

That male bastion—the car wash

I had a bit of a flashback last week—I took my car into the coin-op car wash and actually got my hands wet.

Now that may seem like a fairly mundane thing, (perhaps I do need a life) but I generally take the lazy man's approach, pulling up to the drive through car wash, and let the touchless sprayers at the Esso station do the job that I once relegated to elbow grease.

But just this one day, I had an urge to give the car a 'real' wash, complete with scrubbing the wheels, hanging the floor mats on the hooks to spray the dirt off them, and I even took time to chamois it off when I was done.

Yup, I actually bent over and scrubbed. Hell, I felt like I was 19 again.

I remembered those days, when the old coin-op car wash was located on Guelph Street in Georgetown (in the lot beside McDonald's, before the Prosperity One building and the brand new Petro Canada station were built.)

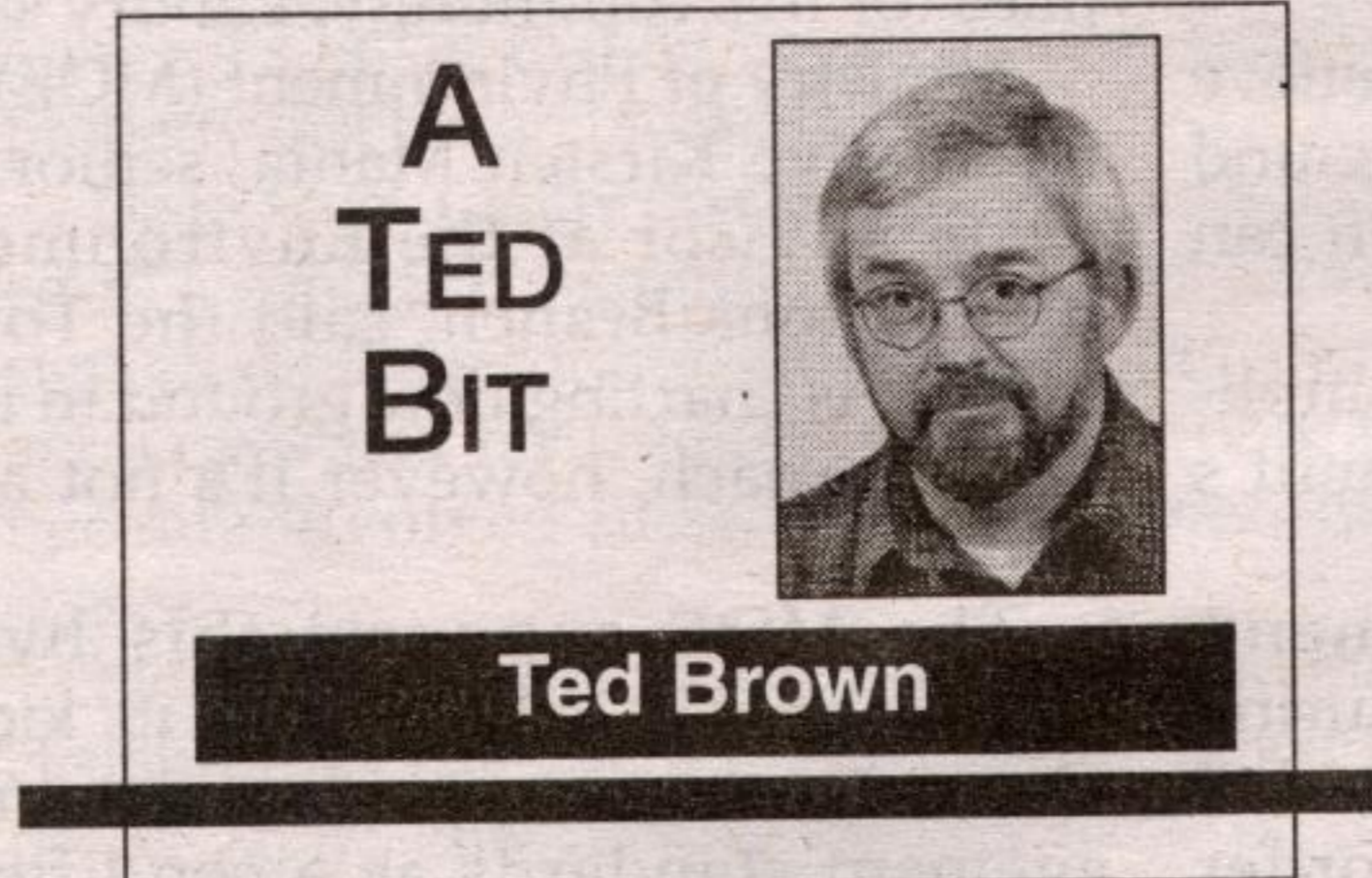
I can safely say, that car wash was my home away from home. I probably spent more time there—plunking quarters into the slot, during my lunch hour from work, before a hot date, late at night after a hot date, and almost every Sunday morning—than I did anywhere else.

