

## 'College papers should maintain their identity as alternative style papers'

cont'd from p.2

"Also, in many ways we've been the underdog and we've had to be more aggressive."

Montesano said *The Lexicon* belongs to the Canadian University Press (CUP) wire service while *Excalibur* does not and he feels this will help give students a different perspective on student issues.

"I think that the laid back approach of 'don't worry about it, we're the only ones doing this on campus' are over," he said. A second campus-wide paper would generate more interest in campus newspapers and attract more writers to *Excalibur* and the college paper, Montesano said. He added that the increased excitement over two campus-wide papers would increase pick-up for both.

He added that the advertising market is big enough to accommodate two campus wide papers.

It would be difficult for *The Lexicon* to go the route of *The Newspaper* at UofT, because the ad market uptown is not as good as downtown, Montesano said. *The Newspaper* relies solely on advertising for its revenues but receives free space from the university. UofT students pay \$1.25 each to support the twice weekly *Varsity*, which derives 90 per cent of its revenues from advertising.

CYSF president Peter Donato, a former *Lexicon* sports editor, favours a levy for the Bethune paper.

"*Lexicon* has been the most consistent college paper and I think it would be healthy for the university to have more than one voice," he said. He added that he would like to see the paper come out weekly and that having *The Lexicon* as a campus-wide paper would "make *Excalibur* work harder."

Vandoo editor Brett Lamb sup-

ports *The Lexicon's* proposal. He said that *Excalibur* needs a competitor. Lamb expressed concern, however, that the paper could revert back to being just another college paper like his own Vandoo, which he concedes has "had some problems this year."

"Right now, they're strong," he said. "But if the quality declines, how do you get your money back?"

*Stong Flyer* editor Chris McBryan said *The Lexicon* is "doing a great job" now but that the campus does not need another campus-wide paper.

"I think that *Excalibur* does a good enough job covering the issues and I don't think we need another *Excalibur*. We don't need another paper covering the same issues," he said.

"I think it's better to pool our resources into one campus-wide paper instead of two."

McBryan said he would like to see college papers maintain their identity as alternative-style papers. He says the colleges have to maintain an identity and one way to do that is through college papers. He fears that Bethune would be left without a paper if *The Lexicon* goes campus-wide.

*Excalibur* editor Nancy Phillips said she thinks *The Lexicon* should publish once a week if it receives \$1 per student.

"*Excalibur* put out an issue a week for years with \$1," she said.

"If they're not going to increase the frequency of the paper, what are they going to use the money for?"

"Also, this plan would leave Bethune without a college paper and I don't think that's responsible. Then again, *The Lexicon* hasn't really been a Bethune paper for years," she said.

TODAY

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