

Man vs. Machine Do you need a brain or a calculator?

What do frisbes have to do with hand-calculators?

The conceiving of an idea knows no barrier. A toymaker in the United States conjured up the idea of a playful object which would bring delight and a source of exercise to many people. The frolicing youth were the intended market for a ten inch, circular, plastic disc, which is called a "frisbe". Soon adults were attracted to spinning this object into the air because it has a gracefulness about it. It also brought adults into temporary contact with children. No parent would deprive his child from the proud ownership of this toy. The uncontrollable nature of the frisbe in flight worried some parents. A few broken panes of glass should over-rule the price of children having fun.

The United States Government was intrigued by this simple toy object. They had good reason to believe that military value existed in its design. An expenditure of some \$100,000. proved upon investigation that the State Department could not visualize a military application from this toy's design.

On the other hand, the same government has spent millions in designing minute circuitry for application in its space program. One of the commercial usages of space age technology exists in the well known, portable, hand calculator. This little beast is used by many students to carry out the mundane calculations, which have plagued them since grade one. After experiencing these operations in simple mathematics for twelve years, most proved to be competent. However, some people have never given up the use of their fingers to determine some

solution to a mathematically implied situation. To these people the advent of the calculator is a blessed event.

The hand calculator has become the adult frisbe on this campus. The calculator is now the preferred portable item over the high school days of toting a transistor radio. The utility of this invader is immense. It can be carried in a brief case, or hidden in a purse, by professor

ors will consider these "logic units" as additional material in their classroom domain. Tradition has established a precedent which has given principle on which he or she can act. Notably, the intention was and is to control those materials which may aid and abet students in managing a respectable pass in a subject with all the probabilities of a heavy gamble. Can a calculator, brought into a testing situation, be considered as

appreciate the comfort of our calculator in any situation of testing. Since many of our courses have a math input, the use of a calculator must be welcomed in all appropriate classroom situations.

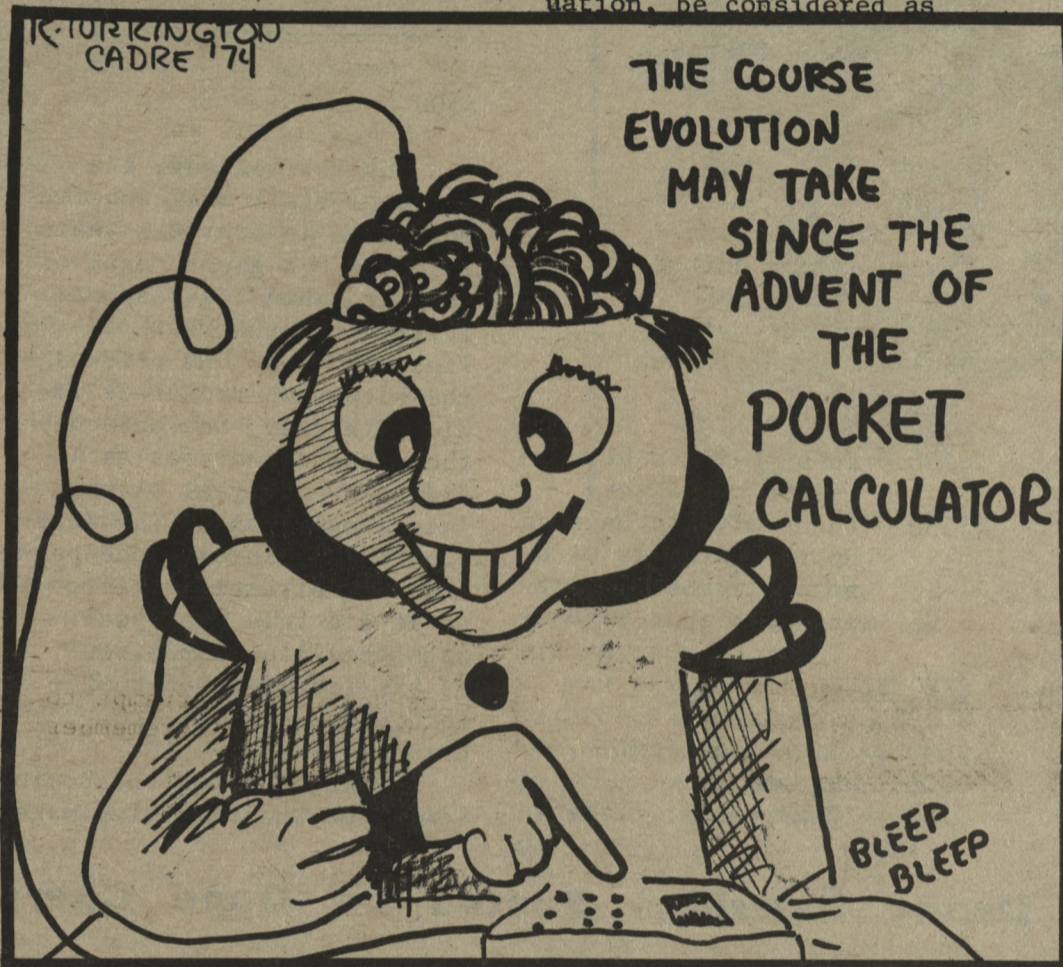
I think it is about time that U.P.E.I. make a universal stand on this issue of the banning of calculators by some instructors because of individual preferences. If it is not a significant question to be resolved, I, then suggest that entire departments, one by one, approve the wholesale use of hand calculators in their stream of subjects.

