

## CROSSCANADA

## Graffiti makes malicious message

TORONTO (CUP)- The appearance of sexually explicit graffiti about a female professor has further damaged the atmosphere for women in the faculty of engineering at the University of Toronto, a professor says.

The graffiti was written on the projection screen of a classroom and was visible for several days before it was removed. At the request of the professor who was targeted, Dean of Engineering Gary Heinke issued a public letter calling the incident "malicious and unprofessional" and underlined his commitment to eradicating sexist behavior and attitudes in the faculty.

The female professor to whom the message was addressed said, "The graffiti wasn't removed quickly enough, and the damage was already done". "At first I felt threatened and afraid, and then even more angry at my colleague who continued to use the screen and carry on as if nothing had happened," said the professor.

"It has been very difficult to go back into the classroom and think 'it could be one of these people'".

Civil engineering professor Richard Soberman, who reported the incident to the faculty, agreed the administration didn't remove the graffiti promptly enough. However, fourth year engineering student, Kirsten Coupland said that while she found the incident disturbing, the dean's letter shows the faculty is taking the issue seriously.

## It's not easy being green

VICTORIA (CUP)- The University of Victoria's five-year development plan is proceeding at breakneck speed.

Students and faculty are worried about what the plan will mean for the university's green space. Building space on the campus will increase by 45 per cent in the next five years, if plans go ahead as slated.

"They plan to develop the whole campus...[and] planning has not taken into account the natural systems," said Neville Winchester, a senior lab instructor in the biology department.

Trevor Matthews, a university administration vice-president, said the school doesn't have a green plan committee to assess the impact of the development plan. Winchester said that while the administration seems concerned about maintaining a groomed landscape, that often means replacing native plants. "I've been here a decade, and it's not hard to realize the downturn in habitats on campus."

In the past, deer have wandered across one of the on-campus roads. But with rapidly encroaching development of meadows and glens, the deer may be forced elsewhere.

## Freewheeling and winging in Winnipeg

WINNIPEG (CUP)- A student at the University of Manitoba is getting free trips from Victoria to Winnipeg-at the University of Manitoba's expense.

Angela Heck, a student at the University of Victoria, is one of two student representatives on the University of Manitoba's Board of Governors. Heck has traveled to two Board of Governors meetings so far this year. The costs of her flights to and from Victoria are picked up by the university.

Heck is currently registered as a graduate student at the University of Victoria. She said she's thinking of registering in a course at the University of Manitoba. "I'm still a student," she said. "I'm in constant contact at the University of Manitoba. In fact, I've probably become more involved since I've been away".

Student council president Paul Kemp says Heck can still represent student in Winnipeg. But Kemp said that Heck's enrollment at another university is a problem.

"Angela doesn't think she can do the job to the best of her abilities," he said. "She's still a student, so she knows what it's like to be a student, and that's the important part of it," he said.

Kemp said he has talked with the provincial minister of education about Heck's position, and said he hopes that Heck will be able to step down by January. He said he has asked that Heck be allowed to choose her own replacement, rather than allow the provincial government to choose it, as was done in the past.

## SUB sign 'n sandwiches

by: Adam Newman

You might have noticed the snazzy new sign in the SUB. As students enter their building, its green neon triangular arrow points around the corner, towards the Union Market Food Court.

"We have to keep abreast of what the students are expecting," says Dominick Maichek, Regional Director of Beaver Foods. "Our objective is to provide students with the quality and variety of service that they are accustomed to receiving in the marketplace."

The cafeteria had not been physically improved in about fifteen years before renovations began this summer. Beaver Foods and the Dalhousie Student Union have been planning the renovations for two years.

