

Becker decries 'nuisance' and threatens film series

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DAVID SPIRO

Future film presentations scheduled by the CYSF film series, Reel and Screen, may be in jeopardy if their posters continue to decorate pillars in Central Square. (for example taped to the concrete slabs between elevators.)

In a memo dated January 12, 1983 and addressed to the Reel and Screen, John A. Becker, Assistant Vice-President in charge of student relations, asked "about the earliest time your bookings in Curtis L may be cancelled because of this unresolved advertising nuisance."

In a telephone interview, Becker expressed the wish that the Reel and Screen "show more constraint" and ensure that this type of "recurrent delinquency" does not continue. He said, "Now it's up to them" to make the next move, and appeared surprised that the conflict arose at all, given that there are 53 notice boards available for such publicity.

Howard Goldstein, the manager of Reel and Screen, felt that the finger should not have been pointed at him, but rather directed to others such as Maurizio Bevilacqua, CYSF President, or William Farr, Vice-President of Student Relations since "it's really a political matter and I'm just an employee." Goldstein believes that relations between his organization and the Administration would be better had the university fulfilled some of its obligations. He was especially perturbed at what he sees as the neglect of proper clean-up schedules for campus bulletin boards.

'Why singled out?'

Last October, according to Goldstein, he and Becker agreed that if Becker ensured clean orderly bulletin boards, Goldstein would refrain from using the pillars for his posters. "Since he didn't keep his part of the bargain," Goldstein said, "I don't see why I should keep mine."

Becker claims that he made no such deal and showed *Excalibur* a policy document which is dated September 8, 1977 and which states that only notice boards and other specified locations are to be used for poster display. Instead, Becker recalls offering the Reel and Screen additional notice boards, and "even offered them 100 per cent exclusive boards. If they would have told me where they wanted those I would have gone ahead and installed them. They have not responded to that generous offer."

"Nobody can claim they didn't know what the ground rules were," Becker said. He pointed out that special notices were posted on the boards at the beginning of the school year outlining the rules for proper use of the notice boards.

At that October meeting

Goldstein admits that Becker was "understanding", but "had no answer for my real question: Why are we being singled out?" He feels that many off-campus organizations are plastering their posters on the notice boards, depriving Reel and Screen of much needed space and forcing him to use the pillars

as well. He feels victimized and would like the administration "to at least be consistent" and reprimand all offenders, not just his organization. He cites the large Canadian Opera Company posters and the GMAT-LSAT study posters as the most noticeable examples saying "I wouldn't be surprised if the administration gets money to put them up."

'Lame Excuse'

Becker responded to that claim by asserting that "there is nothing in university policy which states that worthy off-campus activities can't advertise on campus." When told of Goldstein's feeling that he was being crowded out of the notice boards, he said, "that's a cop out" and called it as a "lame excuse."

"There are 53 notice boards in Central Square and 20 per cent of them are cleaned every weeknight" Becker said, "it therefore follows that twenty percent are empty the next morning." He has spoken to the night maintenance supervisor and admits that "he's had some illness in his working group so he's not had a full working crew lately."

The Reel and Screen claims that their contribution to the York community is being overlooked. With one-half of the proceeds of the upcoming Sci-Fi Festival going to the York Fund, they believe that they are entitled to more sympathetic treatment from the Administration. Becker sees the matter differently, "There are hundreds of good

works done here every week. The Reel and Screen does not have any monopoly on good works and is not entitled to special treatment."

Goldstein, is optimistic about the chances for an amicable settlement. "We're willing to be flexible," he said and would be happy with a mutual agreement "where a minimum number of posters would be put up in key locations in Central Square."

Business as usual

Maurizio Bevilacqua, CYSF President, plans to speak to Becker about the problem and is hopeful that "some sort of accommodation can be made for both parties." He believes that Becker has "a very correct argument" and can "understand and appreciate Beckers preoccupations. They are valid ones." However, he added, "What Becker should understand is the fact that postering is essential as far as entertainment is concerned and he should allocate some space for it. Bulletin boards are not sufficient. First, they are overly crowded and second, the Reel and Screen are put at a great disadvantage when the boards are cleaned up and they have to put up new posters."

Bevilacqua doesn't think the Reel and Screen is being victimized. To him, "Becker represents justice" and "it just takes a little bit of negotiation" in order to resolve the conflict.

Becker invites all student to "draw your own conclusions on the general appearance of the Ross Central Square area and decide whether the practices of Reel and Screen are enhancing our environment or degrading it."

Neither Goldstein nor Bevilacqua have any immediate plans to cancel future Reel and Screen programming and it's business as usual in Curtis L for this weekend.

No CRO interviews

Appointment controversy

CAROL BRUNT

The Council of the York Student Federation approved Larry Till's appointment as Chief Returning Officer on Thursday January 13, but the CYSF Director of Academic Affairs, Mark Pearlman, has charged that the selection process was influenced by personal factors. None of the four applicants were interviewed.

"I have nothing against Till personally," said Pearlman, but personal reasons were there in deciding not to go with other people." He also says that by bringing forward the motion to approve Till's appointment, CYSF President Maurizio Bevilacqua violated an agreement made by CYSF directors.

The CYSF Executive

Committee voted to appoint Till on December 7, and their decision required the full council approval that was given Thursday. However, according to Pearlman, the Executive agreed on January 10, "to re-open interviews and to re-open applications. There was no motion passed per se, but there was an agreement among executive members. You'd think," said Pearlman, "there should be some sort of consensus, and no need for a motion."

Bevilacqua offers a different description of what happened: "It was not an informal agreement, it was just a consideration." He told *Excalibur* that minutes from the meeting are not yet available, and confirmed that no interviews had been given.

Photo: Mario Scatoloni



Express bus stop to move

DAVID CHILTON

The Better Way just might be that if a trial change in the express bus service to York is made permanent.

The express bus stop will be moved to stand opposite the sign for the Faculty of Fine Arts and Burton Auditorium. Pat Berry of the TTC's Stops Administration Office could not confirm when the new stop would be ready, although he suggested it might be

"within three weeks".

This change has come about through the efforts of Janice Newson, Chairperson of the York University Faculty Association, and University Services Vice-President W.W. Small.

YUFA's concern

Newson wrote to Vice-President Small to express YUFA's concern that the express bus line-ups, which curl away from the stop, off the curb and out into the road, are dangerous, especially now as visibility on winter afternoons is considerably impaired.

Upon receipt of YUFA's letter, Vice-President Small contacted the TTC's Planning and Transportation Department and arranged the change

which will eliminate the line-ups he finds "clearly undesirable".

During the new stop's trial period York bus users will find that the overhang of the Burton Auditorium is a useful shelter during inclement weather.

The Council of the York Student Federation is currently distributing a questionnaire dealing with the TTC service to the university, and is collecting signatures for a petition to increase the service of the York University Buses 106 and 106A.

According to a CYSF information leaflet, buses are overloaded between 8:00 a.m. and 10:00 a.m., and are not picking up passengers at all bus stops, "especially at the Sheppard intersection and North of Sheppard."



What makes them blush at Founders? See 16.

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