

A week called Frosh

BY GEOFF INESON

Some of you Frosh look pretty thrashed. This week of infamy and confusion has in the past been compared to a circus, a daycare, and a freakshow. I don't know whether to welcome you all en masse or hand out Halloween candy. Here's to your survival.

When I was politely petitioned for some thoughts on the Week called Frosh, I took a moment and reflected upon some Frosh days of old. And truthfully, I never went through it, so I don't know. I heard a few stories though, so I'll share those with you.

Did you know that there was a time when Frosh Leaders put food in your underpants? Yup, it's true. I seem to remember hearing about a Joe Louis once. If such an atrocity should happen to you, don't stand for it... don't sit for it either.

Rez people have a much more intense time during the week called frosh. During the entire year as well, I should add. I was off-campus; I didn't get glued to anything. Wasn't punished unduly for being too slow with the cookies. I didn't feel left out either. In fact, I made better marks than most of my classmates. But that's neither here nor there.

Don't be hustled into buying beer if you don't want any. Alcoholism is a genuine problem for

many students. Then again, this is the last chance many of us may have to be socially acceptable drunkards. It can be fun and it can be deadly, so lead not your fellow Frosh into tragic mourning.

Call it friendly advice or call me a nag, but one thing I do wish to stress is to please try to remember that this is an institution of higher learning. Although Thursday nights at Howe Hall may provide an overwhelming amount of evidence to the contrary, there are social decorums and standards, neighbours with phones, and police with hefty fines for open liquor. There are traditions, some of which you are learning about now and some of which you are going to pick up. All of these things are important to your development as a social creature, trust me.

Shinerama and Volunteer Week are traditionally successful despite the odd breaks in the weather. Check them out. Bring an umbrella. Invite your favourite student from Ontario.

I think that most of the Frosh Leaders will be tolerable enough, so that no reciprocity will be felt necessary. They may like to ham it up and shout like apes in heat but even that can be entertaining. So have a good time but also try to maintain a modicum of dignity.

Maclean's and foot odour

BY RICHARD LIM

A couple weeks ago, I went to my mailbox to pick up — obviously — my mail. I sifted through the Domino's Pizza flyers and the particularly encouraging notice that I Might Have Already Won Ten Million Dollars. Whoops, what's that? Ah, the latest issue of *Maclean's* magazine.

Knowing that this fine Canadian periodical offers its readership intelligent and well-researched articles, I steeled myself for yet another cover story about Bosnia, Quebec or Paul Bernardo.

Ta da! JoJo the late night psychic was the big story of the week. I guess I'd pinpoint that moment as the first time that I considered switching to another, equally important news publication, such as the weekly *American Gladiators* newsletter.

But wait, maybe I'm being a tad hasty. To cancel my subscription based on one case of poor judgment on the part of the magazine, isn't that unfair? Isn't that a fairly reactionary thing to do?

In fact, sometimes I think that the greatest problem with North American society today, with the possible exception of really bad foot odour, is the over-sensitivity of people to anything which even slightly offends their mental, physical, emotional or ethical state of being.

I make this statement (about the over-sensitivity, not the foot odour), based on a rigorous examination of the state of our society, using a number of highly sophisticated measurement instruments: twelve

beer bottles; one inflated balloon (the colour: purple); and, a couple of guy friends. This sociological study involved my guy friends and I drinking the beer and volleying the balloon back and forth across the room until it occurred to one of us to go home.

Shrewdly waiting until the right moment (when all the beer was gone) to test the validity of my belief (still talking about the over-sensitivity thing, not the foot odour), I found that my guy friends agreed with me, inasmuch as they could understand what I was saying.

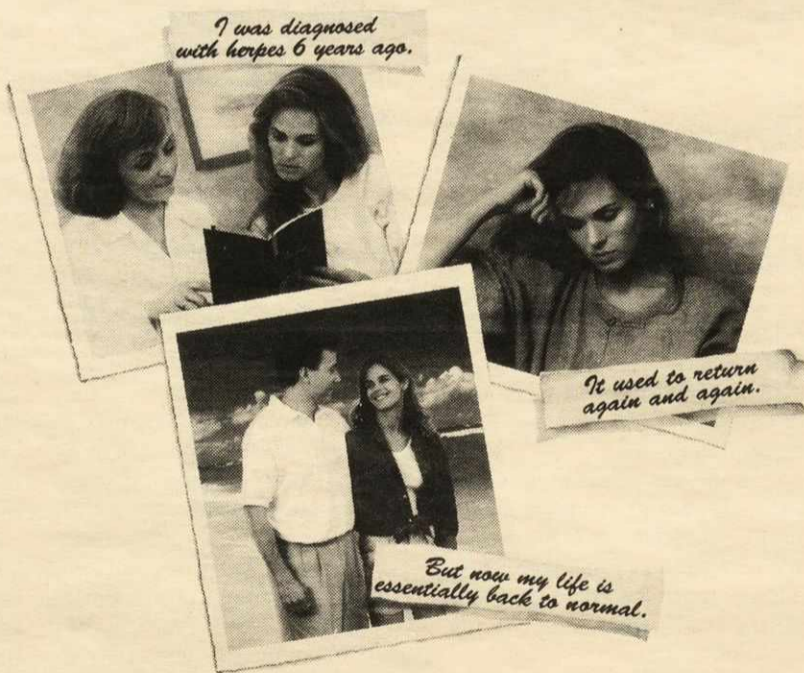
I don't mean to suggest that they may not have fully understood what I was saying at the time; there's no doubt that they most probably didn't. I'm simply allowing for the possibility that even I didn't under-

stand what I was saying at the time. In fact, I might have only asked them about the whole foot odour business.

But now is not the time to be distracted by petty details and other diversionary tactics of reality, because clearly we have arrived at an important watershed in North American thought. If my assertion is valid, then our society faces numerous trials and tribulations as we, as a nation, experience the dramatic paradigm shifts which invariably follow key realizations in sociological thought (such as the one which I have carefully articulated and irrefutably proven over the course of this article).

I'm still talking about the foot odour problem. Where the hell have you been?

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