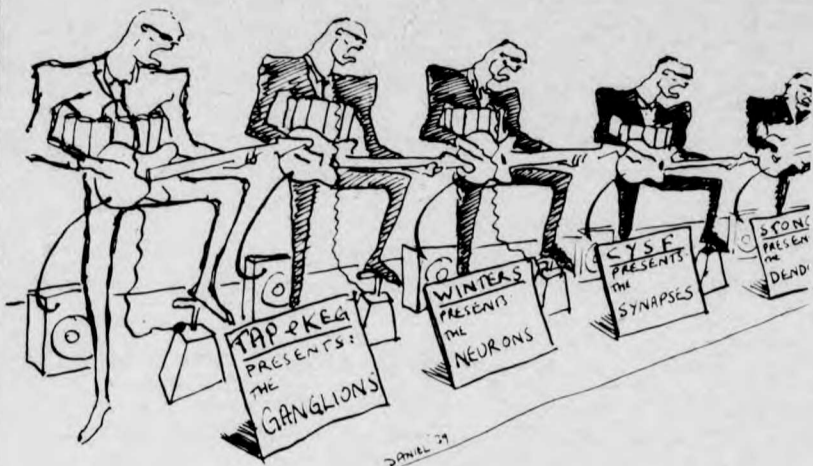


Tighten the Tap



On September 21, Food and Beverage Manager Norman Crandles shut down Tap 'n' Keg after investigating damage which occurred the night before, during the final set by the punk group Teenage Head — an act known for encouraging audience violence. Crandles described the reputation of Tap 'n' Keg as "dreadful," and warned that another incident of the same nature would force him to permanently lock its doors. Tap 'n' Keg reopened on October 5th with Zon, and less than 70 people attended. A concert featuring The News, staged on the 18, was basically the same story. It failed to either recoup the pub's prior losses or help it regain its status as an "entertainment hot-spot" on campus. It was a fiasco!

Tap 'n' Keg is a six-year old institution located in Bethune College's dining hall. Presently, it is said to be experiencing a number of major difficulties which may result in its demise as a licensed entertainment facility here at York University.

The weekly Thursday night pub is the direct responsibility of Steve Campbell, program chairman; Simon Schillaci, manager/talent coordinator/publicity supervisor; and seven other staff members, most of whom are Bethune College residents.

I spoke with Steve Campbell early last week, at which time I became fully aware of the unsuc-

cessful nature of their most recent endeavours. He concluded that a lack of promotion has been the reason for such poor turn-outs so far this year. However, having worked as a promoter myself, I find it absolutely impossible to believe that ineffective publicity can completely explain the sizeable amount of money already lost.

Free Speech

The hardships faced thus far seem to stem from the fact that Tap 'n' Keg is an improperly run establishment. It is in dire need of a quality overhaul so that its stability can be elevated.

If I may be so bold as to make a few suggestions, I would like to outline two improvements which should be made. Firstly, Tap 'n' Keg would be wise to build up a rapport with other university and college pubs in and around the Golden Horseshoe area. They could compare prices, learn of any hassles created by particular groups, in short, advise each other on the ins and outs of promoting shows. Forming a circuit like this would undoubtedly increase each pub's knowledge and efficiency in the business.

Unfortunately, Tap 'n' Keg is not the only outlet on campus this year which appears to be

having troubles functioning. The main reason for this is because the communication between the college entertainment committees is non-existent. The result is that York provides four or five sound pieces of entertainment on say Thursdays and there is nothing during the other days of the week. On October 18th for instance, Tap 'n' Keg showcased The News, CYSF ran **Attack of the Killer Tomatoes** and **Flesh Gordon**, Winters College featured Toronto's Hott Roxx, McLaughlin hosted Mrs. Plummer's Mattress Factory and so on. Consequently, it creates unwanted competition and places a financial strain on everyone.

Tap 'n' Keg is supposedly working to rectify their present situation, while revitalization of other pub policies has yet to begin. Hopefully, a significant change will occur in the immediate future. At least this way, our talent buyers will stop being referred to by local booking agents as "a bunch of inept entertainment convenors who need to get their shit together."

