

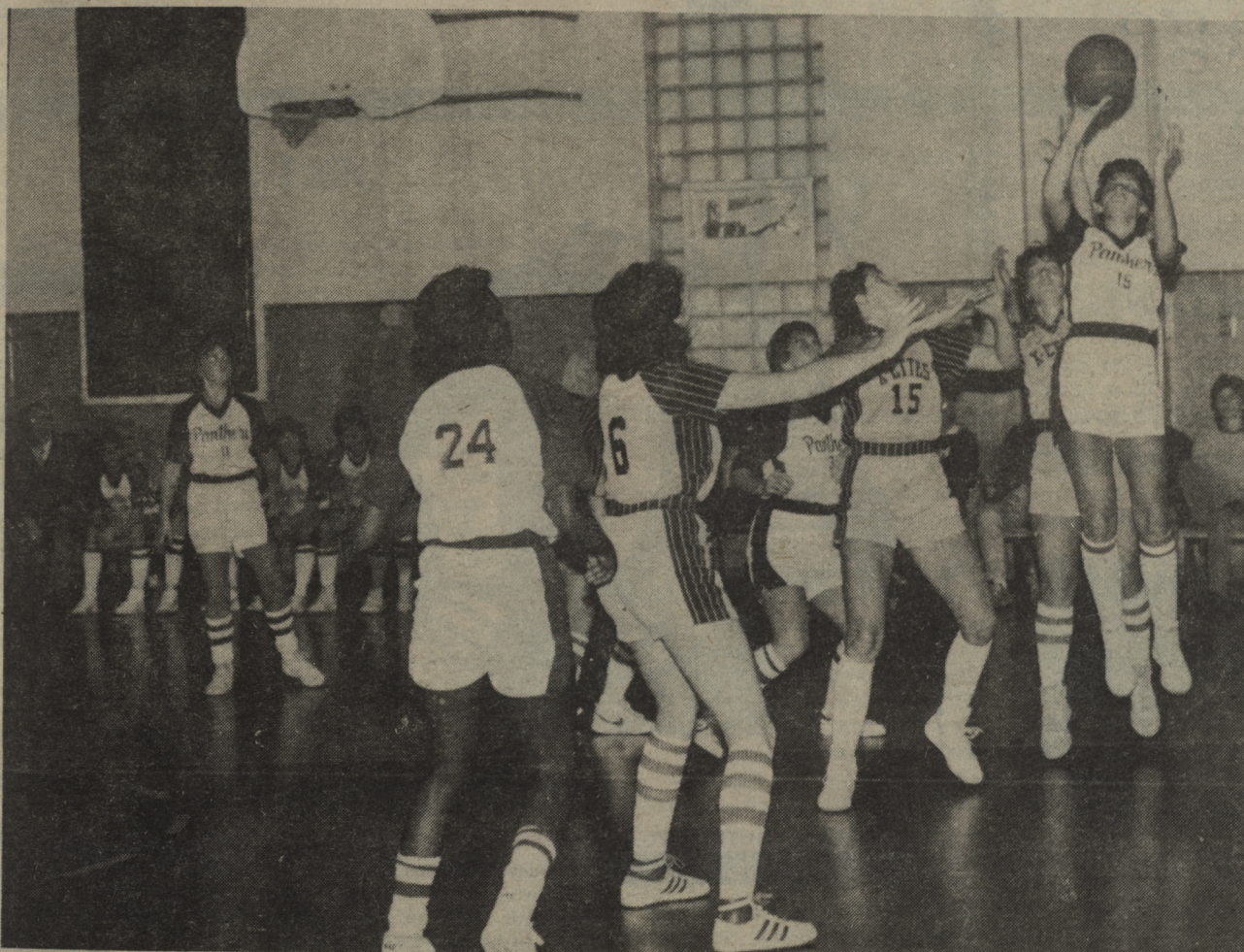
Lack of business for buddy system?

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Plenty of excitement as Cathy Chandler leaps high above the rest in a 38-35 rout of the St. F.X. X-ettes in exhibition basketball play on the weekend.

