

LETTERS

cont'd from p. 4

inexplicable reticence in future by taking a strongly anti-sexist stand and helping to promote a climate in which women may begin to feel that our struggle for equal status and consideration within the academy may someday be won.

Sincerely,
members of the York Women's Centre

Five rules of sarcasm for Nensi

To the editor,

Re: Opinion: YFS rule bending (Feb. 11)

Please Mr. Nensi, STOP! THINK! Actually, on second thought, just keep writing the same material . . . I hear the Sun is looking for new gossip columnists . . .

Okay, okay, I'm sorry. I don't mean to criticize unconstructively. I know you're only writing for a student publication and you're learning. I hope.

In the spirit of progressing your education, let me give you a few pointers on your style of journalistic comment. The following guidelines titled "Five Easy Rules for Writing Sarcastic, Cutting, Pointed, Razor-sharp, Kick-em-down, Beat-em-up, Kick-em-Again, and Again, and Again, Opinion Pieces" ought to help you in the future.

Rule 1: *Don't ask stupid questions.* In your case, you asked 15. You weren't being too rhetorical, were you?

Rule 2: *Don't be smarmy.* You must appeal to the average reader (ie. no money, no food, no decent clothes, not time to deal with smarmy opinion writers).

Rule 3: *Don't overuse key words or phrases.* Your piece may end up sounding too much like a farce. It would be a farce to treat issues (farces) in such a farcical nature and as farce I know, farces such as the issue

(farce) you addressed (farcefully), should never be acknowledged as being a farce.

Rule 4: *DON'T CAPITALIZE IMPORTANT WORDS OR PHRASES. A FINE WRITER KNOWS HOW TO MAKE A POINT WITHOUT THE USE OF SUCH A CRASS DEVICE.*

Rule 5: *Don't ask stupid questions.* Whoops, did I already say that? I guess I got confused . . . I'm sorry . . . its just that . . . there were soooo many . . .

I truly hope I have been some help. It's indeed a thankless job being a sarcastic opinion-piece writer, and thus we must stand in solidarity. Only by sticking together and fighting the oppressive systems of rationalism, integrity, and hard-nosed, fact-finding journalism, may we one day be recognized and respected for being the mudslingers we really are.

Your comrade in words,
Ian. t. Kelso

Agreement with Kim letter

To the editor,

I would like to affirm the convictions expressed by Marcus Kim in *Excalibur* (Feb. 11, 91).

I too see a tremendous contradiction in having a moral stance strongly *against* this horrible and immoral war half way around the globe, while at the same time promoting and justifying the taking of human life here at home by way of abortion. The logic and humanity of these two irreconcilable notions escapes me.

How can we call ourselves a people truly in pursuit of justice and peace in international matters when we are so able and inclined to justify home-grown atrocities? I honestly wonder.

Sincerely,
Matthew Parker

Apathy on handcuff issue

To the editor,

I am astonished at the apathy on the part of students, faculty and particularly you, the major University newspaper regarding the recent proposal to equip York's "security officers" with handcuffs.

Does not the introduction of a *campus police state* merit front page status? Am I the only one who even cares that we are courting possible disaster?

I think the first question we have to ask ourselves is what kind of screening and training these officers actually have. I am certain that these criteria could not be nearly as stringent as the actual Metro-Police force. Yet, in light of recent events (some may call them abuses, other refer to them as tragic accidents) even such measures do not ensure that the use of "police force" will always result in a positive and just outcome. So how can we even begin to consider giving security guards (this is indeed what they are) handcuffs?

Do we have any statistics or proof that this will make York a safer place? So far all I've heard about is a "study" and recommendation.

Very few foundations for such a ridiculous suggestion have actually been voiced. Is it merely because some overzealous (I'm being polite here) York officer felt they needed them on an occasion he felt less than up to the actual task at hand? What's next? Night sticks? Why not service revolvers?!

I have a very uneasy feeling that such a move will only lead to a harassment of generally well-behaved students. I think anyone who has actually seen these "officers" at work will agree, that those dangerous individuals requiring res-

straint will continue not to be threatened, even by the augmentation of handcuffs.

What is truly shocking about this whole affair is the quiet!

You placed the story somewhere in the middle of the issue, and not a single voice of protest has been heard from any student organization! (You know, this is how the federal government slipped the GST by us!)

Are you being censored? Are you a "state run paper"? Is your's not a free voice of the community you pledged to serve or are you a puppet to the administration? If what I'm saying is ridiculous then, the truth is far more horrifying — you just don't care!

I was not raised in the 60s amid the student protests, but I have come to understand what that generation means when it speaks of how damn self-absorbed, shallow and apathetic this generation of students are!