Evan Adelman

This extra-length comment piece was authorized by a vote of the Excalibur staff assembly, but does not necessarily reflect the view of anyone other than the writer. Any member of the York community can appear before the staff and request a comment piece. Letters of response are invited.

Harbinger

Many students reading the front page of Excalibur last week would have been confronted with news about an organization they either never heard about or one they would have dismissed as a "Gay Hangout" or a "Sex Shop". Time Out. As with any organization that has been around for thirteen years, a lot of misconceptions and rumours have arisen. As well, a lot of first and second year (even third and fourth year) students have never heard of us. Others are reluctant to turn to "non-professionals" for comfort and counselling. In this column I would like to deal with some of these issues and concerns.

A lot of fuss is made about the fact that Harbinger is a "peer counselling" centre. Some see this as negative, others as positive. Obviously my bias is to view it in positive terms. As peers we are in a better position to empathize with what is going on in a student's life; students very often feel more comfortable with fellow students than with professionals. We are not thrown in as counsellors "cold turkey." All peer counselling staff are required by the Board of Directors to engage in over twelve hours training. This does not make us professionals, but does make us more aware of alternatives and how and where to direct our empathy. We do not get into long term or "heavy" counselling. This is left to the Counselling and Development Centre and certain off-campus agencies. Part of our job is to direct students to the appropriate agencies if we cannot deal immediately with their situation.

Harbinger is not part of nor an extension of GAY or the Women's Centre. We morally support and endorse these organizations but we are separate from them. When necessary we refer students to them. We

do counsel gay people and we do counsel women. Some of our staff belong to these organizations, but our services are unique and separate from them.

Harbinger does counselling in the areas of human sexuality, birth control, VD, etc. However, we are not preoccupied with sex. Many students are just becoming aware of themselves sexually and others are just beginning to engage in love making. We attempt to provide information and counselling in these important areas. We provide a moral and hassle free environment for students to make their own decisions and choices. We also concern ourselves with drug/alcohol abuse, health and nutrition, loneliness, etc. That etc. is very important. If someone is having concerns in areas not mentioned, it is probable that one of our volunteers has had experience or a specific interest in that area. In addition, we can direct them to the appropriate agency. We also have a lending library and an extensive collection of pamphlets covering many areas.

According to Webster's, Harbinger means, "one that pioneers in or initiates a major change." For many of us, this time we are spending as students is a time of pioneering and major change. What we do in the next few years may profoundly affect the rest of our lives. Harbinger has been in existence for 13 years and has been established to provide information, counselling and referral for those of us who are changing, experiencing and exploring. As with any expedition, we will need maps, directions and comfort when we get lost or confused. As fellow travellers, we at Harbinger are willing to share the journey.

Gary Yorke

Board Rep Report

Here we go again, another possible strike that should have been settled long ago. This time it is the Graduate Assistants Association which includes Teaching Assistants for labs or seminars and part-time faculty.

At present we can expect that GAA conciliation meetings will start in late November and if they break down immediately the Union will be in a strike position in early or mid-December. You got it — right in the middle of exams. If they don't break down right away then one pressure tactic that might be used is to withhold marks — from the administration not us. That is, the TA, Lab Assistant or marker might mark the paper, tell the students the mark but not officially submit the results.

The GAA is asking 11 percent and is being offered 5.9 percent. The variables in this area are that inflation is running around 9 percent, that there was a 1.5 million dollar surplus last year, that the GAA represents the lowest and smallest wage package in the budget and that the 11

percent is a negotiable figure. Bear in mind that when YUSA went into conciliation with the administration last summer, they were also asking about 11 percent and they were able to negotiate a satisfactory settlement.

This Union represents employees who receive no benefits. They have no sick leave, no maternity leave, no OHIP, no dental or drug plans. This shows the lack of concern the administration has for its employees, but it should make negotiations easier and faster.

Academic Freedom

All academics (probationary/tenured) have the right to teach course material in the manner which they believe is best and they are protected from reprisals. The administration has never proceeded against a teaching assistant or part-time faculty for reasons connected with academic freedom yet they refuse to include it in the contract.

