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Insulting news

In your issue of 21 Nov., you published a photo of a piece of sculpture by Armand Vaillancourt, the cutline which alluded to the resemblance between the shape of the end of this piece and, presumably, the swastika.

I object to this unfair reference, firstly on the grounds that a similar complaint was lodged by a Montreal rabbi when the piece was first displayed at Expo '67, and was thereafter resolved to the satisfaction of all concerned at that time (with a rather sensational press coverage, which surely obviates the necessity of reinforming your readers) and secondly, because the swastika, per se, is not something to get hot under the collar about, being a form of mandala used by many earlier civilizations, with the Zoroastrian religion being particularly associated with the symbol.

I would suggest that in future, you limit yourself to less insulting forms of news manufacture, such as investigating the Royal Ontario Museum, where blatant examples of this disturbing symbol may be found, or simply go four pages, and confine yourself to hard news, such as the latest administration warning against dangerous elements within the university.

David Weatherston

It's disconcerting

It's horribly disconcerting, day in and day out to have to see and hear one's fellow students and often close friends — people presumably similar to oneself in age, social level, and intellect — PROTEST the U.S. intervention in Vietnam.

I've always felt that the Americans were justified. What then makes my views so different, in fact opposite from my equals?

I often asked myself if I was lacking some crucial knowledge about the issue. However, after last week's informative article, "Vietnam Yes Because . . ." I hope the roles will be reversed and those of you who felt that the war is a total sin will have asked that question and even found the answers in the article.

It must be made clear that none of us are justifying war; killing and the transgression of personal rights we all condemn. But when a bully picks on a little kid and through fear of further pain the weaker joins the stronger to beat up another weakling, are we, the strong friends of the weaker ones, to pretend that we don't notice?

Our generation has talked a lot about the impersonal society we're being forced into. Hippies show their disgust by holding love-ins. Maybe a little more feeling for the oppressed Vietnamese, via support for the U.S. aid to stop the bully would be more "beneficial".

The bully chose war as his game. The U.S. has tried successfully to divert his attention to ease the suffering of that weaker one. It seems Russia only speaks war when it comes to the Vietnam issue. That leaves the U.S. no alternative but to reply with war.

Isn't the halting of Russian expansion worth the suffering of transitory war?

Digna Hiel GIII

Excalibur's role

As a media for reporting the news and commenting on it, Excalibur last Dec. did its most adequate job yet this year. Yes, an adequate job was done, but something very important was missing and that was the absence of a stand on any specific theme for this university. When I say theme, I mean more than taking stands on different matters, although this is a very important

part of your responsibility. I mean that as a university wide paper, you should take stands and devote whole issues to such very important items as, the role of Glendon in this university, the role of Y.S.C. in this university, the College System, etc., etc.

Another very important question that should have more space devoted to it, and more concerted effort is where and how are we to get funds to start the building of College E and F. A peti-

tion has already been circulated but the most consistent and forceful way is still through the mass media, of which, at York, Excalibur is the most important.

Alan Shefman.

I am pretty peeved

On page 16 of the Nov. 28 issue and again on page 12 of the Dec. 5 issue of Excalibur you have an advert advising us that the Christmas Concert had been changed from Dec. 15 to Dec. 8. After obtaining a babysitter, we arrived at Burton, only to find that there had been no change at all. I've had the night for my anger to subside somewhat, but I am still pretty peeved.

I hope you'll find who is responsible for this error and tell him or her that that mistake cost me \$2.00. That may not sound very much to you but for a young couple such as ourselves, who are having enough of a struggle paying back our own university and raising three young children, \$2.00 means a great deal.

Sharon Morgan

P.S. We didn't notice anyone else making our mistake. I hope it wasn't because they don't read your paper. That would be a shame!

Ed. Note: Sorry about your loss, but we weren't told about the switched times (which apparently changed twice) until it was much too late to change the ads. Also, if you check the "On Campus" Column, page 20 of the Dec. 12 edition, we finally did get it right from the people who know such things.

Uncouth Goldstein

I am deeply concerned by the uncouth and uncalled-for language that a certain Larry Goldstein used in destructively criticizing two Toronto rabbis in the Dec. 12 issue of Excalibur. Goldstein is apparently angry at these men for their stating that anyone who is a critic of Israel is an anti-Semite.

