

# editorial

## Excalibur's picks

Excalibur staff had the opportunity Monday to speak with many of the candidates in the coming CYSF elections. Based on the answers to a variety of questions, Excalibur presents its annual editorial outlining our favorites.

Although we might look favorably on the idea of ushering fresh talent into CYSF's presidential chair, incumbent Chris Summerhayes has performed his duties with quiet effectiveness while none of his opponents have displayed the combination of skills and experience necessary to do the job.

His closest competition comes from Valance Ellies who has put forth some good ideas. Combined with his promise to reduce CYSF's \$40,000 deficit, these ideas show his platform to be in the dark about the realities of CYSF life. In addition, we have a very serious concern, based on some of his suggestions, that if elected he would reduce the powers of CYSF until it is no more than a clearing house for student funds.

Alex Riha and Michael Strapko are the two real dreamers in the race. Strapko's one issue is the lack of student spirit. He believes he can re-ignite the necessary fuse through the construction of a Yeoman football stadium. A good idea, but Strapko will find he can be much more effective as the head of a stadium lobby group formed by students, than as president of CYSF.

Riha made at least two suggestions for services which, while useful, are already in existence. Inefficient redundancies are not what CYSF needs right now.

We haven't quite figured out yet why Larry Till has chosen to run. He was the Chief Returning Officer responsible for last year's CYSF election fiasco. If he can't handle running an election, how can he possibly handle winning one? His "\$5,000 option"—an election gimmick based on his giving back half the presidential salary—only serves to prove you get what you pay for.

