travel made easy

*This is not a spring break ad*

**D**o you need a change? Tired of the same old routine? No, this is not a spring break vacation ad where you will spend hundreds of dollars to party for barely a week. What I am talking about is an exchange. Yes, UPEI offers exchange programs where you get to head off to another participating university for a semester or two.

Last year, I went to Eastern New Mexico University for a semester. I went because I wanted adventure and figured that the southwest was as different from good ol' PEI as I could get. I had a BLAST. Just ask my poor roommates, who have to suffer through all my stories. I would go again in a second, just give me a plane ticket (My roomies are accepting donations toward a flight, I think they want to get rid of me). At the risk of sounding corny, it was good for me, too. I came back a lot more sure of myself. Surviving thousands of miles away from home is a real ego boost. You are probably thinking, "good for her, she's got rich parents to pay for it." Wrong. I am on a student loan, just like much of the rest of the starving student population. I paid my regular UPEI tuition, fees, and room & board, plus spending

money, all of which I would have spent anyway. My loan was still valid, so the only other big fees were my transportation and health insurance.

And if New Mexico doesn't pique your interest, how about one of the other universities? The other choices are South Florida, Scotland, Ohio, and Australia. This year UPEI has eight students out there teaching the rest of the world to say "EH".

If you want to go, there are a few prerequisites. You need to have had a 70% average in your five courses last semester. It is also recommended that you have some extra-curricular activities. (This is where writing for the X-Press pays off- apart from the great personal satisfaction, that is.)

Also, don't worry about getting stranded in a foreign country. The exchange advisors are great about keeping you in touch, whether it is helping you figure out the new university or just giving you some much-needed gossip from home. Interested? Go into the student services office and talk to the advisor, Joe MacDonald, for more info.

*ALDERA CHISHOLM*



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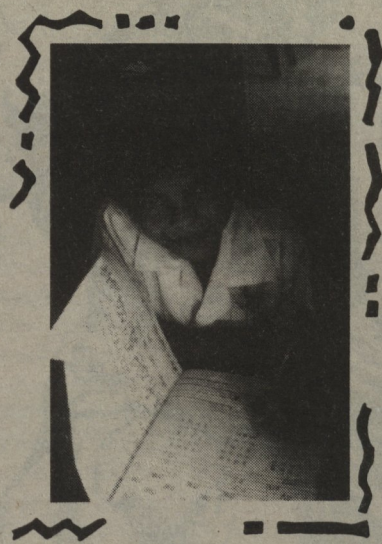
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