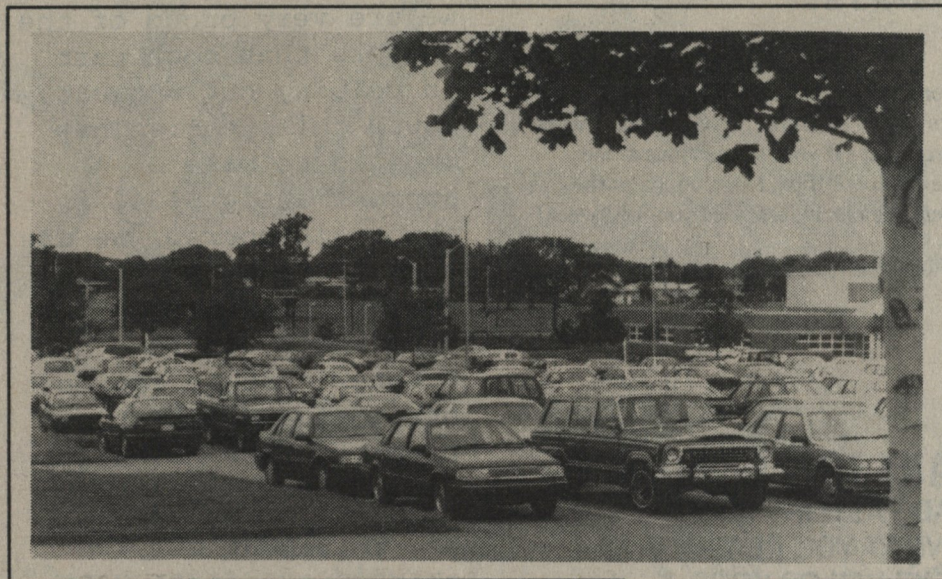


Right Outta Left Field:

Okay, let's get this obligatory complaint column out of the way as peacefully as possible. Not that I don't enjoy doing complaint columns, mind you, it's just that I would rather be doing something more positive. Anyway, on with the show: the topic for discussion is, of course, paying for parking (I like to keep my complaints as current as possible, if it's convenient). Far be it for me to chastise the administration for causing me to dip into my spare change to round up \$50 for the privilege of leaving my vehicle unattended whilst I hike the several hundred meters to class (worse-case scenario: from the lot behind MacAdam Field to Robertson), but I do have the right to speak my mind, don't I? Well, here goes. . .

To begin, I'd like to commend the administration for insisting on a pay-as-you-park system. "Why?" you may be asking yourself. For this reason -- tuition rates. As long as the administration continues to mask and disguise the shortfall of money coming into the university, I don't really mind what they think of next to suck

the money out of my bank account. Here are a few suggestions of how to increase the cash flow: increasing charges on overdue library books from 20¢ a day to \$1 a day (not only would the library make a profit, all library books would be returned early); a toll booth to enter the Pit, the Barn,



and the Cafeteria; start charging for the X-Press (like that'll go over well); and possibly charging user fees for desks or chairs.

Okay, so most of those things (hopefully) won't happen anytime soon. But speaking of fiction, do you readers want to know the real reason for UPEI charging for parking? Of

The Parking Conspiracy And Other Such Trivialties

By J. Jones

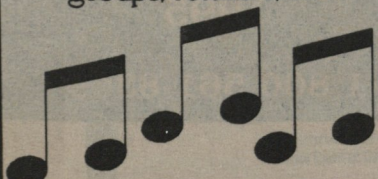
course you do! The scheme began several years ago in 1989 in a boardroom in Ottawa, Department of Sport and Fitness to be precise. After the Ben Johnson affair, where Canadian athletes were found to be using steroids, the head honcho at Sport & Fitness became a little worried. He or she knew that if

As such, the minister quickly and discreetly borrowed about \$50 billion from the national coffers (remember, this is Ottawa, so it could happen), spent it on some obscure project in an obscure region of Canada where no one would notice it. This massive expenditure caused the recession, which caused "massive and drastic cutbacks across the board," which caused a shortage of funds to post-secondary institutions, which eventually caused UPEI to charge for parking.

"How does this all tie together?" you may be asking yourselves by now. Here's the clincher -- while causing UPEI students and staff to pay for parking, the federal government knew that people would disapprove and leave their cars at home and walk to class. This would ensure that the next generation of sports heroes will be able to make millions of dollars pitching Wheaties in the US of A. There, now you know the rest of the story. I just hope that my source in Ottawa doesn't get blamed for this security leak, since it will definitely mean his downfall in politics.

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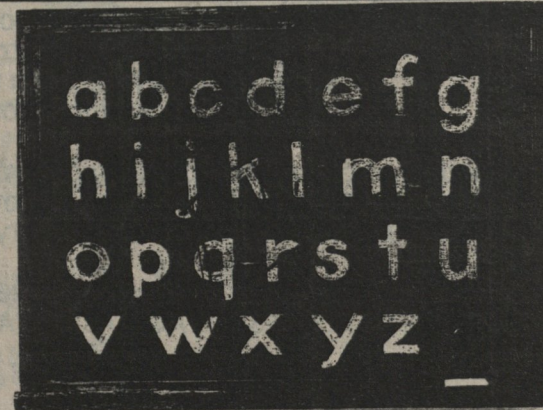


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