

SUNDAY, FEBRUARY 27, 1977 - 2 p.m.

AUDITORIUM — MEDICAL SCIENCES BUILDING

We acknowledge with thanks the assistance of the Chanin Cultural Foundation of the Workmen's Circle,

## Atkinsonian sets record straight, not member just employee

I would like to take this opportunity to correct two errors in the article by Evan Leibovitch in the February 10 edition of your

(A) I am not and have not for several years been a member of the Atkinson College Students' Association. I am a paid employee and as such do on some occasions represent our members, who through previous commitments (such as classes), are unable to attend meetings.

(B) I attended the meeting of the ratepayers called by Marilyn Meshberg as a private person and not as a representative of Atkinson. The views and questions that I expressed there reflected my own opinions and not those of the Atkinson College Students' Association.

As I have stated above I do on occasion represent the Association. I was recently requested by the ACSA president to attend the CYSF Council meeting (February 3) on her behalf and state the feelings of ACSA on the subjects under discussion. May I point out that our president is invited to each and allowed the privilege of speaking fellow students. on two occasions. On the issue of our regular copy of the CYSF official attendance at the meeting were my remarks not recorded but meetings whole motions and amendments were omitted from the minutes. These minutes were signed only by Mr. Edson, not by the secretary of the meeting.

Speaking privately as a student of this university I wish to see co-operation among our several student councils whenever possible. But when I have to attend meetings such as that one and then read minutes which do not reflect the business of the meeting I sincerely doubt whether people such as Mr. Edson are working to forward the interests of the students or whether they are primarily in-

every such meeting. I was ack- terested in forwarding their own nowledged by the chairman and interests at the expenses of their

I would like to thank George OFS and NUS I specifically Manios for the manner in which he requested that my remarks, since trys to control the meetings of they were the stand of ACSA, be CYSF and for his efforts to allow recorded in the minutes. On everyone to be heard. He is always Tuesday of this week we received gracious and courteous to noncouncil members attending and is Council minutes. As usual no too often provoked into having to acknowledgement was made of our lose his temper by the lack of respect of the council members for but to my great surprise not only the chair and their disruption of by their boorish behaviour.

**HazelSaintPierre** 

## Swords, take note says cap.

I would like to comment on René Schmidt's letter in the February 3 issue of Excalubur, concerning the York fencing team's supposedly bad manners. First, I had better establish my credentials. I fenced for York for 6 years, with both Richard Polatynski and Mike Stein. (The latter is the unnamed sabre fencer who was described as having ugly habits and a nasty disposition.) In 1973 I was sabre team captain, fencing writer for the Excalibur, and assistant fencing

It is obvious from René Schmidt's distaste for the "psyching" of an opponent that he has never fenced, or a least not successfully, and probably never competed at anything. Fencing is not just a few dandies gentlemanly falling on each other's swords. As with all competitive sports, psychology plays a very important role. After all, the essence of fencing is for one competitor to establish his (or her) superiority over his (or her) opponent of the moment, in simulated combat. This is accomplished by means of pure technical skill, intellectual planning, physical stamina, emotional determination,

and "psyching", as well. René also disliked Mike Stein's habit of shouting "Hélas, Ha, ha" whenever he "supposedly has scored a point on his opponent." My comment on this is three-fold. First, the expression is really "Et là". Second, it is common in fencing at all levels of skill, even in international fencing. The shouting serves to focus the attacker's concentration on his opponent, in a similar manner to a Karate man's shout of "Ki Ai". Third, it also tends to unnerve inexperienced op-

Finally, René vivisected Richard Polatynski's complaints about poor judging and implied that he was a poor sport. From first hand experience, at both university and open fencing, I can categorically state that all fencers complain about poor judging. It is almost as much fun as the fencing itself. However, the judging at the university level is not only poor, but is also partial. Some university teams have a reputation of cheating as matter of course.Complaining sometimes helps alleviate this

opinion, Richard In my Polatynski is a proponent of good sportsmanship, as both a fencer and a coach. I have never observed him cheating or physically abusing an opponent. He fences hard, but well, and after tournaments are completed, he even shows his opponents the mistakes which they made against him.

Fred Granek, M.E.S., B.Sc., Scarborough

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