

The Gripes of Wrath

By SUSAN FORESTELL

Not long ago, a more student conscious student government than the one we have now offered photocopying services for only 5¢ per copy. In the fall of 1986, however, the student council spent about \$500 installing wall sockets in the Help Centre only to begin charging 7¢ per copy to make up the difference. Not suprisingly (as the price of supply increases, demand decreases--week one, Economics 1000) volume decreased and profits fell (could this have anything to do with the loss of one photocopier to the new president's office for personal use?) The council's solution was to raise again the price of photocopies, this time to 10¢.

Eventually, the council was forced to sell most of its photocopiers (they did keep the one in the president's office). Interestingly enough, the buyer turned out to be the University Administration.

Now photocopies can be made in the Help Centre for 10¢. Hardly a bargain considering the poor quality of the copies and the long lineups that are a result of a lack of copiers.

Meanwhile, the library is also charging 10¢ per copy. Luckily, someone *is* on the side of the students in this issue. Student Senator Barry White has been working for several months on a motion for Senate that would reduce photocopying prices to cost.

The motion was passed in principle by the Senate last month. The matter of determining costs was sent to the Academic Support Committee who determined that operating and copy card expenses make up about half the copy costs (5¢ per copy). The other half, according to the committee, is made up of staff costs. In fact, the committee decided that it takes two full time staff members to run the photocopiers.

Does this mean that if we got rid of the photocopiers two librarians would lose their jobs? I doubt it. Moreover, the money needed to pay librarians for *all* their duties has already been paid through tuition, government funds and donations. Students aren't required to pay extra to have librarians help them find books so why should they pay extra fees to have librarians put paper in the photocopiers? They shouldn't.

Our esteemed President, Dr. Downey, himself has stated that although UNB students pay the highest tuition in the country, we do not pay add-on costs. Here is a clear cut case of the burden of an add-on cost. Hopefully, the Senate will reject the Support Committee's assessment. And then the University can pick up where that more student conscious student government left off.

MacLaggan becomes smoke free (almost)

As of February 4, MacLaggan Hall is a non-smoking building, with the exception of one designated smoking area.

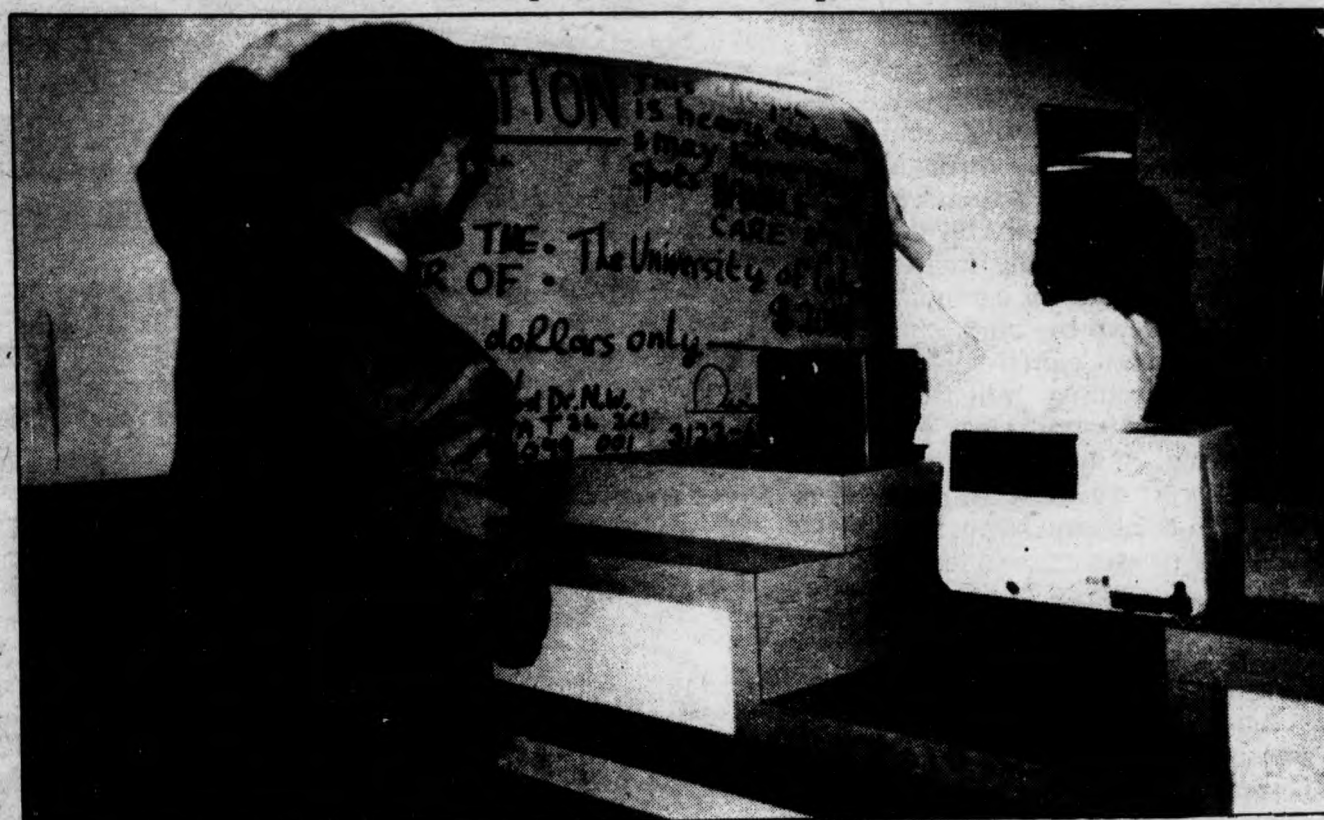
All offices, corridors, and stairwells, as well as the student's lounge and study room are now Non-Smoking areas. The only place where smoking will be permitted is in one stairwell at the back of the building.