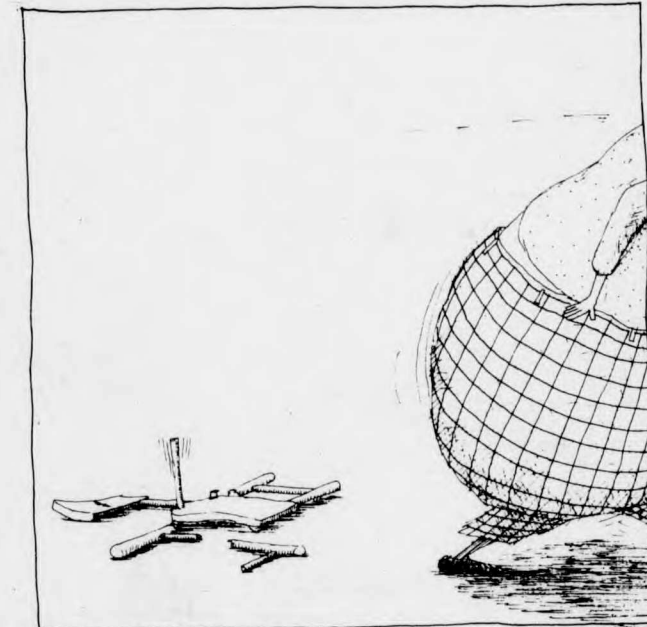
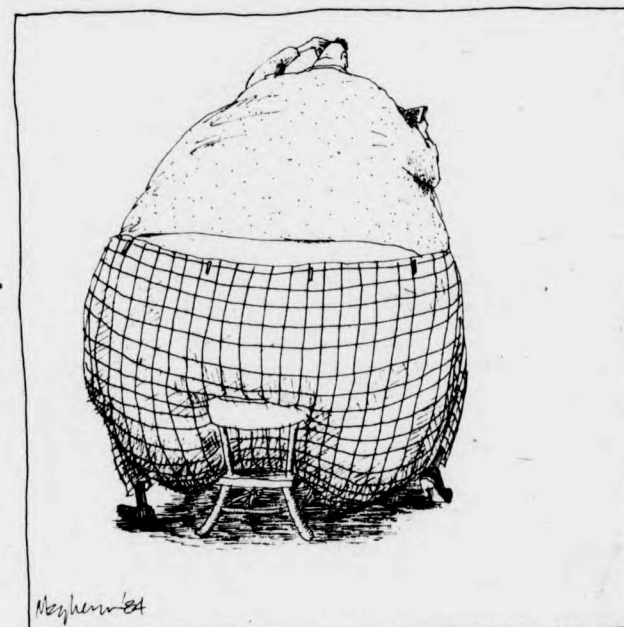
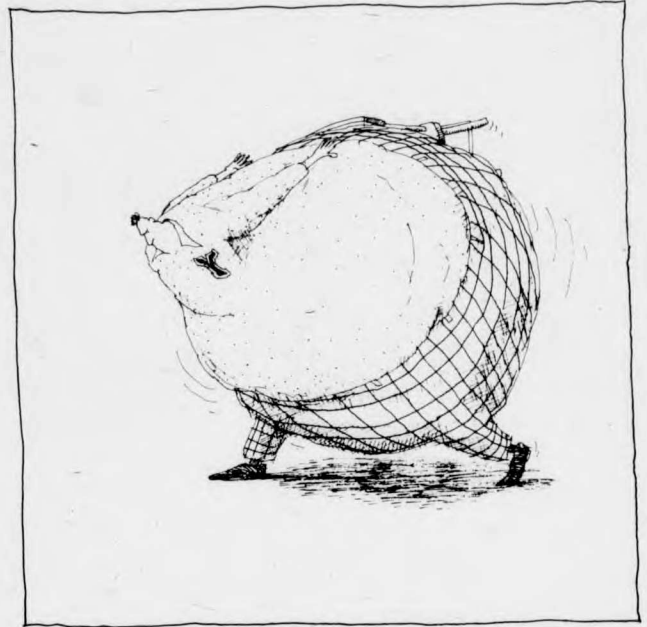
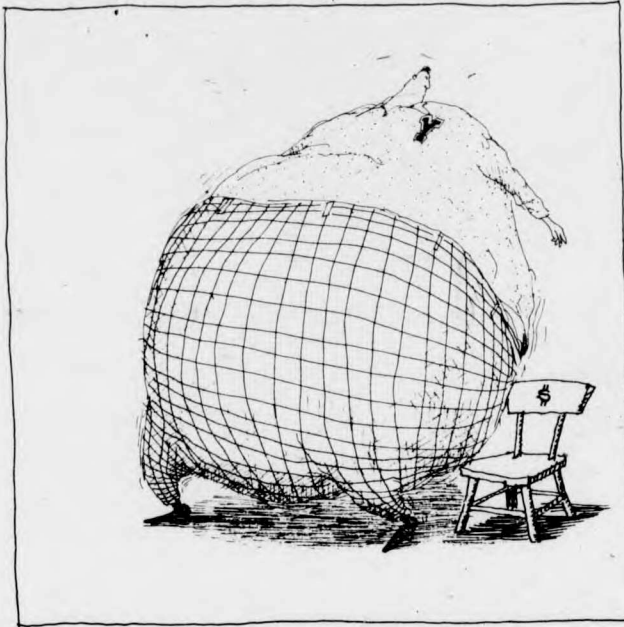
Summerhayes' major achievement this year has been the reduction of the CYSF deficit from \$60,000 to approximately \$40,000. It's a thankless task when you're trying to hold the reigns of council spending while all around you people are seeking funding. Despite the financial constraints, CYSF services have not dropped a noticeable amount.

As for the position of Women's Affairs Director, both candidates were contacted. Only Elise Hallewick attended. She appeared to be a good choice to us.

Of the candidates for External Affairs, our choice is David Blair. He is knowledgeable about the issues and has the experience of leading a high profile student group at York.

For the Board of Governors position, incumbent Pamela Fruitman certainly comes out ahead on experience. However, she lacks the considerable energy and enthusiasm necessary for this job—energy and enthusiasm that her opponent Oriet Angel seems to have an abundance of. We are also concerned about the extent to which Fruitman will be able to work with the present Board of Governors member, Martin Zarnett, considering he is actively supporting Angel.

The best way to judge the candidates is to read their literature and ask them questions either personally or at the bearpit sessions.