Theft, the price we pay

By Sharon Leighton

A group of students shared a table in the UPEI Cafeteria. One student said, "I need an ashtray. None of you will tell anyone, will you?" Then she slipped the ashtray from the table into her jacket pocket and walked out. It was November 1, but it could have been any day.

Andy Dean, manager of the food service here, says that there is no serious theft problem at UPEI. He admits that at the beginning of every year, a certain amount of theft takes place due to the fact that students

are furnishing their apartments. "A lot of salt and pepper dishes go missing," he says.

Andy agreed that some of the Thanksgiving decorations were stolen. "They go," he said, "but you expect that." Andy could not say how much theft there has been. "If an article is breakable," he said, "there are three ways it could go: breakage, loss, or theft. If it's not breakable, there are still two ways. We can't tell how much is lost, how much stolen."

The cost of theft is included in the price of food at

the cafeteria. A certain amount of loss is provided for in the budget. If, in any year, the shortage experienced, from breakage, loss, and theft, is excessive, the amount will be made up the next year. "Indirectly, somewhere along the line, the student will end up paying for this," said Andy. "To break even, outgo must equal income."

Andy said that UPEI compared favourably to other campuses where he has worked. In the past, he has sometimes put boxes in the cafeteria to hold returned

articles, encouraging students to bring back anything stolen before the year ended, knowing that there was plenty to fill them. Five or six years ago, at another university, his staff used to go through residence rooms after the closing of university in spring and gather "a tremendous amount" of cafeteria china and tableware. He has seen no need to use these tactics at U.P.E.I.

"Over the past few years," he said, "students seem to be more responsible and mature, and there is less of this."

By Carolyn Ryan

Business is slow for the UPEI Women's Committee Buddy service.

In its first eight nights of operation, the escort service provided "buddies" to 24 callers. "One night we had seven requests," said co-ordinator Ronalda Murphy. "Sometimes there is only one."

Murphy believes part of the reason for the lack of response is that potential users of the system aren't aware of how easy it is to arrange for a buddy. Buddies are on duty at the Chaplaincy Center and ready to leave at a phone call's notice. Safety is ensured by having the requester sign a special card when she has arrived at her destination.

The service has other pro-

blems. People haven't been as quick to volunteer to be buddies as was expected, and as a result, Friday and Saturday night service have been discontinued. The Women's Committee hopes to co-ordinate the system better at the beginning of next term.

Members have also had to cope with administration's lack of visible interest since the project's initiation. In spite of numerous requests, no extra lighting has been installed in dark spots on campus.

Murphy says she does not feel the service is a failure. She points out that with exams approaching, "a lot of people are going to be here late studying", and says she expects requests for buddies to increase proportionately.

UPEI hosts engineering conference

About 70 engineering students gathered at UPEI last weekend to attend the Atlantic Canada engineering conference.

As well as students from UPEI, there were some from UNB, St. FX, Dalhousie, St. Mary's, Acadia, the College of Cape Breton and Memorial University of Newfoundland.

Leaders in the engineering profession told students about the "invisible profession" which produces works for the public to see.

John Evans, president of the Canadian Council of Professional Engineers, and Eric Garland, president of the Engineering Institute of Canada, told listeners achievements in the profession are often taken for granted. Many times it is only the mistakes that receive attention, they said.

The speakers stressed the impact engineering skills can

have on improving productivity and employment prospects. Examples were given of how mini projects and local industries, such as farming and fishing, could be improved with high-tech expertise.

The speakers also discussed with conference participants how to seek out opportunities and how to direct their attitudes toward success and advancement. The guest gave advice on the merits of old fashioned values such as truth, hard work, perseverance and excellence.

All of the presentation related to the conference theme which was **The Future Role of Atlantic Canadian Engineers.**

Special technical seminars were given by Prof. Do Gillis on maritime engineering; by Mike Baily on transportation engineering; and by David Stewart on offshore engineering.