Last fall, following revision of the smoking policy for the U.N.B. campus, nursing students declared that they

wanted a completely smoke free building. The majority of the members of the Nursing Faculty also wanted a smoke free building. The new policy however, gives to each Dean, Departmental Chairperson, or Director responsible for building, in consultation with the Safety Committee, the discretion to designate specific smoking areas in the building. Contrary to the nursing students preference, one area has been designated in MacLaggan Hall.

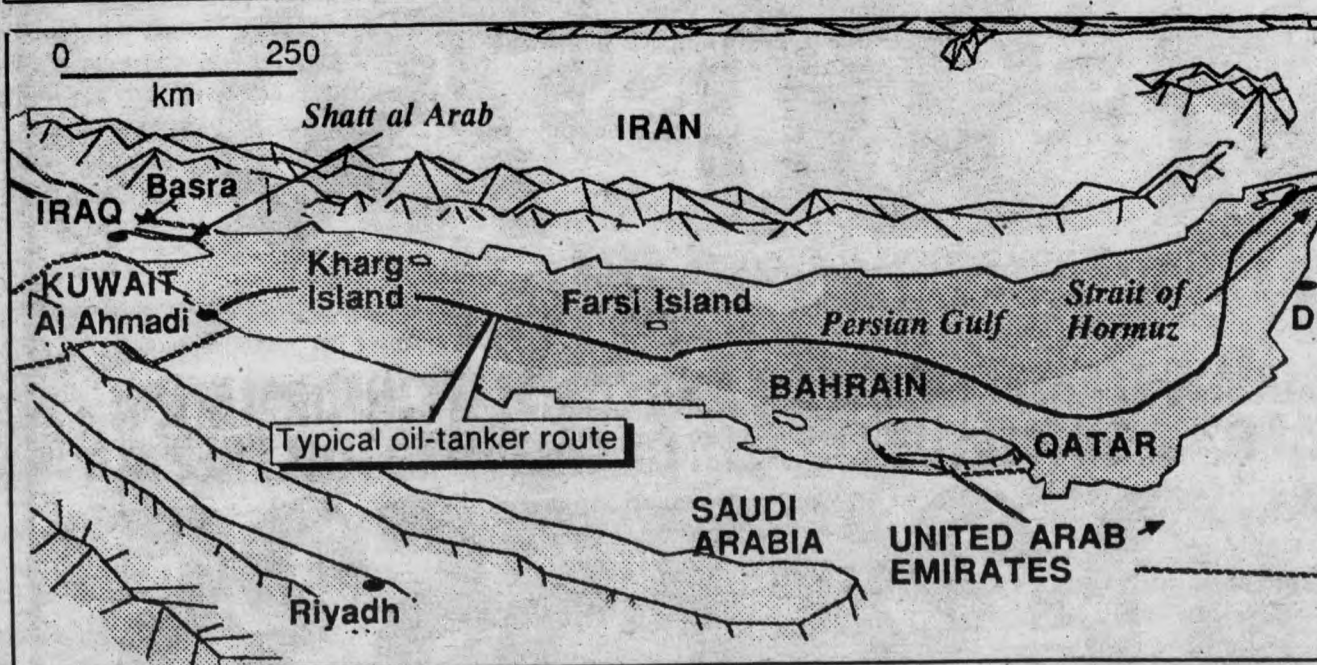
To increase public awareness regarding the health risks associated with smoking and with second hand smoke, an Awareness Day is being planned at MacLaggan Hall by fourth year nursing students. Information regarding community resources available to persons who wish to stop smoking will also be provided at this time. All nursing students have been asked to remind anyone that they see smoking about the new policy.

Will you take a cheque?



U. Calgary prof David Hill got sick of getting so many parking tickets, so he wrote his latest cheque on the hood of a Volkswagen. (Beware UNB Security!). Courtesy The Gauntlet. Photo: CN.

Gulf Goop Garage



GULF GOOP. The route taken by oil tankers through the Persian Gulf, and the presence of navy warships of many countries contribute considerably to a nasty mess of oil in the gulf. The damage to marine life and the cost of oil demand a solution to this costly problem.

The casualties of the Iran-Iraq war are not restricted to soldiers and civilians. Many kilometers of beachfront along the Persian Gulf have been turned into wide stretches of hard black pavement.

The Persian Gulf has seen a small amount of oil leaking into it for centuries, yet it was able to cope because there were enough microbes to digest it.

But now, more than 400 ships in the Persian Gulf have been attacked resulting in thousands of gallons of oil being dumped into the fragile Gulf environment. For example, one oil platform that had been attacked poured 50 000 gallons a day in the water for nearly three months.

Forty percent of the fringe reefs along Qatar and up to 30 percent of the reefs off Bahrain have died. The Gulf is a harsh

environment at the best of times. The Tigris and Euphrates rivers provide the only fresh water for the 450 mile body of water.

Because of the dust storms with winds gusting between 60-85 km/h and temperatures of 55 degrees celsius, the waters of the Gulf evaporate quickly and have twice the normal salinity of the ocean it flows into.

The air temperature varies from below freezing to 55 celsius and since the Gulf is on the average less than 40 m deep, its temperature also fluctuates between 10 and 30 C.

Because of the harsh environment, the additional strain of the oil spills threatens many organisms, some of them unique to the Persian Gulf.

Such species include forests of black coral, finless dolphins in the north, and a herd of dugongs which are first cousin to the manatee.