



HURRY! CALL RIGHT NOW FOR FREE TICKETS TO 90 MINUTES LIVE

Canada's Newest Late Night TV Show
 starring **Peter Gzowski**
 Mondays-Fridays 10pm-Midnight
 Call 925-3311, ext. 4835 between 9-5
 First Come! First Served!



Jewish Student Federation of York University OFFERS

FREE JEWISH UNIVERSITY

SECOND SEMESTER

1. HEBREW LANGUAGE -

ALPEH - *Beginners*

DAY: Mon. Beginning Jan. 17
 TIME: 2 p.m.
 LOCATION: S169 Ross

2. HEBREW LANGUAGE -

BEIT - *Intermediate*

DAY: Mon. Beginning Jan. 17
 TIME: 3 p.m.
 LOCATION: S169 Ross

3. YIDDISH LANGUAGE

DAY: Mon. Beginning Jan. 17
 TIME: 2 p.m.
 LOCATION: S133 Ross

4. ISRAELI FOLK DANCING

DAY: Sun. Beginning Jan. 16
 TIME: 7:30 p.m.
 LOCATION: Vanier College 202

5. HEBREW AND ISRAELI SINGING SESSION

DAY: Mon. Beginning Jan. 17
 TIME: 3:30 p.m.
 LOCATION: S101 Ross

6. CALLIGRAPHY

DAY: Wed. Beginning Jan. 19
 TIME: 8:30 p.m.
 LOCATION: Room 212
 Beth Tzedek
 Congregational School
 1700 Bathurst St.

CLASSES ARE OPEN TO EVERYONE IN THE COMMUNITY AND BEGIN THE WEEK OF JAN. 16. FOR FURTHER INFORMATION PLEASE CALL 667-3647.

Harbinger's column

Harbinger is York University's peer counselling and referral service. Drop in at 214 Vanier residence or phone 667-3059-3632. Open 10-6, Monday to Friday.

Gay people still face difficulties in society

By LINDSAY COBB

Lezzie, fagot, queen, butch, femme, drag, limp wrists, child molesters. Halloween on Yonge Street, transvestites.

Truth or fiction for gay men and women?? Mention any of the above and a host of twisted cliches spring into the mind of the uninformed.

If you ever wondered if you were gay, you probably hunted out a psychology text book. In it, "Homosexual" was listed under sexual deviance or perversion. The explanation of its causes might have run for two or three pages, with the last few paragraphs referring to female homosexuals, sometimes calling them lesbians.

Aside from the mysteries of the language in psych books, what they had to say isn't too positive and sunny. Next step is ferreting out some "sex" books from the library shelves. These "All you wanted to know..." variety of books assured you that you were on the road to decadence, and according to most western religions, on a quick ticket to hell.

All sources affirmed that you had a terrible sickness. However, all hope is not lost! If you were a teenage boy, you noted in your reading that most teenagers masturbated at one time or another, and most had homosexual experiences of some kind. That was comforting information for a while, anyway. Exactly what qualified as a homosexual experience?

The little acknowledgement of lesbians existence described them as merely imitating heterosexual society and relationships. One woman played the role of butch, while the other became the femme.

If you hand't given up in despair before you chanced upon the Kinsey report, you would have found some new, encouraging perspectives on homosexuality, Kinsey describes sexuality as being on a continuum. No one is 100 per cent heterosexual and no one is 100 per cent homosexual.

Kinsey found that 50 per cent of men and 28 per cent of women had some kind of homosexual experience during their life. Kinsey's reports involved 17,500 interviews in which Kinsey reviewed sexual behaviour without defining the people he interviewed as homosexual or heterosexual.

Kinsey comments: "Only the human mind invents categories and tries to force facts into separated pigeon-holes. The living world is a continuum in each and every one of its aspects. The sooner we learn this concerning human sexual behaviour the sooner we shall reach a sound understanding of the realities of sex."

Though times have changed, the incredible backlog of prejudice against gays colours our general perception of the gay experience. Naturally, gay men and women struggle for a long time to develop good feelings about themselves. Telling most people that you are gay is not known as a formula for instant popularity!

Anyone might be gay. You have met many gay people, although you probably didn't know it. Kinsey estimates that roughly 10 per cent of the population is composed of practising homosexuals.

No one really knows why some people express their sexuality in homosexual rather than heterosexual relationships, although lots of people have advanced a elaborate theories. The biggest question for gays and theoreticians alike is whether one is born gay, or whether one becomes gay through certain processes of child rearing. Gay people will give their own, individual answers. Psychologist, sociologist, geneticists and biochemists all have their own focus and theories.

Being gay has its cliches, often perpetrated by the very researchers and theoreticians who try to explain the gay experience. It's not necessary to have gone to private school, or to be a haridresser or fashion designer in order to be gay.

At any period in a person's life, they may find themselves feeling emotionally and sexually attracted to a person of the same sex. These feelings are not restricted to single, young man and women. Married parents can find themselves redefining themselves as gay also.

Theoretically, society is now more tolerant of peoples varied lifestyles and differing sexual expression. But day to day reality is lagging far behind theory, and gay men and women face not only personal hassles, but legal restrictions, social harrassment, and a general pressure to repress their sexuality.

It is hard to be gay, and many cities have support groups and gay counsellors. To find them, check the newspapers, information lines or women's centers. On the York campus there are several places to go: Gay Alliance at York (GAY) has meetings and social activities, Harbinger has counselling doctors lists, a lesbian drop-in, a gay men's drop-in and a gay men's support group.

CUP expansion slows

VANCOUVER (CUP) — Representatives of Canadian student newspapers reached an impasse on the proposed expansion of their national organization at their 39th annual conference here December 26 to January 2.

The narrow defeat of a proposal to make a wire network the main method of moving news within Canadian University Press (CUP), the national news co-operative, resulted in a call for a special conference to be held March 18-20.

Making the wire service a priority was part of a series of proposals for the second phase of CUP's multi-year plan, approved at the 1975 conference in Montreal and a special meeting in March 1976 in Ottawa.

The main thrust of the second

phase is the establishment of five regional bureaus across the country, to which delegates here agreed. Bureaus currently exist in Vancouver and Montreal.

But, papers from Ontario (including Excalibur) and the Prairies did not feel the prime function of bureaus should be the exchance of news — the emphasis of the existing bureaus. CUP's Ontario region decided it wanted a reporter in the provincial legislature while most from the prairies were looking for technical assistance from their bureau.

A majority of papers from British Columbia, Quebec and the Maritimes saw bureaus facilitating the exchange of news through the use of telex.