## letters

Excalibur attempts to print as many letters as space allows. Please be brief—letters over 250 words are subject to editing for length. All letters must include the author's name, address, and phone number for verification purposes. Pseudonyms may be used upon request.

### Tell us about it

Editor:

I was upset when I learned that there was a bomb threat on Friday, February 24, in Stedman Lecture Halls, and that the building was not evacuated.

Excalibur's report of the threat suggested that "appropriate action had been taken—searching the building thoroughly" until officials "were satisfied that nothing was in there." My question is, how could anyone be certain that there would not be a repeat performance of Thursday's tear gas bombing?

I was in Stedman at the time the bomb was supposed to go off and I would have appreciated being given the choice of remaining or leaving the building. If a bomb had gone off I am sure that those officials who decided not to evacuate the building would have an awful lot of explaining to do. Fortunately nothing happened. However, how could the officials be so certain that the threat was just a hoax, especially after 150 people were injured the previous day!

—Marlene Gerskup

### Beat it!

Editor:

I should like to respond to the letter by Mr. Edelman published in Excalibur, March 1, so alliteratively entitled "Beat by bouncers."

It would not be surprising to any of those who witness the "beating" as to why Edelman did not care to describe details of the incident. Edelman's friend approached the door at a dance in Founders dining hall, for which some two hundred people had paid admission, and requested two minutes inside to "look for a friend." The "roughneck" doorman replied, "no problem," whereupon Edelman's friend proceeded straight to the bar and purchased a drink.

When asked to leave he refused and hence was ejected, with no more force than necessary to remove him. No punches were thrown.

It was at this point that Edelman arrived, jumping on one of the doormen who was removing his friend. Still no punches were thrown. While the bartender attempted to pull Mr. Edelman off the doorman, Edelman sunk his teeth into the bartender's arm. Yet this is the man who has the unmitigated gall to call us "animals." The first punch was thrown with Edelman's incisors firmly implanted in another man's arm.

The events described herein were substantiated by everybody who witnessed this event. (Hence the refusal by police to take any action, save warning Edelman and his friend that were they to get into a car in their then present state they would likely be arrested.)

Finally, to Mr. Edelman I would like to say that during four years spent acquiring a degree in English from this university, I have indeed learned about the wonders of speech, and I wonder at the hypocrisy in the self-righteous speeches of such people as yourself.

—Craig Hildebrand

### Why the poetry?

Editor:

Why print peter i Fyfe's 'criticism' of *Existere*? I'm not saying his view should be censored, but he seems to be basing his "poem" on last year's *Existere*, and didn't I read this same response after that issue appeared?

Why should any of us have to suffer the weak ravings of this person, who obviously wishes he could express himself with words, more than once?

—Gerald Smith

Editor's note: Although Excalibur received letters criticizing *Existere* last year, peter i Fyfe was not among their authors.

### Get acquainted

Editor:

How very pleasing it is to see that Excalibur has an erudite, eloquent editor, who is so willing to avail us of him—albeit sometimes misanthropic and misguided—opinions every week.

There is one point, however, that really irks me: why, oh, why does our esteemed editor not take the time to acquaint himself with the true motto of our reversed institution? For instance, some weeks ago I was horrified to find "tendata via" in the editorial column. Putting it down to a typographical error, I sat back with the self-inflicted confidence that it would be spotted and corrected for future use. Not so.

In the Excalibur editorial column of March 1st, I was appalled (no less) to find "tendanta via."

I am sure that, being a University student, the Editor is not an illiterate ignoramus, and look very forward to having these errors excised from future columns.

Either do it right, or don't do it at all. No wonder the publication bears the nickname "Low-calibur."

—Ameen A. Keshavjee

Editor's Note: Although the editor admits he does not have a working knowledge of Latin, the correct spelling of York's motto appears to be "tentanda via."

### Get with it!

Editor:

With regards to the administrators at York:

I would like to congratulate those responsible for their excellent solution to the congestion in Central Square. By closing all bearpit activities, there's now room for the crowds, outside the T.D. bank to pick up their enrollment kits. Keep up the brilliant work.

—Richard Cohen

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## excalibur

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