Excalibur, I'll give you one more chance! If you do serve the community, then tell us what we can do. Who do we write to? What action can we take? How do we stop this mistake before it happens? All I ask is a name and address or phone number following this letter.

If you take no action today, then don't blame the previous generation for environmental negligence, the Feds for the GST or even complain about tuition hikes — just shut your face and take it! You will deserve it.

No one is too busy to fight for their rights!

A. Fang

Ed. note: You can write your letters of complaint to either Carolyn Winship, c/o York Federation of Students or to Eric Pond at Suite D, East Office Building.

ADVISOR TO THE UNIVERSITY ON THE STATUS OF WOMEN

CALL FOR NOMINATIONS

Nominations are being invited from the York community for the position of Advisor to the University on the Status of Women. The appointment is for a three-year term, starting July 1, 1991.

Nominees should be full-time employees of the University.

Nominators should have permission of the nominees and are asked to send curriculum vitae and/or resumes to Ms. Birgit Langwisch, Assistant to the Provost, S920, Ross Building before 5:00 p.m. on March 15, 1991.

Terms of reference for the position are available by calling Birgit Langwisch at 736-5275.

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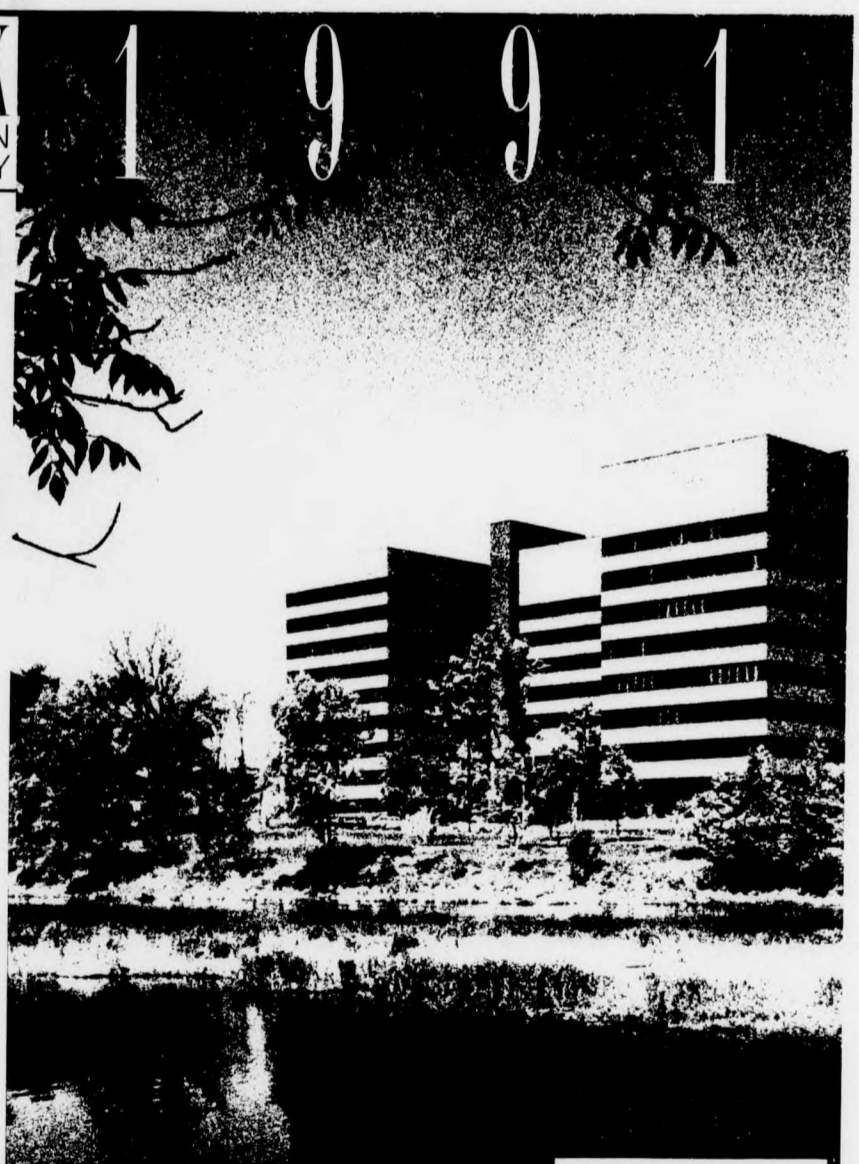
The academic deadline for withdrawing from Winter Term courses without receiving a grade has been changed. **The deadline is Friday, March 8, 1991** (not March 1, 1991 as published in the Undergraduate Calendar).

Office of the Registrar
February 8, 1991

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