What can students do?

Students can start a discussion in their next tutorial with their tutorial leader. They can request

information from the GAA in room 129 McLaughlin (phone 6341) or from the Vice-President, Employee & Student Relations, S906 Ross (phone 6283).

Then choose a side and work for it. I'm pro-union and I've never made any secret of that. In this case we are consumers — we pay fees to the administration and we expect them to provide a service. If they're not doing it to our satisfaction then we should complain to them.

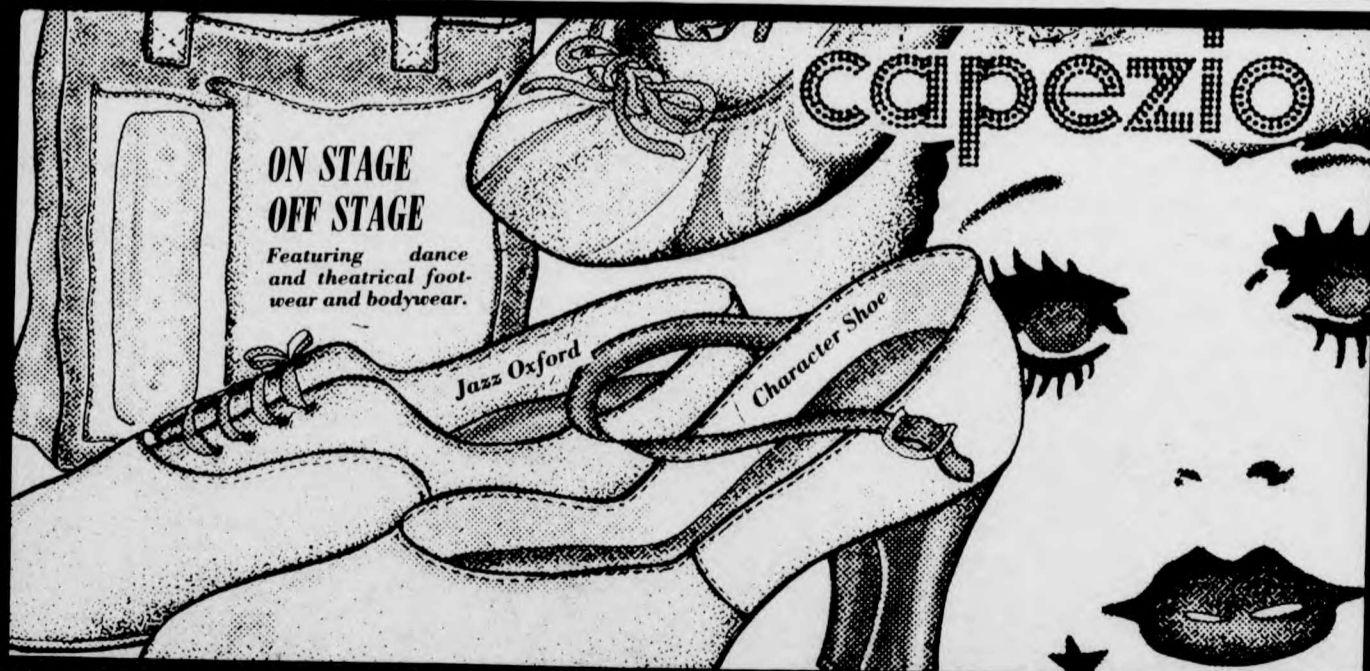
Students can join the Information Picket at the main gate on November 7th from 8:00 am to 10:00 am. This means a couple of hours showing support and passing out leaflets explaining the situation.

We can get our clubs, organization or student governments to have informational meetings on the situation. Then they can pass resolutions of support and let the administration know where we stand.

Peter Brickwood

Opinions expressed in this column are solely those of the student representatives of the Board of Governors.

**Films by
York
filmmakers
Wednesday
November 7
3 & 8 pm
Curtis "L"**



**THE EATON CENTRE
593-1001**

**70 BLOOR (at Bay)
920-1006**

**BAYVIEW VILLAGE CENTRE
225-4400**