

LETTERS TO THE EDITORS

LAKHANI DEFENDED

The CYSF debate on whether to ask Mr. Bipin Lakhani to resign is an extremely important issue in that its scope is larger than York University. As has clearly been established at the recent CYSF meetings, the real issue of misuse of CYSF facilities has been conveniently put aside and Lakhani is being accused of being racist!

Let's consider a little background information. Mr. Lakhani let it be known that he is anti-Begin and anti-Zionist. How do some CYSF members come to the conclusion that being anti-Menachem Begin is being racist? In other words, when 100,000 Jews demonstrated against Begin in the streets of Jerusalem and Tel-Aviv as they did after the massacre of Palestinian people, they should be called racists! It boggles one's mind determining how these CYSF intellectuals come to such conclusions!

The line that Bipin is an officer and therefore should not involve himself in politics is the most absurd. In this great continent of democracy, we are all supposed to have fundamental freedoms of conscience, religion, thought, association and above all, the right to have and express an opinion. Obviously, the CYSF must be reminded that this includes Bipin. If some people can elevate themselves to the level of an intelligent opinion and express it, fine. If others want to remain in an environment devoid of political perspective, we will respect

that. But please, no manipulation or victimization from either side. This is precisely what freedom should and must mean. Now, if anyone wishes to remove someone's freedom, the ball will be in the federal courts and not at CYSF.

Himbara

JDL RESPONDS

I would like to respond to the letter by Ms. Sussman in the last issue of *Excalibur*. She has made allegations that the Jewish Defense League orchestrated the Bearpit confrontation on Nov. 9.

We certainly applaud the noble actions taken by a diverse group of justifiably angry and outraged Jews. This screening was an affront to Jewish sensibilities. Although I am a member took part, it is blatant slander to suggest that the J.D.L. orchestrated this spontaneous reaction to intellectual aggression.

The outrage is that this kind of open anti-Jewish hate propaganda is permitted to be screened in a public area in this University.

It is ironic that the sponsors of this 'event' were members of the Christian Student Movement. Jews have been slandered and persecuted by various "Christian" groups for centuries. It would also be wise if the black students who supported this rubbish would concern themselves with black rights instead of expressing 'solidarity' with murderers and terrorists who call themselves a

'liberation' movement.

There is no distinction between anti-Zionism and anti-Semitism. To quote the late Martin Luther King, "Anyone who says he hates Zionists but not Jews is simply a liar."