And my car, a '68 Mustang, was always immaculate, to the point of being an obsession (at least according to my girlfriend, at the time.)

I managed to get washing it for one quarter down to a science. I timed myself to have the car washed, rinsed, and my bucket filled with water, before the timer ran out.

The car wash was definitely a 'guy' place.

Sure, some of my friends would swing by with their newest girlfriend to show her off to the rest, but they'd never stay too long, probably for fear of someone trying to hustle her away, or the simple fact she had to be home in good time.



Or, maybe she didn't really wanna stay at the car wash. (And girlfriends always had a unique form of bargaining power.)

Most guys were more interested in showing off their new wheels or the fresh paint job, than they were displaying their girlfriends.

That car wash on Guelph Street was a perfect location. You could park your car out front, (with the wheels slightly turned for effect) and everyone could see it as they drove by.

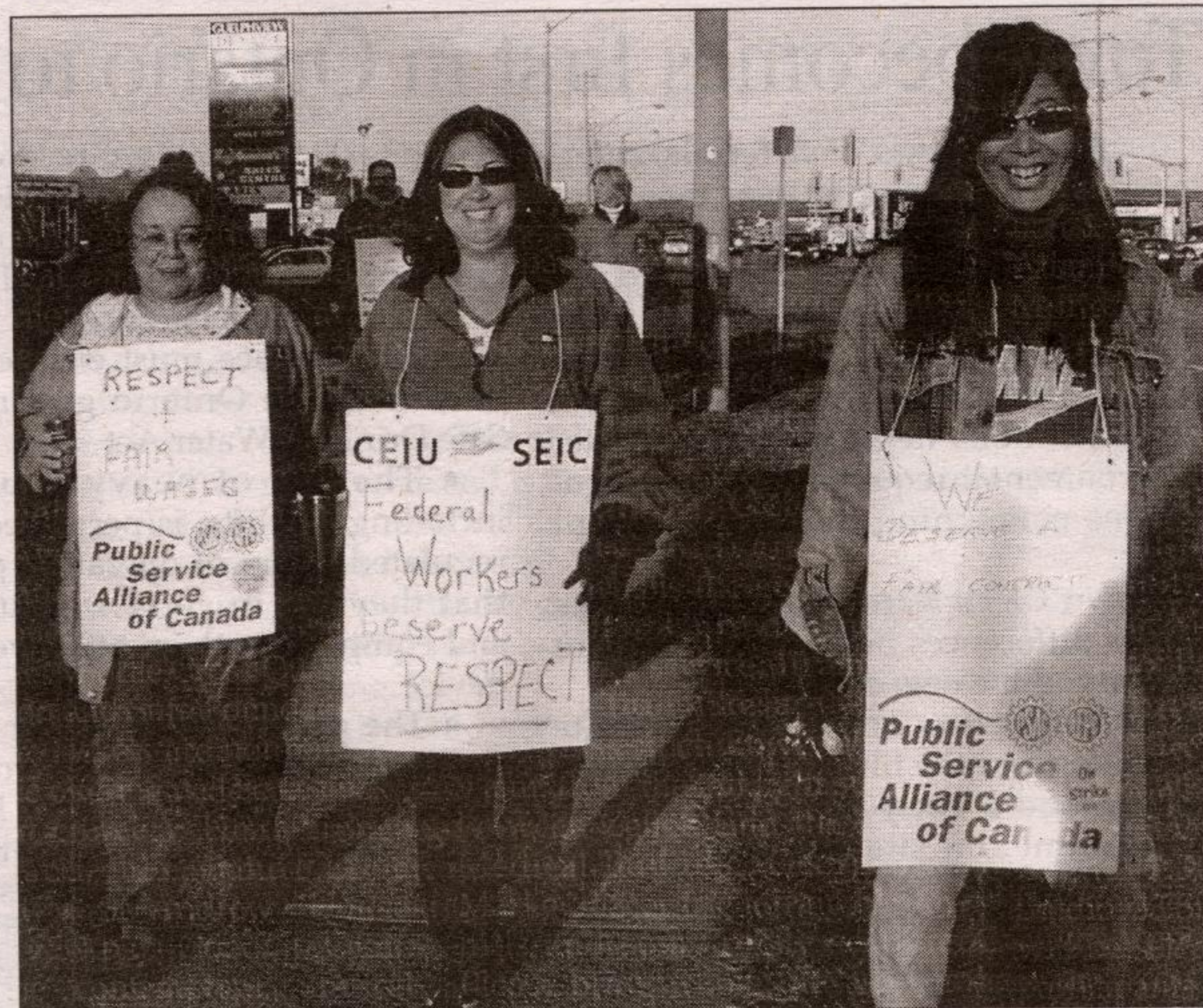
The Dogs and Suds situated beside it, the A&W across the street—it was great. And washing the car was certainly a labor of love.