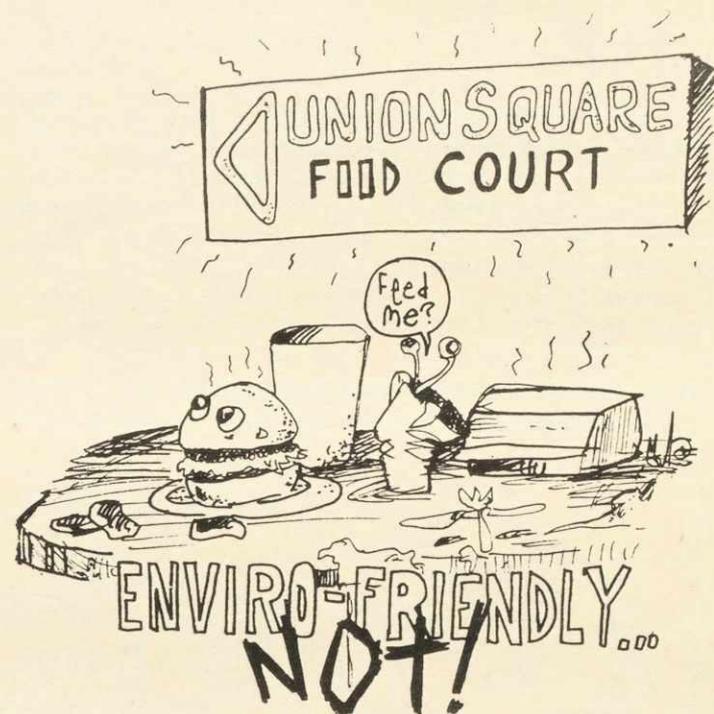
The sign is especially important for summer workshops and extra-university activities, says Brian Cuvelier, Director of Food Services at Dalhousie, "it gives visiting students a perception of where the cafeteria is at."

Despite the new food, fresh paint, and the promise of 50 new seats, which are expected to arrive by the first of next month, some students maintain that the Union Market is not providing them with the service that they expect. The Campus Environmental Action Group doesn't see any reason why renovations weren't made to make the cafeteria environmentally-friendly.

Food is served on styrofoam plates, sometimes covered with disposable plastic wrap, and eaten with plastic cutlery all of which is inevitably used once and thrown away. An alternative to the use of these disposable products might be to use dishes and wash them, as in the residence dining rooms.

The DSU recommended that option to Beaver Foods prior to the renovations, but it would have cost another \$2-300,000 on top of the \$4-500,000 that Beaver spent to improve facilities. Prices in the Union Market have not risen beyond the realm of ordinary inflation.

"It's difficult to insist that they (Beaver) put in a dishwasher when they are the ones who are paying all the capital costs," says Steve Gaetz, General Manager of the DSU.



Styrofoam and plastic tableware are sterile, inexpensive, and convenient. Supporters point to the fact that the re-use of mugs and utensils can provide a breeding ground for bacteria and illness, unless they are properly washed. And there has never been any study to prove that the use of water, energy, and cleaning chemicals is any less harmful to the envi-

to be recycled, Cuvelier replied that there are no plastic or styrofoam recycling facilities in Nova Scotia. "The only thing we do recycle is cardboard. We recycle all our cardboard," he says.

While the use of styrofoam has clear benefits in a cafeteria, its manufacture utilizes non-renewable petrochemical resources, and pollutes water and air. It must be manufactured continuously because it is used as a disposable product.

The polystyrene cups in the Union Market are created without the use of ozone-destroying CFC's. "They cost more than any paper or styrofoam cups, but we feel that they are better for the environment," says Cuvelier.

Other people are also concerned about the environment. C.E.A.G. continues to lobby for a move away from disposable products. "Beaver agreed to support a cloth napkin campaign last year, and have yet to do so," laments Judy Meades of C.E.A.G.

Canadians produce the most garbage, per capita, of any country in the world. C.E.A.G. and the Physical Plant are hosting Wasteless Wednesday, October 28, part of Nova Scotia Waste Reduction Week, in order to promote awareness. C.E.A.G. will set up a table outside the Union Market and ask students to refrain

**"It's difficult to argue washing dishes is not better than throwing things out"**

ronment than the use of disposable products. "We don't want to make a rash decision that could harm the environment," says Gaetz.

"There are phosphate-free soaps and various alternatives," says Lisa Roberts of C.E.A.G. "It's difficult to argue that washing dishes is not better for the environment than throwing things out, especially considering that Halifax is in the midst of a garbage crisis."

Styrofoam is a good insulator that keeps hot food hot, and it is starting to be recycled, but not in the Union Market. Students throw plates and bowls directly into the garbage. When questioned as to why recyclable tableware is not collected in bins

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## PIRG ENVIRONMENTAL TIPS

If you are accustomed to using commercial cleaners and cleansers around the house, stop! These products are very harsh and place a heavy burden on the environment. For cleaning mirrors and windows, use vinegar and water. Baking soda works well as a scouring powder for sinks, tiles, bathtubs and stovetops. In the toilet, a 50/50 mix of baking soda and Borox will clean and disinfect, allowing you to avoid chemical cleaners. Instead of using spray or solid air fresheners, burning a stick of incense will get similar results in a much more pleasant manner... and you won't contaminate your lungs with poisonous chemicals.