The problem of unfair advantage to the "havenots" is resolved by the borrowing technique rather than outright purchase. A few years ago, I can recall Dr. O'Grady mentioning that Dr. Samuel Johnson devised the people of this world to be of two kinds; people were either "lenders" or "borrowers". The reference at this time was to books. Many items today are being exchanged under the notion of borrowing. There is no reason to exclude hand calculators in this honorable habit of borrowing. Use the family frisbe as collateral.

Once this issue is resolved (By whom?) can we expect more difficult calculations on the exams? If this should occur, then, our ability to manipulate the calculator becomes more important than the testing of mathematical concepts.

Peter Tremblay

This article is the result of an actual classroom situation, which prompted me to do something about it.



and student alike. As with books, we now have a common denominator to share with our professors. Instructors have admitted their personal attachment to their own calculators. Could the student body be purchasing these calculators so they will not be outclassed by the university staff?

However, this little creature, which has the admiration of all, for obvious reasons, does not receive an admitted welcome in all situations on this campus. Some profess-

"outside material" of a devious nature? It has a logic circuit which can simplify any calculation, but, it is only as good as an extension of one's ability to operate it.

The question of a difficult calculation is not a necessary consideration. Each individual has an undetermined math factor which can be upset by either speedy solving, or pressure, and cause carelessness at the wrong time. All of us are prone to unbelievable error making and would

Gratitude given to those helping on Fall Fest

This is just a note to thank all the people who gave their time and effort to make Fall - Fest, the success it was.

We would like to thank the Fall Fest Committee and especially Kevin Newman. Their assistance was greatly appreciated.

We thank Jane MacCormack for all the things she helped with.

The Maintenance Department was a big asset this

year and took a big workload off our backs. To them we are very grateful.

Again this year the Campus Police and Bar Tenders did a great job. We thank them for keeping things going.

We would like to thank Moosehead Breweries for their assistance.

We thank Student Services and Security for their help.

Also we would like to thank Radio C.I.M.N. and at this time congratulate them on their official opening.

We thank the Cadre for the coverage they gave us.

Last but not least we thank the students who supported this event.

We wish the best of luck to Wade MacLaughlan and Winter Carnival and hope that everyone supports him and it.

Once again thank-you all.
Ted Crockett
Percy Dow e
Co-Chairman Fall-Fest