Danny Ben Israel
Director J.D.L.
York Chapter

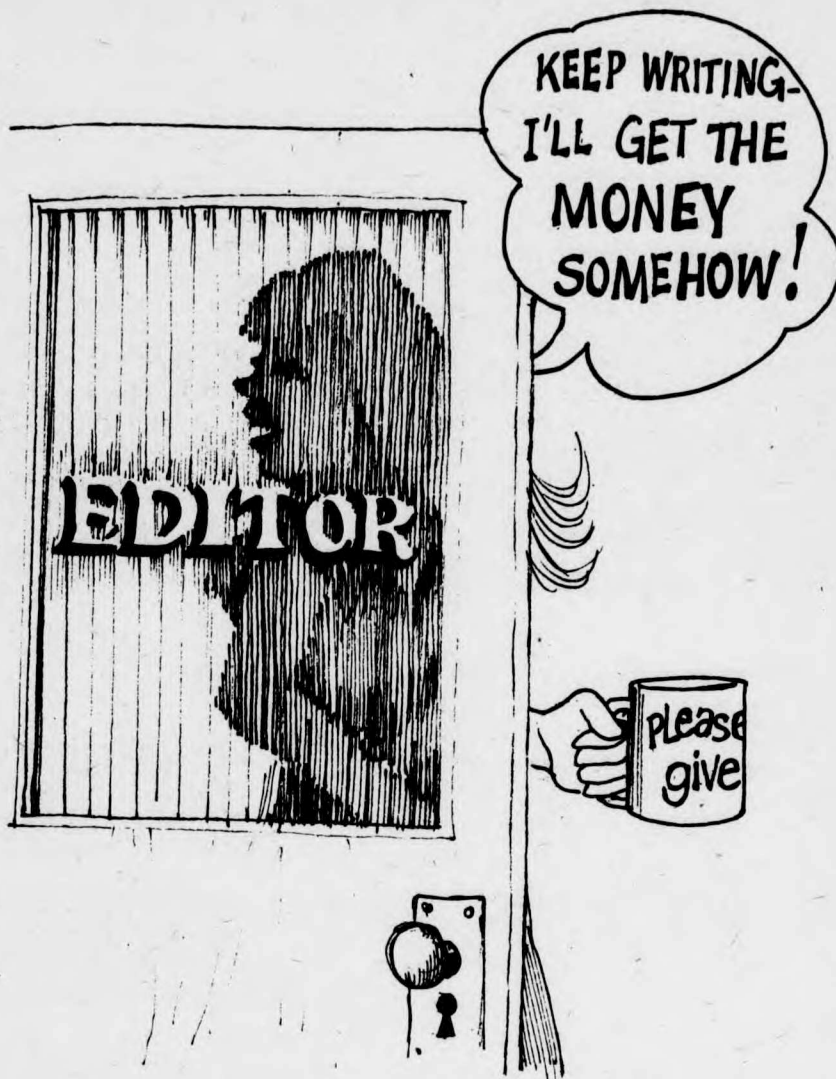
MUSLIM STUDENT FEDERATION

Re: Your Editorial on Thursday Nov. 5th, 1982

We, the Muslim Student Federation (not Association as you previously stated), being composed mainly of students from the Third World, feel quite offended by your comment referring to students from the Third World. Many of us come from countries where politics may be just as corrupted and unrepresentative as that of North America. Wasn't the "American Rebellion" and the "American Civil War" politics of life and death? Your paper is supposed to be "our" paper! We as York Students contribute to the financial backing of *Excalibur*. As such we request that you be more representative of the entire student body and withhold your racist philosophies from being printed - isn't that what Lakhani is supposedly guilty of?

As a segment of the student body that has been affected by your editorial, the least we could ask is that this response be printed!

Tariq Mirzq
President



WRITER WANTS REVENGE

Of course you were absolutely right to respond to the latest insult from the U of T the way you did (the "Can't go to University? Go to York" button sales caper). It certainly is an example of mindless joking around that can only serve to worsen negative stereotypes that ultimately could affect our enrollments.

Still, are we really going to take that kind of stuff lying down? We know that it is dreamt up and perpetuated by only a small group of nerds down there. They are primarily a few children of north and middle Toronto upper-income bracket parents mostly raised in elitist WASP and Jewish families who have for years believed that anything academic that didn't happen in their own district, own schools and the U of T, just wasn't worth noticing. These kids are at university mainly because mummy and daddy sent them there; they don't have a clue about what universities do or what they want to get out of being there

SPACE WARS

On the bottom of your Letters to the Editors' page you say "letters...should not exceed 300 words (we want to provide space for everyone)" and in spite of this you print a letter from Bipin Lakhani that consumes about a third of the page and is approximately 1000 words in length.

As if Lakhani's abuse of his privileges as a CYSF member (an abuse he recognizes but doesn't seem to feel remorse for) were not enough, he is allowed to use up the space of three in the University's largest paper. I'd like to know what other letters sent into your office were refused printing so Lakhani could have more than his say. I'd like to know if the writers of letters refused printing would have granted Lakhani their space had he asked. I'd like to know Excalibur's real policy as regards letter length. I think Excalibur editors would like to know this as well.

Lenny Atkinson

Editor's Note: The decision to limit the length of letters was only made last week, and we would not apply it retroactively to letters already received.

(other than a ticket for a nice office job that daddy will arrange for them).

So all they can think of to do is party it up and sit around trying to figure out smart-ass insults about York. The fact is they find us very threatening since it is well known that most of us here are hip, street smart types with ethnic backgrounds and not so nice families who don't like to fool around with preppy bubbleheads. We're here to work and we're going to make it without pull.

Most of us are pretty busy round here but surely we could find the time to come up with a few retaliatory comments of a sharp, pithy nature. In fact would it be too crass to suggest that Excalibur run a little "U of T Insult Contest?" Readers could submit insults under, say, 15 words in length to be judged by an impartial panel of insult connoisseurs of your choosing. Copies of Nancy MacPhies books of insults could be given as prizes.

Just for starters how about something like:

"Want help in becoming closed minded? Try U of T."

"Aspire to be an elitest snob? Try U of T."

Prefer the company of emptyminded assholes? Go to U of T."

Want to sharpen your skills as a bigot? Go to U of T."

etc.

Tony di Georgio
Bethune College

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Temper 1/2 ounce Tequila with orange juice over ice. Fire in 1 ounce Yukon Jack to give the Walrus its bite. And you thought Walruses didn't have teeth, (tusk, tusk, tusk). Inspired in the wild, midst the damnable cold, this, the black sheep of Canadian liquors is Yukon Jack.

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