

# letter...

I recently ran in the by-election for Student Union Council science rep, and I was stunned by the sheer ineptness of it all. There was no advertisement for the elections except for in one issue of *the Cadre*. No signs were posted around campus by the SU.

On election day, I went to the breezeway to cast my ballot, and I had trouble finding the ballot box. There was not even a sign above the box saying VOTE HERE! All I saw as I walked through the breezeway was a guy sitting behind a table with a locked wooden box in front of him. When I showed my student ID, and said I wanted to vote, there was no privacy to make my selection. Voters were expected to cross off their choice right in front of the guy in charge of the box.

Two days later, I checked and found that I had won, along with Peter Houston. However, I was then informed that another nominee had made a protest, and that my election might not stand up. Apparently, they closed the polling station an hour early on both voting days! So I go to the council meeting on Sunday night, and they decide that, yes, according to the constitution, the polls should have stayed open another hour, so the results were thrown out. As science rep was the only position with any competition at all, there was a new by-election just for the two positions.

Once again, SU didn't advertise the new election. I sent an email to the them, asking that a sign be put above the polling box, so that people would know about the new by-election. However, I go to vote and what do I see? No sign. Even fewer people voted this time, as not all the people who voted last time knew there was a new election. So, end result? The guy who made the protest won, I lost, and I learned a valuable lesson. Government sucks.

Stephanie Lister, Ex-sci.rep.

## Barber Shop Talk

Dear Cadre readers,

Although I am getting some response to my column, I am not yet satisfied as to whether or not students are enjoying what I write. This week's column may be a little bit more controversial than those of the past. Forward me your thoughts via email ASAP.

First off, I would like to offer my congratulations to the UPEI men's soccer team for their well-deserved AUAA championship. Everybody at UPEI should be proud of your accomplishment, yet the only remarks I have been hearing about the champs from other students has been regarding their behaviour in a local Charlottetown bar the evening of their win. I believe that better judgement was not used by some of the players out that night. Yeah, maybe I am yellow for not getting into it more deeply, but to those who want to whine about it, write your own column.

The astounding number of bars and night clubs that now play host to what seems Islanders' favourite pass time, trivia, is remarkable. Why do I bring this up? Being a trivia host myself for the past two years at numerous bars, I can relate to the complaints that I have twice received from different hosts at very different bars. The complaint that is being heralded is that certain people playing are not actually playing by the rules. What I am trying to say is

that those of you, and you know who you are, that do not throw your quarters after making guesses to try and acquire a beer are not only ruining it for the other trivia goers but you make yourself look like complete tightwads. The funny thing is most of what I am talking about is directed to a few highly regarded students here at UPEI who attend such bar nights and really should care about the image that they are making for themselves. Actually this makes myself as well as other hosts mad enough to have you kicked out of the bar, and trust me if I ever caught you doing so at my Trivia, I would publicly disgrace you. To tell you the truth the only reason that I am not going to print the names of those who do it now is for fear of embarrassing those who are friends with these short armed, low pocketed people.

What else is there to talk about? I know -- let's discuss another topic that I'm sure many students here at UPEI can relate to: the bi-yearly ritual of pre-registration. Is the University not embarrassed to acknowledge the manner in which they force their students to enroll in classes? The student body is sick and tired of having to spend numerous hours waiting in line to give the University their money. I know that this topic is one that is severely worn out yet why hasn't anything been done yet to fix it? (*Editor's note: refer to the Nov. 3 issue of the Cadre for the story about on-line registration...*).

Maybe you have read what I have put on the SU notice board concerning CIMN's top 20. If not, do so and send me your responses. Also the people would like to have one of two things happen. Either more funding is given to the campus radio station so that more than an immediate radius can tune in, or the funding should be halted completed and spent on new parking lots for students which are closer to classes.

On the sports side of things Im wondering if newly acquired Abbie forward Michael Ryan White aka "Whiter" is enjoying his new pond? He has yet to make a huge impression on the scoring sheet. I have heard rumours that he plans to take tough guy Phil Skeffington's place as the Abbies bad a\$\$.

See you at the track,  
Steven Barber

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