

## LETTERS

cont'd from p. 4

how our lunch hour was interrupted by his tasteless letter with "pitiabile and vulgar" insinuations about the group called the Fine Arts people. And it was only 7 feet!

Marisa Gatto  
Tamara Osborne  
Cindy French

## A need for Dr. Holmes

I find it very unfortunate that Dr. Christopher Holmes will not be teaching here at York University after the end of this fall term of the FW88/89 session. I consider the learning processes I have experienced as a result of Dr. Holmes' courses to be my most important, formative, and profound. It saddens me a great deal to realize that other students will not have the same opportunity for learning, growth, and development that I have had.

The perspective taken by Dr. Holmes is unusual and highly valuable for many reasons. It is a perspective which does not deny humankind's spiritual element. This is a refreshing change from the seemingly totally scientific, rational approach taken in other psychology courses. In his consideration of the nature of human consciousness, by linking it with ancient mystical traditions, and by relating these both to today's most recent discoveries in physics, Dr. Holmes is truly working on the leading edge of the current field wherein the paradigm of "wholeness" is being explored. This element of synthesis in Dr. Holmes' teachings is also a welcome change of perspective from the ordinary, highly specialized fare offered in the psychology department. Although it is necessary to pursue specifics, they are virtually useless until integrated back into the larger picture. Dr. Holmes takes this principle to the level of cosmogenesis, and offers a

sound, new paradigm for exploration and explanation; namely mystical psychology.

I have grave doubts as to the quality of the assessments Dr. Holmes and his work have received from this institution. After having read Dr. Holmes' own letter of dispute and protest, "The Strange Case of Professor 'Z,'" and discussing the issues presented therein with various members of the York community, I am not satisfied that student opinion has been given enough consideration and weight, nor am I satisfied with a number of other issues raised in the examination of this case. Unfortunately it seems as if Dr. Holmes' work and teaching have been dismissed a priori. The standards of evaluation of the course material were not as academically stringent as they might have been. It appears that not enough classes were attended or readings done by members of the evaluating committees to render a fair judgement. The entire process of evaluation and the biases of many of the individuals involved remains under question, in my opinion.

I am reminded of the history of scientific discovery where new ideas have been initially rejected as heretical and unorthodox. The decision by the Psychology Undergraduate Committees that Dr. Holmes' work does not contribute to what the department defines as psychology is appalling. Having studied it myself, I would say that mystical psychology is fundamental to the discipline of psychology. Research into this unique and revealing area of psychology should be encouraged, not discouraged. I am not satisfied that the committees have given adequate reasons or proofs as to why mystical psychology is not considered relevant to the department of psychology here at York University.

In losing Dr. Holmes and the unique perspective with which he approaches psychology, this institution is losing a degree of its academic freedom. The words inscribed in stone on the Ross Building are being rejected almost literally. It will truly be a mistake to lose this innovative and active member of the York community. All efforts should be

made to secure a position for Dr. Holmes and his work and teaching here at York, if not within the discipline of psychology, then within an appropriate discipline such as Humanities, Philosophy, or the like. This issue means a great deal to a larger number of undergraduate students, as the many rallies of support for Dr. Holmes have already indicated. It also means a great deal to the future of the discipline of psychology and its synthesis with the current models under investigation in the scientific field. There is a desire and a profound need for Dr. Holmes' courses and for his research into these areas.

Sincerely,  
Deanna Fry

## Where was Yorkdex?

Letter to the Editor

Where is the "Yorkdex"? It seems to be missing in this issue (December 1). It has become a regular feature for which many of us, working on campus, find very interesting.

Yours,  
I. Lehto

## The official door opener

Dear Editor,

Okay, okay, so I have been known to frequently open doors for the Calumet Cougars hockey team. In fact, I was the official door opener for them last year.

So what? Has this country, this very university become so conservatively-minded that a man can't open a door for his buddies on a hockey team? Is it something so bad that people should be ridiculed? I think not!

I think it is something that should

be applauded and, even promoted. I think that all people should have the privilege of opening a door for a hockey team at least once in their lives.

Door openers of the world unite. We have nothing to lose but the game itself! Yell and cheer to your

heart's content. As for the beer, no comment.

Sincerely,  
Bernie Polster

VP Internal Affairs, CYSF  
P.S. Keep your head up, your stick down, and the beer cold! Thanks so very much.

## YORKDEX

Number of universities located at York campus: 1

Percentage of students who are aware of this fact: 67

Percentage of York students who get C's on their essays, chuckle, and then go for a couple of rounds at the pub: 39

Percentage of York students who get C's on their essays, chuckle, go for a couple of rounds at the pub, appeal their marks, and end up with a B+: 38

Number of York students who believe that they are enrolled at U of T: 617

Number of York students who purchased the chickenburger at Central Square cafeteria last week because they didn't feel like fish and chips: 84

Percentage of York students who smoke after sex: 41

Percentage of York students who smoke after sex because they are on fire: 12

Number of York students who had the urge to hang around the Track and Field Centre to catch a glimpse of Ben before the Olympics: 724

Number of York students who have the urge to hang around the Track and Field Centre to catch a glimpse of Ben now: 4,359

Compiled by a very stupid guy and his idiot room-mate

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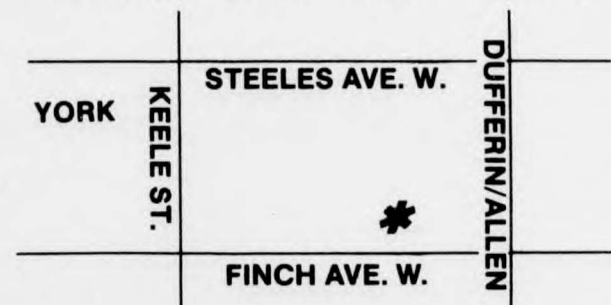
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