

Letters...

Dear Editor: Nancy Taylor's article on parking hit upon one good point - the problem of illegal parking in designated disabled parking spaces. As far as the rest of it is concerned, I'm afraid it doesn't tell the whole story. The following are items which the administration has yet to address:

1. The students of Marion and Bernardine Hall should have a designated area for year round parking, at the parking lot closest to these residences. The excuse offered for not doing this is that of ease of snow removal. However the space occupied by the cars is the same whether at the top parking lot or the one beside Blanchard. Suggestion: Designate the parking lot at the top of the hill (behind the temporary classrooms) maybe one possibil-

ity.

2. Another issue not addressed in the article was that of the clearance of snow from the parking lots, roadways, and walkways within the campus area. Have you ever tried to push a wheelchair through a one foot bank of snow that the campus plows have left at the crossways? What about the snow trail, commonly understood to be the main access to the Robertson Library, day care center, and residences? Have you noticed how long after the storm this "road" is not widened? Since classes start at 8:30 AM and the cafe opens at 7:45 AM, it would be reasonable to have the snow removed from the walkways before 7:45 AM instead of just beginning to clear the snow at 8:00 AM? Lest anyone point out that the mainte-

nance staff don't start til 8:00, perhaps the contract should be adjusted slightly, for an earlier start by snow removal crews.

3. Yes Nancy, you can go before the Traffic and Parking Committee, after you have discovered your car has been missing. BUT, do you know who is on the committee? Two people, the head of security, who arranges the tow truck in the first place and the administrative officer. Naturally both these people have their own designated parking place. There is not even one student on this committee, which controls parking/traffic regulations. It's nice to live in a democracy.

4. Last year, a number of letters were sent to the editor of the Gem and duly printed. They contained an open request to the administration to respond to the

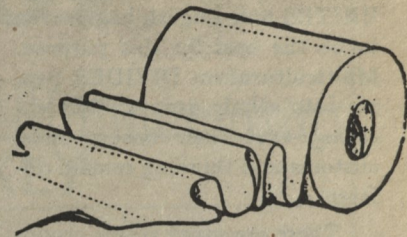
statements. NOTHING, not one single word was printed.

5. Let's try again. Only this time, perhaps Nancy you can make sure the administration reads the university newspaper, especially this next statment.

Attention administration - please respond, in the Gem, to the views expressed in this letter.

signed Shouldn't the university be instigating these concerns?

...Cont. page 6



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Dear Ms. DesRoches and Ms. Chappelle,

As former chairperson of the UPEI Occupational Health and Safety (OH&S) Committee, I am please that *The GEM* has seen it fit to address Occupational Health and Safety issues in the October 6 issue. I would like to assure the students that proper OH&S procedures have been implemented on campus. For example, waste products are not disposed down the sink, as implied in the cartoon, but are removed from campus via proper disposal methods. If we are uncertain about the disposal of a substance, we consult with either Environment Canada or the PEI Department of Community and Cultural Affairs. PCB's on campus will be discussed at the next OH&S meeting.

If students have safety concerns, they have a representative on the OH&S Committee, appointed by the Student Union. This is not necessary according to the OH&S Act, but we feel that students voices should be heard on our Committee. Unfortunately, in the two years that students have been invited to participate on the OH&S Committee, they have chosen not to attend meetings. We have discussed a number of issues directly relevant to students, such as laboratory safety and also safety in the residences. Tampering with fire safety equipment, such as emptying fire extinguishers and removal of batteries in smoke detectors is probably a greater health and safety hazard than the PCB's on campus. It is unfortunately that there has been no input from the

students on these issues.

We are please that students are taking a greater interest in OH&S concerns and would be grateful if you could encourage the Student Union to represent the students actively on the OH&S Committee. Safety is everyone's concern.

Sincerely yours,

John F Burka, Ph.D.

Secretary, UPEI OH&S Committee

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To the Netted one:

Is it right or just? Answer this question, dear readers; Why should only an elite or select few reap the benefits of a student shared utility (ie. the pop machines)? We are referring to the article (*The GEM* vol.6, no.6) in which Jim Griffith, of the Student Services in collaboration with Gulf Vending Ltd. has planned to strip UPEI societies of what meager funds they can raise through the use of pop machines. The student populous and our

fraction stand by the principle of shared gratuities of the majority - 99% not a 1% minority. As most students, we would like to see this small portion of money that is spent by the majority benefit the majority. In closing, we ask you, Mr. Griffith not to "pull the lifeline" of our exalted societies or we will be forced to take action.

Signed

The Republic of Unjust Misused Moneys

aka The RUMM and Cokes

YOUR FORUM FOR DISCUSSION. The Gem vigorously encourages dissent and controversy and prints all letters to the Editor except those of a malicious nature. Letters must be signed and include the authors phone number. However, names can be withheld from publication by request. Deadline for letters is Monday, 12:00pm.