

## More letters

## Chauvinist sports section is under fire

I am a second year physical education student at York and I am very surprised and disappointed by the lack of publicity on women's varsity sports in Excalibur.

Sports are such an important and major activity to so many of the students (male and female) on this campus. York carries 12 women's varsity teams. Thus the women athletic representation is very large. Shouldn't these people at least be acknowledged for their efforts. They do, after all, represent York.

The coverage of women's sports is minimal and poor. Articles being handed in by the women's athletic council are either omitted entirely or chopped down to a few sentences.

Surely more people are interested in the women athletes at York.

Pat Lohman

## A small step for man, a giant leap for woman

I am a third year physical education student here at York and feel the coverage of Women's Athletics has been extremely

poor. It has been stated that various members of the Women's Athletic Council have submitted write-ups of various inter-university events and have not had them published or the scores recorded.

Even though 1975 was International Women's Year, I find you have not attempted to further promote Women's Athletics. Let's take one step ahead for 1976! I will be looking forward to more frequent articles in Excalibur concerning this matter.

Barb Lade

**Ed. Note:** Articles on women's sports have not been submitted since the middle of November. Attempts have, however, been made to report all important athletic events, irregardless of the sex of the participants.

## On the nature of relations

Those people who oppose faculty unionization on the grounds that a faculty union will create an adversarial relationship between professors and administrators seem to disregard the possibility of an even worse situation which the union will help prevent — that of the professors and administrators working hand-in-glove shutting out the students.

George Philip

By the York Sociology Graduate Union

## University's tenure rejections ignore community interests

Professor Lillenstein has been a member of the sociology department since 1964, and last year was recommended for promotion and tenure by the department. As with all candidates, the recommendation was then sent to faculty and senate levels for approval.

In the process it underwent a number of rejections, appeals and reversals of decisions which culminated in a final consideration by the President. Just before Christmas the President informed professor Lillenstein in a brief letter, which offered no rationale for the decision, that his services would be terminated in the spring.

Although not a solitary example, the case is an interesting one. Professor Lillenstein's work at York has been directed primarily at undergraduate teaching and critical discussions with his departmental colleagues. Consequently, the form and quality of his work is not readily discernible in terms of the criteria conventionally employed by those decision-making positions further removed from the place and nature of his communal life.

So, while his communal presence was critically examined and favourably received by the department in terms of the aims of his work and the disciplinary concerns of his community, it was viewed as inadequate by persons who increasingly take upon themselves the concern of

managing the university for its members at a time of economic troubles while simultaneously seeking to uphold standards of excellence within the university through material evidence.

There are two related questions we wish to raise here. Why would a man who has been repeatedly endorsed as a worthy member of his departmental community for so many years, presumably in light of his unique contributions, suddenly be terminated for unknown reasons at a time of economic headaches? And from a more political perspective — why should any decision-making body removed from the communities where we live and learn overthrow a decision made by that community regarding the work of its members.

We might view such an outside decision-making body in its best sense as providing a critical outsider to any departmental community. It would engage that community in a dialectic, with an eye to its own educational and academic aims. In this way it would represent the interests of a university community as a whole.

But it is questionable whether the decisions which have descended upon us from present administrative levels have represented such a view. For example, after a highly favourable vote in the department, Lillenstein's application was rejected at other levels without adequate explanation.

The graduate sociology students cannot in good conscience agree with the decision of the administration as being either just to Lillenstein or helpful to the department. Its injustice lies not only in the improper recognition of the form and quality of work that professor Lillenstein has practiced within the sociology department. It must also be criticized in its standing for the rule of bureaucratic interests and administrative methods over and against a communal life that for us ought to be responsibly engaged in re-examining itself and in deciding for itself both its aims and the worth of the work that goes on within it.

We recommend:

- President Macdonald reverse his dismissal of Ernest Lillenstein for promotion and tenure in accordance with the recommendation by the sociology department.
- The existing procedure for promotion and tenure at York be reformed. The aim should be to reduce the financial and human waste of a complicated administrative apparatus which burdens all of us, and to encourage disciplinary communities to responsibly examine themselves and the work of their members.
- The bureaucratic interests by which the practices of this university community are increasingly being viewed, decided upon and executed be seriously challenged and the question of its aims re-opened.



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