When you were 19, and owned a hot car, no amount of work was too much effort for that baby. I wouldn't be exaggerating to suggest that some guys would probably do more for their car, than they would for their girlfriend. (Their argument, I recall, was that the car didn't complain as much. Or want to get married...)

And some things really haven't changed. During my recent visit, a couple of guys were there, washing, scrubbing, wiping their cars down, and shooting the breeze, as they made their driving irons shine like the day they rolled off the assembly line.

And it was kind of nice, to see that certain bastion of male dominance hasn't been totally lost in this equal opportunity world.

'Course, I tried to overlook the fact that the guys were polishing their minivans....



Federal employees, who did not wish to be identified, marched the picket line in front of the federal offices on Guelph St. in Georgetown this week. Photo by Patricia Post

Federal strikers march in town

Picket lines were up in front of the federal office at 232 Guelph St. in Georgetown this week.

Strikers represented four Public Service Alliance Canada (PSAC) union employees that provide social insurance and unemployment insurance service in the area. They are under the administration of the Treasury Board which, as of press time Thursday, was still negotiating with the union over wage increases.

Union employees are given the option of picketing at locations near their home, so most of the picketers seen in front of the Guelph Street office work at other locations.

"They're still talking, and that's a good sign," says Brenda Walsh, president of Local 631, for the Orangeville, Burlington, Georgetown and Milton area.

"I love my job," says Walsh. "We all want to get back to work. Our passport workers are out, and there's a woman who needs her passport to go on her

honeymoon, and she can't get it."

PSAC initially asked for a 15 per cent pay hike to be given over a three-year period. But Walsh says a settlement will likely be made similar to what Parks Canada and Canada Revenue Agency have accepted, 10 per cent allocated over a four-year period.

One Georgetown resident picketing Wednesday said she hopes negotiations will send them back to work, soon.

"I don't want to be here," she said, not wishing to be identified. "I don't agree with this one. We have a job. That's more than a lot of people have."

But another colleague sees things differently. "The MPs still get their 10 per cent (wage hike)."

Treasury Board employees constitute the largest union group in PSAC, which may account for the longer negotiating time now being taken, says Walsh. "It could be down to how they're interpreting one word," she says.

