

# Opinions and Comments

## Campus officials cope with parking dilemma

Despite a shortage of approximately 316 parking spaces on campus, administration and security officials are handling the campus parking dilemma more than adequately. The change over to the first-come, first-serve parking system, much to the discontent of some sophomores, has been a smooth and orderly transition. Mr. Cerulla, Highacres Business Manager who often oversees the direction of parking during the busier days of the week, has been instrumental in helping to keep a serious parking problem under control.

Mike Ford, SGA president, acted sensibly and reasonably to the change in parking policy, which reached him by rumor before it did by University Park consultation. Ford went to see Dr. David, Campus Director, about the decision which had apparently gone over Ford's head. Dr. David explained that the decision was made at University Park and was out of his hands. The one question that must be asked is why wasn't SGA, which is supposed to be a consultative body to University Park on campus issues, consulted about these policy decisions? Also a question of concern is whether or not University Park took into consideration the welfare of the Highacres student body when it decided to increase enrollment at Highacres, despite the existence of an already critical parking problem.

Although the parking situation, for the present, seems under control, controlling the problem is not solving it. The situation will gradually worsen during winter term when the bad weather arrives. Even if the student population drops by 100 students this winter, as it did last year, we can still expect 1,013 students on campus, more than any other winter term in previous years. The obvious solution, of course, is a new parking lot. Dr. David said University Park is working on the plans for an additional lot, but he cannot say when such a lot may be completed.

In the meantime, there are two temporary solutions — increase the number of car pools, which now only numbers eight and decrease enrollment, setting a ceiling on the number of students that may be admitted to Highacres. The former solution is being looked at now by SGA. A proposed incentive to the students will allow car poolers privileged parking in designated areas at the top of the campus.

The latter solution combined with the above one will significantly improve the parking problem on campus. If University Park does not cut back admissions at Highacres or if additional lots are not built, the campus parking crisis will persist.

## From the Editor's Desk

As most of you know or should know by now, each term every student at Highacres is assigned a mailbox. The mailboxes are on the first floor of the Classroom Building. Their main purpose is to serve as a source of communication between individual students, students and the administration, students and faculty, and students and clubs and campus organizations. In addition, it is one way of letting the students know what's happening on campus and what events are taking place.

The mailboxes are a good communications system, but the system will only work if you, the students, make it work. Checking your mailbox once each term or

even once each week is not sufficient. If someone leaves a message on Monday and it is not picked up until Friday, chances are you've missed something important.

It only takes a few minutes each day you're on campus to check your mailbox so please do so! And remember — not every student gets mail every day, but if you check your mailbox frequently, you will always receive your messages on time.

Please keep in mind also that mailbox numbers are changed at the beginning of each term. Look for your new number in December and again in March.

The Executive Editors



Weight room reserved for club members only

by Bill Sheman

Unlike last year, the weight room, located on the lower floor of the Physical Education Building, is "off limits" to anyone but weight club members. The ten dollar initiation fee for entry into the club can also be viewed as an obstruction. Some students have questioned the barring of this room, after all, tuition paying students at Highacres should not be denied the opportunity to use campus facilities. Why, then, have students been deprived of unrestricted admission into the weight room?

The answer for the closing can be traced back to last year. The weight room prior to the 1978-79 school year had been only open to the weight club. It was decided to open the room to the general student body two years ago. Last year, however, the weight room was victimized by vandalism, disorder, and thefts.

Before closing, an alternative attempt was made to curb the misconduct. Students wishing to use the weight room had to first "sign out" the key, and thus, be responsible for the actions in the room. This procedure proved ineffective. The key was passed from person to person without the initial signature; also the door was often left open.

Membership in the weight club, which now stands at 30 to 35, shows that there is a large percentage of the student populace that want to make use of this room. The initiation fee of ten dollars, however, to students who are only interested in "pumping the iron" occasionally is a high priced toll.

It is clearly an injustice when the entire student body is deprived of any opportunity to use a campus facility because of the misdeeds of a small minority. There seems to me to be no practical solution to curb further acts of vandalism and thefts which could possibly lead to further students' losses such as in the weight room situation. Weight club members cannot be criticized for wanting to protect what is, in fact, weight club property (all weights in the weight room had originally been bought

by previous weight clubs, not the university). I, myself, feel angered and cheated by acts of vandalism and theft, as many other students should also feel.

## Students fail to keep up with news

BOWLING GREEN, Ky. (CH) — Is Mike Wallace the son of Gov. George Wallace? Does Bo Derek play guard for the University of Kentucky basketball team?

Apparently some Western Kentucky University students think so, much to the dismay of their English instructor, Robert Wurster. He recently conducted a survey, asking 60 of his students to identify 50 people and organizations of current popularity. The average score was 52 percent, leading Wurster to conclude that his students make little effort to keep up with current events.

Wallace, a CBS newscaster, was also identified as a car dealer and actress Suzanne Somers was described by one student as "an international students' adviser."

The least known figure was Bowling Green's mayor while comedian Steve Martin lost a close race for best known personality to the Ayatollah Khomeini, who was misidentified by "only" six of the students.

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