

CHARACTER LOST

CAMPUS

The recent controversy over the destiny of the "Arts Quad" has generated an alternate proposal from landscape architect John A. Owen II.

Owen has suggested that the courtyard could serve in a "far more intrinsic and aesthetic function".

In presenting his brief to campus development committee, Owen pointed out that with the fluctuation of student

enrolment occurring at this time, any further plans for precipitating "an infringement on open social and physical space" should be delayed until enrolment becomes stabilized.

In his arguments against the proposed site of the commerce building, Owen stated that: "firstly, the Tory Building is not architecturally adaptable... any structure located to the south of the Tory Building would detract from its present physical and spatial function".

The recent construction of the HUB, Fine Arts, and Humanities buildings a further deterring factor... the increase in population density in this area leaves no room for added densities, and would only serve in increasing "social, physical, or spatial stress," Owen said.

Owen feels that the Quad should be adapted—in its natural state—as a social and recreational area, and should not be regarded merely as another piece of property "inviting additional physical-spatial perturbation".

His proposal was that a natural skating pond be created, with a heavily treed area surrounding it.



"the various elm tree species on campus have been stripped clean of all their lower branches," Owen complains, "leaving an effect of a skeletal forest."

In addition to his population and spatial concerns, Owen also feels strongly about the existing aesthetics of the campus; he said that, as it stands now, the campus has lost its own character in an urban theme; he pointed out the strict "right angle" design of the campus, with the lonely exceptions of Lister Hall and very few walkways. He suggested that

"free curve plant communities" be planned to complement the existing perpendicular streets and buildings.

Proposals he said should be implemented without delay:

— abandon all shade tree pruning; as is quite noticeable around campus, many of the Elm trees have been stripped of their lower branches.

— require a legal document from any subcontractor, to be presented upon demand, if he is about to remove or dispose of any trees from the University property. In support of this suggestion, Owen cited an instant when, two years ago on 87 Ave., thirty White Spruce were surreptitiously felled at 7 a.m.



WAITIN' FOR WILLY

by George Mantor

"If I had wanted to live above a pool hall I could have found a room over Joe's or something," remarked Marilyn Kanee, (Arts I) in reference to the noise caused by the installation of a pool room adjoining her suite in HUB. "The bing, bing, bing of the pin-ball machines is so irritating that I have to leave my shutters to the mall closed and then I suffocate," she said. Kanee went on to cite dust and construction noise, as major problems but quickly added that the location was good.

Barb Briggeman, Education 2, commented, "I can carry on a



conversation through the wall, with the tenants next door." Typical to all interviewed were complaints about construction noise and dust. Briggeman said, "I think we should continue to get rental discounts until the construction is completed and the majority of the businesses are set up."

"Don't misunderstand," she said, "I think it's a great idea. You get to meet a lot of people and being right on campus is nice. I just think that they should correct certain situations or make rental adjustments."

Esther Shatz, special Education 1 said, "I have no complaints. It's a lot better than living in residence." Her roommate, Val Sklar, Arts 1, was more critical in her appraisal of the conditions in HUB. "The carpeting is terrible and it's very dusty," she said.

Ron Treiber had been a resident for nearly a week before he was blessed with a toilet seat. "I was very relieved when I finally got it," he said. A few days later he was nearly decapitated by a falling cupboard door in his kitchen.

All tenants complained that it seemed to be impossible to get anything done. "When you go to the office to complain you're told that Willy will be around but he never comes," complained one discouraged tenant. "Nothing gets done so we've just given up complaining," she said.

Fulton Fredrickson, HUB Manager, offered these words of consolation to distraught tenants, "Tomorrow the mall will be washed down and sealed. This should put an end to the dust problem. Most of the noise between suites is caused by the emergency doors that we were required to install and there is simply nothing we can do about it. Construction noise is only serious in the far end of the mall where construction hasn't been completed yet. As for the suite deficiencies, we began inspections last week but in the first eight or ten suites we found so many problems that we will have to postpone the inspections for a time. In suites where the conditions are really bad, we will offer some reasonable reductions."

It will be about a year or so until all the commercial areas are completed. Until then one can only wait and hope that Willy will come.

