

## Letters

Dear Editor:

Bravo on your choice of headline story for the Sept. 11 edition of the Gem. Vidal is concise and courageous in his assessment of a critical turning point in history while his subject remains in the recent past

— his words have an almost prophetic nature.

Through the use of articles such as this, you elevate the quality of our paper about what is perceived as credible journalism on the Island today; you have used honesty and integrity to achieve what money and monopoly has not — quality.

Please give us more.

Andrew MacDougall

## Model UN

The Model United Nations Group at UPEI is taking its first bold steps in preparation for next spring's National Model United Nations conference (NMUN) in New York City.

Each year, approximately 1300 delegates from an average of 130 different universities and colleges across North America, Japan and Puerto Rico participate in the national conference.

In the five previous years in which UPEI has sent a delegation to the NMUN in New York, UPEI students have represented Ethiopia and Zimbabwe (1982); The Byelorussian SSR and the Mongolian People's Republic (1983); Nicaragua (1984); Algeria (1985); and Yugoslavia (1986).

UPEI delegations have won consistent praise from NMUN staff, as well as from the faculty advisors for competing delegations, for their faithful representation of the policies and concerns of the nations they simulated.

As a result of past efforts, UPEI's delegations have been rewarded each year with the opportunity to represent successively more influential nations. In a study of expert opinion performed by University of Carleton professor Peyton Lyon, Algeria and Yugoslavia were ranked seventh and sixth respectively in terms of influence at the actual United Nations.

The oldest and largest of the numerous international organizations in North America. It traces its roots to the Model League of Nations, which was formed over sixty years ago.

Each student-delegate is assigned to a committee of the United Nations, or to another international agency (such as the World Bank) or regional grouping (such as the Organization of African Unity).

The size of these bodies ranges from 20 to 162 member nations. These committees operate with a great variety of working formats.

Special features of the New York conference include briefings of delegations by top-ranking diplomats from the country which the delegation is simulating. Briefings to each individual committee are performed by members of the UN Secretariat, as well as by diplomats who work on the actual committee or agency.

Last year, a major highlight for several of UPEI's delegations was the chance to ob-

Dear Editor:

I accept your full apology presented in the third issue of the Gem immediately after my complaint.

The present editor seems to be a fair-minded person who can quickly recognize greatness among writers. At this rate, he will become the best UPEI editor in thirty years.

I pity Mr. Linkletter, who attacked my sanity in his smoking ban. Knowing he was unable to win the argument with me, he resorted to calling me mentally retarded.

All my friends know I am a self-disciplined person. In

serve the actual UN Security Council debate on the Libyan crisis in the Gulf of Sidra.

Work is intense for most of the five days of the conference. Committee sessions begin at 9:00 a.m. and conclude at 11:30 p.m., with two hours each for lunch and supper.

This is not to say that the NMUN is all work and no play. New York, the city of "half a million things to do, all at a quarter to three" — Huey Lewis and the News, does not disappoint; imitable shopping, excellent sight-seeing, fine cuisine, and New York's legendary traffic certainly add to the glamour of the Conference.

This year's delegation requires participants with a wide range of academic backgrounds and skills: last year's delegation included students with specialties in economics, history, business administration, home economics, English, philosophy, as well as many political studies majors.

An information meeting for all interested students will be held this coming Monday, September 29 at 3:00 p.m. in the Political Studies Lounge (Main 326A). The delegation for NMUN '87 will be chosen by the end of October. Country preference will be determined, and the UPEI Model UN executive will be named, at the same meeting.

Lori Anne Heckbert

my twenty years of life, I have never smoked more than a pack of cigarettes a day. I expect to outlive Michael

Jackson, who now sleeps in a life-prolonging oxygen-filled chamber.

Kevin MacLean

HA!

## OFFICE HOURS

The hours for the editor of the Gem will be:

At the Main Building 4th floor office:

Monday: 10:30 AM to 5:30 PM

Tuesday: 1:00 PM to 5:00 PM

In the Robertson Library student lounge:

Fridays: 10:30 AM to 12:30 PM

If the editor is not in the 4th floor office, submissions or messages may be left by placing through the door slot at the office or may be left at the Barn S.U.B.

Submissions for the Gem should be made no later than 1 PM Monday on the week the submission is to be published. Submissions should be typed and double spaced. Early submissions are much appreciated.

Regular staff meetings are held Monday at 6:00 PM at the 4th floor office.

Views expressed in the Gem are not necessarily those of the Gem staff or the UPEI Student Union. The Gem is an equal opportunity newspaper.

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Editor: Jim W. Lai

Production Editor: Lori Anne Heckbert

Photography Editor: Shell Wheaton

Senior Staff Members: Robert Bodrog-Goodland, Don Lane, Brian Linkletter, Danny Mullen

Staff Members: Elinor Anderson, Laura Bain, Geoff Clark, Darrell Cole, James Connolly, Karen Cullen, Kaberi Dasgupta, Jayne Emery-McAskill, Lisa Goulden, Anne Irving, Sandy Jardine, Kerry Lafferty, Alan MacEachern, Kim McNeill, Sam Okello, Kelly Redmond, Bonnie Ryan, Angela Seaman, Oliver Twit, Chris Vessey, Derrick Webber, Debra Wright

Contributors: David Gallant, Holly Good

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