

**RALPH** *by Whouser*

BOY! THIS SNOW IS FALLING SO HEAVY, I CAN'T EVEN SEE MY HAND IN FRONT OF MY FACE.

I THINK I'M GETTING CLOSE TO MY CLASS ROOM BUILDING, NOW, I'LL JUST REACH FOR THE DOOR HANDLE AND ....

WHOOOPS! WHOOOPS!

THAY, FELLR, THAT'S QUITE A GRIP YOU'VE GOT THERE.



**to the editor**

Dear editor:

I found your editorial on nuclear power extremely superficial. It is obvious you did very little research on the subject before writing your article. Let me give you some facts that you conveniently ignored.

One of the nuclear wastes is plutonium 239. It is the deadliest substance known to man. Particles of pinhead size, if inhaled, cause death within weeks. Only one pound of plutonium, if dispersed into the atmosphere, could kill everyone in the U.S. The two nuclear plants in Nebraska produce 800 pounds of this waste annually. Nuclear waste is lethal for 24,000 years and there is no known way that it can be deactivated or rendered harmless. Now, would you trust any government bureaucracy to keep everyone safe from tons of radioactive waste for the next

24,000 years?

The second fact that was ignored is that the nuclear plants themselves aren't all as safe as the government would have you believe. The Emergency Core Cooling System (ECCS) has been tested six times and has failed six times. If the ECCS fails, the chance of a nuclear disaster occurring is overwhelming.

From an economic standpoint, nuclear power looks just as bad. The known supply of fissionable uranium for atomic reactors will last approximately 100 years. The AEC has estimated there will be 1,000 operational nuclear plants by the year 2000. With construction costs running into the billions for just one nuclear plant, are we willing to sink at least 1,000 billion dollars into an energy source that is at best a stop gap measure in our search of an inexhaustible supply of energy?

Mark Venneman

**Fooling**

Dear editor:

ADVICE: "Wise men don't need it; fools won't heed it."

Congratulations! You can rest assured that your special edition on April Fools Day proves there still are some (fools) around. Your time was not wasted in preparing the special issue if what you wanted to accomplish was spreading the very contagious germ of "filth." But why did I read it? It took only a glance at each page to register in my mind as trash-material that students especially don't need to take up space in their growing, potentially useful minds. Hopefully, many didn't read it or simply shrugged it off.

Usually I'm reluctant to state my opinion, not wanting to point a finger. I have faults of my own, but we all need the counsel and encouragement of a friend from time to time. We're here to help each other.

From now on, how about something nutritious for our minds?—not just something to fill it up. There's already too much junk food around.

I hope and pray that some day you will develop a conscience—it truly would be to the benefit of many. If you see me going the wrong way some day, I hope you will take the time to point me back in the right direction.

A Friend

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