However, if this "great intellectual" whom you employ as a regular columnist would have cared to read the text of Dr. Rosenberg's speech and not only the misleading headline in the Toronto Daily Star, he would have noticed that the Rabbi only wished to say that "anyone who wishes the destruction and annihilation of the state of Israel (which is something very different than being a mere critic of her various policies) is anti-Semitic."

Thus, Goldstein based his accusations on a mere newspaper headline, while being too lazy to read the text in full. I demand that Goldstein apologize in writing to these men for his uncalled-for and unjust attack.
Howard Mintz FII

a right to criticize freely

It was interesting and amusing to receive notice of Professor Pritchard's intention to have the Senate expel our columnist Larry Goldstein and officially reprimand Excalibur for printing Mr. Goldstein's column of Dec. 5. (See Story p. 1).

Professor Pritchard, who is Chairman of the Chemistry Department, takes offence at Goldstein's arguing that York is not giving its students an adequate education, and is inadequately administered in an undemocratic manner.

Professor Pritchard apparently believes that students have no right to criticize their educational environment.

We wonder where the good professor's

vote yes, mac

McLaughlin students will be called to vote for or against membership in the York Student Council on Tuesday January 14.

The vote should be yes.

YSC has admittedly had its problems this year. However, it is the only existing central voice for students and their affairs in this university and to the world outside.

If you don't agree with YSC policy, you certainly are not going to change it by sticking your head in the sand and saying it doesn't matter, so why should you take part.

On the contrary, the best way to make such an organization work on your behalf is to join it and make your voice count.

It is in your best interests to ensure the rights of your college by representing it on the York Student Council. To do so requires you vote yes.

Nazi on campus?

I have a complaint. We have recently acquired a piece of "sculpture" by one Armand Vaillancourt which was entitled "Presence". The end of this five-ton stone is reminiscent of an age of terrorism and human atrocities.

It makes one feel that the mentality of some of those who are responsible for the purchase of such rubbish must be seriously pathological. It makes one feel that some war criminal has till now been able to conceal his "Presence" on campus, which makes me feel that the apathy of

York students is so slight when compared with the ignorance of those responsible for the purchase of Armand's piece of shit.

Well, it looks enough like a swastika so that all those who pass it know what it is reminiscent of. If it was free, then I feel that I might be able to contribute certain works of art which will adorn our campus. You see I know a certain used car dealer who has, as a result of certain provincial legislation, found himself stuck with a number of cars he can't sell. Being a great philanthropist he might donate these cars to our campus. These cars

would be far more artistic than that hunk of stone which is now there.

I would like to apologize to Armand Vaillancourt for criticizing his five-ton stone sculpture. I really am sorry that it's a piece of shit and if I may take this as an average example of Armand's sculpture I am sorry that he is a sculptor. Mostly I would like to apologize to York's apathetic students for calling them apathetic. Wouldn't it be something if a voice of protest would rise in unison and say, "We don't want that thing here."
Simon Rosenfeld F III

scientific objectivity disappeared to in the face of Goldstein's strong criticism?

If it isn't possible for the student to voice strong and critical opinions in the university, then perhaps Mr. Goldstein's criticisms are more valid than Dr. Pritchard thinks. Surely this is a part of our educational process?

Perhaps we should commend the Chemistry Chairman for helping to point out that professors who deny students the rights of responsibilities in this "community of scholars" can be surprisingly irresponsible themselves.

tell them to

Those grapes you've been eating in your Versafood fruit salad come from California.

Since 1965 the California farm workers who pick those grapes have been on strike for the right to bargain collectively.

The grape industry has denied them that right, and tried to break the strike by beating up the strikers.

The current grape boycott is the only non-violent weapon the California farm workers have left.

When large Toronto food chains like Steinberg's and Loblaw's are urging their own customers to boycott grapes, surely York students cannot do less.

Versafood Services has said they will stop buying the grapes when the students tell them to.

Tell them to.

Even if it means you'll have to eat apples all winter.

editor in chief
assistant editor
managing editor
assistant to the editor

ross howard
mike snook
rolly stroeter
george b orr

and . . . don, dave, frank, anne, david, stu, scott, alan, gail, kandy, bob, richard, tony, anita, olga, rhonda, nancy, and peter.

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