—By Patricia Post, special

Driver charged after single vehicle accident Wednesday

An Erin man is facing charges after a vehicle left the roadway and struck a culvert on Ninth Line, south of 22 Sideroad Wednesday night.

Police report the driver was not

injured.

Charged with impaired driving, having over 80 mg of alcohol in 100 ml of blood, and driving while disqualified is David Simmons, 35, of 15 Sideroad, Erin.

Stop by to pick up an entry for our HALLOWEEN COLOURING CONTEST
The Co-operators
Ray Johnson & Associates Inc.
211 Guelph Street, Georgetown
905-877-0131
Open to children aged 0 to 12.

DAIRY CONVENIENCE
pop • fax • phone cards • cigarettes • newspapers • magazines
NOW OPEN
To serve you from
7 am to 11 pm
7 DAYS A WEEK
We are happily waiting to serve you!
118 Guelph St., Georgetown
(Beside Kentucky Fried Chicken)

Get The Natural Replacement For Your
ARTHRITIS MEDICATION

Balance & Build

Vital GREENS™ **Nutri-Flex™**

Maintain a healthy pH BALANCE to aid Uric Acid Reduction and help prevent Cartilage Damage

Your solution to Ease Joint Pain & Inflammation plus Protect and Rebuild cartilage in the joints.

Vital GREENS Energize your life with a Liquid Boost of Essential Green Nutrients!

- Superfood Complex to aid pH Balance and help stop Cravings
- Vegetable Juice Extract for Nutrients
- Chlorophyll to Detoxify and Genseng to Energize
- Ginkgo to Improve Alertness
- Nutrients and Botanicals to aid Digestion
- Aloe Vera's Healing Properties

Over 40 HERBS & LOW-CARB SUPERFOODS for VITAMINS, NUTRIENTS, ANTIOXIDANTS AND MORE!

Nutri-Flex Potential BENEFITS:

- Ease Pain and Inflammation
- Slow Degeneration by cushioning joints
- Long-term Joint Protection
- Strengthen and Rebuild joint cartilage

Ask for our FREE ARTHRITIS BOOKLET

Maintain moisture in the cartilage to lubricate joints and slow degeneration with Glucosamine Sulfate. Ease your pain and discomfort with natural pain reliever Methylsulfonylmethane (MSM) and anti-inflammatory ingredients Bromelain, Turmeric and Devil's Claw. Strengthen and rebuild joint cartilage with amino acid rich Hydrolyzed Gelatin.

Just ONE easy tablespoon a DAY!

Why Liquids?	FORM	ABSORPTION	AFFORDABILITY	CONVENIENCE
?	Vital GREENS & Nutri-Flex Liquids Have	98% Absorption!	Less expensive than comparable products	Just one tablespoon a day!
	Caplets and tablets	20% to 40%	Comparable products cost more and contain less	Take 6 - 8 capsules a day or more!

LIQUIDS are more ABSORBABLE, EFFECTIVE and AFFORDABLE!

A Nutri-Flex Success Story!

Joe H., 73 Wood Carver T. Lake, ON

"I can WOOD CARVE AGAIN and my wife WALKS WITH EASE!"

When doctors told 73-year-old world renown wood carver Joe H. his arthritis was worsening and he'd be in a wheelchair in less than a year, it was his hands he was most worried about.

"Since taking Nutri-Flex I have experienced full relief of pain in my hands," says Joe who also claims relief to about 70% of his former back pain.

After seeing her husband's amazing results his wife Helen also decided to give it a try. Helen had been experiencing pain in her hands, feet and back for several years. For her walking was slowly becoming more and more difficult.

"It's almost unbelievable," says Joe "she's feeling about 90% better and is right back into the swing of things."

"It's given me back my hands," Joe says "so, once again I'll be able to do what I love best, carving."

Available in GEORGETOWN at:
NUTRITION HOUSE
280 Guelph St.
(905) 702-8204