

# An Alternative to the G.J. Rip-Off

In passing conversation the other night in a local bar, something which was so familiar but yet so alien to the ear. Something I have heard in the form of complaint cumerous times over the past few years in Ch'town. A U.P.E.I. student taking the name of G.J.'s in blasphemy. Have you heard the latest "rip off" at our friendly students discotheque? queried the student. This another "Creel" and "Brown" rip off, prompted me to write this letter.

G.J.'s discotheque K-Mart Plaza. What has Jims done for you? Ever since I came to Charlottetown there seems to be the continuing complaint about an uncontrollable "inflation" of "rip off" imposed by G.J.'s.

First beer was 65¢ on student nights and 75¢ on regular nights. Then in the summer because of the flock of tourists "Creel" (Creelman McArthur, owner of Jims) saw he could make a few more bucks so upped the price to 90¢. The ideology of this was in the summer there were no student nights thus the price hike wouldn't effect the students. However in the fall did the price go back down to 75¢ and 65¢? Not on your life, in fact students had to start paying 75¢ on student nights. How kind of Creel to give the students a break.

This price hike resulted in similar moves on the part of the other clubs, thus the emergence of the "little" oligopoly on the price of

beer. A year later Creel throws another buck on for a cover charge on the week-ends. Why not, if he got away with executing extremist policies in the past why not squeeze a little more out of the students. They paid before, they'll pay again. And so they did. He even had the balls to sell little red hats (you had to buy one or you could not enter the club) that I see popping up all over the place and now he has the gall to outlaw blue jeans.

I ask you who are Juniors and Seniors, as for that matter anyone who's been around long enough to know the score, what has G.J.'s done for you? Think about it and give me an honest answer.



The initiative to write this letter came from the fact that when I heard the student make the remark the other nite the bar I was in happened to be the Tradewinds or what some knew as the old "Knight". Well it's no longer the "Jolly Knight" and there under new management and ownership it projects an entirely new image. The point that flashed on me was that it was good to have a place in town willing to cater to the students other than cater to how much they can rip him off. This belief is given thrust when I say all U.P.E.I. students were given a free beer and there were five draws for free six packs. The atmosphere is not bad either and you may even notice a few familiar faces who have had the fortune of discovering what can be had at the Tradewinds. The management is more cordial than I have seen in any of the local clubs. Give it some thought. It sure rates well ahead of Jims where I don't think any student here can say he has gotten anything for nothing from Jims unless he ripped it off. Oh yeah, next week there's another free beer and five more six packs at the Tradewinds every Tuesday nite. P.S. About the little red hats. The management of G.J.'s got them for nothing from Olands breweries and were supposed to give them out to customers for free. In turn they (Jims) were supposed to sell only oland products on those nights of free hats (Thurs, Fri, Sat. of Oktoberfest). Speaking of rip off Jims did not sell only Olands products but almost any of the regular brands thus ripping off Olands on one hand and the students on the other by selling the supposedly free hats for \$1.50.

Charles M. Mills

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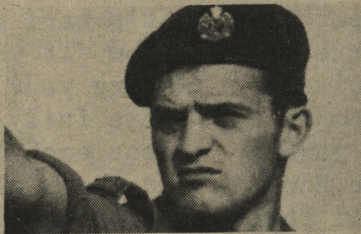
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