

editorial

There are a number of letters in this week's SUN concerning my editorial reply to Tony Reddin's letter of November 2nd. I am glad to see that someone reads the SUN even if all three letters are from students who either work on or have worked on the SUN.

Now, in replying to these letters I hope I won't be accused of levelling a personal attack or spite at the authors. My reasons for not printing Mr. Reddin's article on nuclear energy have already been listed and I don't intend to list them again in this issue. The problems seem to arise with the last paragraph of my reply where I stated, "Mr. Reddin, you should be aware of some of these problems since you were once editor of a student newspaper, although after you were editor the name was changed so that the SUN's high ideals would not suffer from the degrading standards set by the Cadre."

One of this week's letters states that "I have no right to feel self-righteous because I worked on the Cadre and that as a member of that staff I must accept some responsibility for it." I never pretended that I did not work on the Cadre. Many people know I worked on the Cadre. I spent a semester on the paper because I wanted to get involved and I wanted to find out how a paper operated. Yes, certainly I will accept some of the responsibility for the "name" the paper got BUT it IS the responsibility of the editor to say what he will and will not print. In the case of the Cadre the editor did not say what should be printed (or, more important, what should not be printed) while in the case of the SUN the editor simply said what would not be printed.

The letter writer goes on to state that he doesn't know of any articles that were ever refused publication in the SUN. I hate to disagree with one of the SUN's faithful readers but there have been a good number of articles which were not printed in the first seven issues of this year's student paper.

To continue with another argument in this letter, concerning which is more important in the SUN - the Pink Panther Graphics and Rumor Hath It or an article on nuclear energy - this editor feels that the material appearing in the UPEI SUN is what the majority of students will take time to read and possibly even enjoy reading!

Another letter states, "The message you conveyed spoke as if this edition of the UPEI newspaper has improved to such an extent that its editor may be placed on some lofty pedestal and, from this vantage point, comment on the supremacy of the SUN's ideals. I'm sorry if this is the impression that anyone may have taken; I don't pretend to be an expert on what a student paper, any student paper, should be, but I am stating what the paper I work for is striving to be, and that is not being like the Cadre, in any aspect! I believe that the SUN has improved a great deal over the past two years, and a lot of other people on campus seem to agree with me. The whole idea of changing the name from the Cadre to the SUN was so that we could start an entirely different paper.

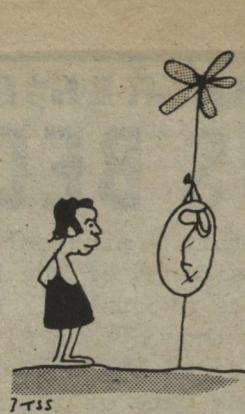
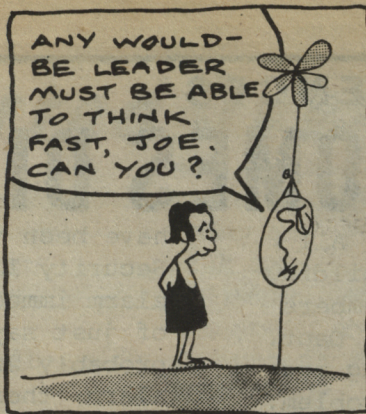
Now, this rather lengthy editorial has focused on the Cadre and its editor, which in the beginning I hoped I would not do! My reasons for not publishing the nuclear power article were printed in last week's SUN. Some people feel a public apology is called for; if so, than I'm sorry, Mr. Reddin, if my personal feelings concerning your editorial ability had to appear in a student paper but I stand by my reasons for not printing your article, and they were not based on any personal animosity!

Letters & Opinions

Dear Editor:

In your editorial reply to Tony Reddin's letter in

the Nov. 2 issue, you made some rude and irresponsible statements. In



the upei sun

The UPEI SUN is the student newspaper at the University of Prince Edward Island. It is published weekly throughout the academic year by the UPEI Student Union.

Contents are the responsibility of the editor and staff. Opinions are those of the persons expressing them.

The deadline for submissions is the Friday noon preceeding publication. All letters and articles must be signed although anonymity can be granted. We reserve the right to edit material for space or legal reasons.

The UPEI SUN is a member of Canadian University Press (CUP). National advertising is handled by Youthstream, 307 Davenport Road, Toronto, Ontario, 416-925-6359.

The SUN is printed by the Journal Pioneer in Summerside, P.E.I. and is distributed throughout campus and in various locations in Charlottetown.

Office hours are Mondays, noon--10 p.m., Tuesdays, 2-12 p.m. and Wednesdays, 2-5 p.m.

The staff meeting is each Thursday evening at 6 p.m. in the SUN office.

Our mailing address is UPEI SUN, Main Building, University of PEI, Charlottetown, P.E.I., CIA 4P3. Our phone number is 892-4121, local 387.

staff

Editor: Gerald McKenna
Photographer: Lee Donnelly
Typist: Pat Inghram

Laurie Tierney
John Moore
John Cairns
Maria Driscoll
Darla Ford
Pat Ingraham
Nora Cutcliffe
Maureen McCabe
Derwin Bark s

answering a perfectly legitimate question, you dredged up old, completely unrelated references to Tony's former editorship of the Cadre to somehow justify your failure to print both his article and ad.

Just what did your little tirade about the Cadre have to do with why you didn't publish his material? It was a very personal, very dirty dig which reveals the hypocrisy behind the SUN's so-called "high ideals". Gerald, you have no right to feel self righteous for you yourself were once deeply involved with its production. Anyone who worked on that paper, including myself,

must share some of the responsibility for what you called its "degrading standards". Any attempt to lay the "blame" solely with Tony is an unauthentic act and a copout on your part.

In my four years with both the Cadre and the SUN, I honestly can't remember a legitimate ad for any social concern group ever being denied publication. Why the precedent now? The ad was aimed at eliciting either student or faculty support and interest and therefore was and is related to students at UPEI. Surely the principle that concerned groups have the right to

.con't on page 5