

unreasonable demands

Tripling freshmen, something this campus hasn't seen for three years, promises to be with us again this fall. And along with the basic inconvenience it will cause for the students directly involved, it will mean even longer lines and even more crowding for the entire university community.

None of these prospects are particularly attractive, and it seems as though some sacrifices will have to be made all around. This is why the request from graduate students for even more dormitory space at this time is so out of line.

Making even more freshmen triple up just so more graduate students can have single rooms should strike any fairminded person as completely unacceptable.

In addition, with the opening of the new library, a great deal of space is being reserved exclusively for graduate student study areas. This should considerably decrease their need

for single rooms.

A majority of the graduate students on campus already have single rooms. They also have a benefit of not having to be on the meal plan if they choose not to be. Now they are asking for even more special treatment.

If there were the space available we would see no objections. But as long as most of the university must suffer the pains of crowding, we see no reason why one constituency should have special rights over everyone else.

If freshmen will have to be tripled just so more graduate students can have singles, this will breed resentment and ill-feeling. Instead if graduate students could moderate their demands until the crowding is eased, they would be making a great contribution to the university as a whole.

Let's not reach a situation where graduate students and undergraduate students are going to have to fight each other for the university's resources.

searching for hobbits. . .

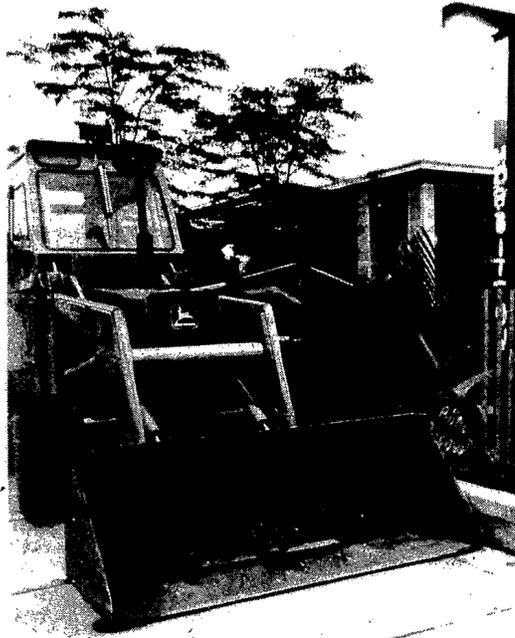


Photo by Hector Hernandez

No, actually it's maintenance making some home improvements on the mound. They are installing a ladder underneath the man-hole cover, so that access to the pipings inside will be easier. Maintenance men had tried to fix some of the pipes inside earlier this week, and were unable to get inside without doing some excavation. While the hole was there, they decided to install the ladder.

library building holocaust collection

A special collection of books, documents, and other scholarly materials pertaining to the Holocaust, in which millions of European Jews died during World War II, has been founded on campus.

Named in memory of Mrs. Moses (Belle) Margolis, a Binghamton-area resident for more than 50 years, the Belle Margolis Library Collection has received generous financial assistance from the Margolis

family and friends.

The Collection will include standard works, principally in English, designed to support undergraduate instruction in the history of the Holocaust, and will also supplement research materials in the University's Judaic Studies Program. Part of the collection will consist of original source materials in Russian and Yiddish. Additional acquisitions, aimed at supporting graduate studies, will be

contingent upon further contributions to the collection. It is also stipulated that a certain percentage of funds raised will be used to purchase works written by women.

"Contributions from the public will be accepted with great appreciation," said Gerald D. McLain, director of alumni/foundation development. Checks should be made payable to the SUNY-Binghamton Foundation with a note attached directing the gift to the Margolis Collection. Contributions are tax deductible, he said.

George H. Stein, distinguished teaching professor of history, will head a faculty committee which will acquire the Collection. Stein is an authority on modern Europe, particularly modern Germany.

The limited-circulation collection will be housed in a partially enclosed alcove in the College-in-the-Woods Library. Community residents, as well as students, faculty, and staff of SUNY-Binghamton will be invited to take advantage of the collection.

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thumb hangs helplessly

To the editor:

Last week, upon leaving my class at four o'clock in the afternoon and preparing to hitchhike home to Binghamton, I was overjoyed to notice a sudden abundance of cars heading down Center Drive toward the SUNY-Binghamton exit. "Great," I thought. "I'm sure to get a ride."

It was only fifteen minutes later, having stood there as each of those "abundance" of cars passed me with my thumb hanging helplessly in the air, that I realized what had happened. I noticed that nearly all of the cars that passed had as their drivers women of approximately middle age.

And suddenly it dawned on me: 4 o'clock was when most university employees left work to head for home. So I assumed that these women worked for the school (I had seen some of them before in places like the

registrar's office) and were on their way to the comfort of their respective living rooms.

And they all had one thing in common: they did not stop for hitchhikers. And as I stood there, my thumb aching, I thought, well, I'm usually not surprised when middle aged people pass me by while I am hitchhiking. I almost expect them to, for that matter. But these were university employees, people I deal with nearly every day, and I was a student, standing there on campus, and what the hell were they afraid of?

If I am not going to harm them when I encounter them in the registrar's office (and lord knows I sometimes want to), I am certainly not going to harm them now.

So, ladies, I ask you, what are you worried about? Pick up hitchhikers.

Allen Lowe

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