

— Steve Hain —

Excalibur and CKRY in the scheme of things

Dear Uncle Oregano, please excuse the dormant pen, but campus life is so compact that spare moments are rare and unexpected.

since I last wrote to you, not a great deal has changed, with the university continuing to find itself in the midst of many crises. students still complain about food services — before, during and after eating it. professors are denied deserved tenures, and the CUPE staff is threatening to go on strike. what this means is that I would be able to accept your invitation to chase a tan up north, because tiwh CUPE striking, the operation of the university may be somewhat hampered.

but I shouldn't reflect upon such problems; I should try instead to emulate my contemporaries as they cohabit their circles, oblivious to any involvement until directly confronted with it. after all, we're in university now and it's the time to get an involving education. besides,

when I leave here with that nobly-scripted piece of parchment held tightly in my fist, like the majority who closely follow York traditions, I won't have the first clue about how to fold it into a paper airplane.

it is unfortunate that York is the size that it is, because people have this tendency to interact with each other. More often than not, this interaction leads to the stage where one side says or does something that offends the other party, regardless of whether or not the actions were intended to be offensive.

then like an obscure snowball innocently thrown down a hill, the situation magnified itself out of all recognizable proportions, until both sides become alienated towards each other. it becomes a question of time, of circumstance, and personality.

a case in point would be the farce that Radio York and Excalibur have worked themselves into. This whole caper began when the station disagreeably reacted unfavorably an

opinion piece the paper ran dealing with the station's programming format (it is ironic that the recent CRTC regulations governing FM formats coincided with many of the basic proposals that appeared in the article).

things simmered for a bit until the station began holding its annual elections and the paper decided to report on it. the station was split into two camps; the bizzcoms, who compose the structural side of the station, and, directly from the awareness revolution, the laissez faire. the reporter, when interviewing the leader of the bizzcoms, let himself become carried away in search of the candidate's platform. but the candidate was also at fault by allowing his emotions to colour his opinions and views.

the reporter's job is to question, but the candidate should not regard any line of questioning as a personal attack. if he does, he states his feelings on a matter and not

necessarily what he may have wanted to say.

it is sad that people feel they must align themselves to one stream of thought or another while they are at university. they won't open themselves to the myriad of influences within the community.

years will reduce the chance of meeting the large quantities of practical people that lend themselves to university life. but alas, within the realm of creativity, there is no place for objectivity.

your nephew,

speedy meatball

Establishment newshawks love to get those handouts

OTTAWA (CUP) — The Parliamentary Press Gallery has voted at its annual meeting to continue accepting free services from the federal government.

These include goodies like telephones, letterhead stationery, parking and cheap meals for the 160 reporters who belong to the elite press gallery club. Including government reports, the overall cost of the

press gallery comes to \$160,000 yearly.

The gallery members debated the question at length before concluding, in effect, that the taxpayers should continue to subsidize the establishment media.

Not that everyone will share the benefits from the taxpayers' generosity. The gallery votes on who it will accept as members, and in the past has frequently denied entrance to reporters from small or poor organizations, such as alternate press services.

This news comes at a time when wasteful government spending is under increasing fire, and commercial newspaper profits are so good the Financial Post picked an eastern newspaper chain as the best investment in Canada last year.

The Toronto Star, Canada's largest daily, made an \$8 million profit in 1974, as well as paying off over \$4 million in loans that hadn't yet come due.

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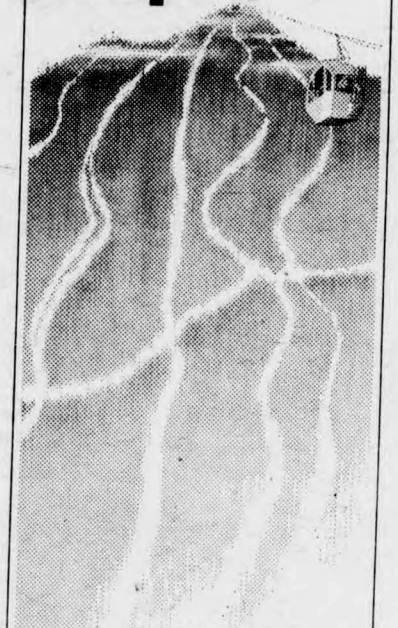
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