**INAUGURAL ISSUE**

*Welcome to the inaugural issue of On a Roll.*

We think you will find our little paper useful, informative, and fun, or as our masthead says, “news you can use.” How you use it is entirely up to you.

Reading material in the bathroom is not a new idea. We’re even willing to bet you’ve already thought of it. The problem is, when you’re in a public restroom, unless you’re one of those people who really plan ahead, there’s never anything to read. Ironic when you think about it, isn’t it? We have to admit we’ve borrowed shamelessly from the University of Virginia Library’s *Stall Talk* and the College of William & Mary’s *Throne*. A bathroom newspaper is not even an idea exclusive to libraries. I remember reading the *Barnard Toilet Paper* in the public restrooms in Barnard Hall at CMU years ago.

Regarding our choice of names, we could have (and believe me, we did) come up with lots of bad puns on bathrooms and newspapers, including the *FLITE Toilet Paper*, the *Restroom Reader*, and the *FLITE Log* (ugh!). We decided *On a Roll* was catchy and kitschy without being trashy or gross. We’ll try to keep the potty jokes to a minimum, but just remember, tasteless can be really funny. By the way, if you don’t know what kitschy means, you can look it up. After all, you’re sitting (or standing, as the case may be) in the biggest and best library this side of the Muskegon River!

Happy reading and do let us know what you think of FLITE and *On A Roll*. Put your comments in the Suggestion Box in the Information Commons (that’s where all the computers are on the first floor) near the printers, and we’ll use the best ones. In subsequent issues we will also print the best (and the dumbest, so be careful!) comments from the suggestion box.

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**DID YOU KNOW?**

- Toilet paper was invented in China in the 14th century.
- The Scott Paper Co. of Philadelphia was the first company to market toilet paper on a roll, in 1890.
- According to the Charmin Co. (and they should know), consumers use an average of 8.6 sheets of t.p. per bathroom trip, or an annual total of 20,805 sheets.
- 40% of Americans are folders or stackers, 40% are wadders or crumplers, and the remaining 20% wrap it around their hand. (Who the heck comes up with these surveys, anyway?)

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**WOODY’S Words of Wisdom**

(from *The Sayings of W.N. Ferris*)

“I hope I possess the habit of telling the truth. This custom has given me untold trouble in politics.” Right on, Woody. We only wish more present-day politicians had your attitude.

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**SUGGESTION BOX**

Questions of the Month

Most frequent: FLITE is too noisy. Where can I find a quiet place to study?

Answer: We know it can get a little loud on both first and second floors. There’s no way it’s going to be like a church when you put more than a hundred computer stations and seating for a couple hundred people together in one big room. FLITE staff try to remind people to respect the rights of others, but it’s a big building so we do rely somewhat on students reminding each other. Quiet areas can be found in the Lower Level, in the Reference stacks area of 1st Floor, and on 3rd Floor. FLITE also has more than 40 study rooms, many of which are tucked away in quiet areas. Keep in mind that study rooms are first-come, first-served, and they are in high demand especially during the evening hours.

Funniest: Help me! I’m trapped in the suggestion box.

Answer: Hahahaha.

Dumbest: Put beer in the vending machine [sic].

Answer: Right, and the next thing you’re going to tell me it that drinking beer helps your spelling. Those of you who don’t know what “sic” means, you can look it up; after all, you’re in the biggest and best library this side of the Muskegon River!

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**FLITE by the Numbers**

| 1 | Number of books FLITE has on bathroom design and construction |
| 3 | How many years FLITE has been open |
| 5 | Number of floors in the FLITE building |
| 14 | Restrooms in FLITE |
| 139 | Public computer workstations in FLITE |
| 446,004 | Number of people who visited FLITE last year |

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