

Excalibur

Everything secret degenerates; nothing is safe that does not show it can bear discussion and publicity
—Lord Acton

Excalibur founded in 1966, is the York University weekly and is independent politically. Opinions expressed are the writer's and those unsigned are the responsibility of the editor. Excalibur is a member of Canadian University Press and attempts to be an agent of social change. Typography by Foto Set, printed at Newsweb, Excalibur is published by Excalibur Publications.

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Snips 'n snipes

No snow, discos, the free chevron and wise men

Sometime in the early sixties, the so-called Three Wise Men burst upon the Canadian political scene, claiming to contain in their collective wisdom the necessary ingredients for a new leadership to save Confederation.

With cries of "participatory democracy" and "a just society" they rejuvenated the moribund federal Liberal party, helping to keep it in power for another decade.

Like the other two wise men, Jean Marchand was known for his disdain of the Senate, an appendage to our parliamentary system of forgotten usefulness. A gaudy, expensive toy.

Marchand who spoke at York last week, suffered defeat as a Liberal candidate in the November 15 elections in Quebec. Marchand did not shiver in the chill of unemployment for too long, however. Another of the wise men, Pierre Elliot Trudeau, saw too it that he was appointed to one of the plush Senate seats.

Participatory rip-off.

The snow must end.

Winter has overstayed its welcome on this campus and throughout the city. The York community can no longer tolerate the cold indifference of this annoying season.

Already tempted and treated with a taste of spring, this week's snowfall has been nothing more than a futile attempt on winter's part to grab a few days reprieve before heading north for the summer.

We will not tolerate this flip-flopping weather any longer. We demand consistent spring immediately. Balmy weather must sweep this campus immediately or else the York community will be up in arms.

There are already rumours of a petition campaign.

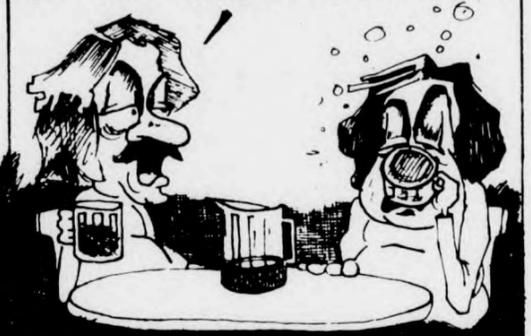
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What a choice. Last Friday night, wherever you turned in Complex One, there was something going on. There were discos in both the McLaughlin and Vanier Common Rooms. A series of films were shown in Winter JCR, but you couldn't hear them because of a third disco taking

WITH A TUITION INCREASE WE SHOULD RECEIVE A MUCH WIDER RANGE OF COURSES...



...WHICH WOULD UNDOUBTEDLY RAISE THE INTELLECT OF THE AVERAGE STUDENT...



AND RESULT IN A HIGHER STANDARD OF EDUCATION AND INCREASE THE QUALITY OF THE LEARNING PROCESS...



... THEN AGAIN MAYBE THE BASTARDS WILL JUST KEEP IT !!



place in the dining hall next door.

All the discos were playing roughly the same sort of music, at the same raucous volumes. None of them was operating at anywhere near capacity.

It's easy to lay the blame for this on the organizations involved, for not co-operating. But there is an organization that was set up to try and coordinate such burgles: That is the job of the York Social Co-op hasn't performed much of this year.

Because each of the organizations involved (Mac Athletics, CKRY-FM, Winters Council, Open End pub) was so insistent on capturing a chunk of the Friday night crowd, they all suffered, whether they lost money, or made less than they could have.

The best way to stop these harmful provincial attitudes would be to give the Social Co-op some genuine authority, so that the clubs or colleges could plan well enough in advance to avoid another similar mix-up. Perhaps it could be given the sole authority to allocate dining halls and JCRs to student-run functions, a privilege long-cherished by the college councils.

Usually a simple rubber stamp, the allocations could best serve the students if submitted to a central location. With the allocations divided fairly among groups and locations, and evenly spaced, through the week, students wouldn't be submitted to the petty, unnecessary competition, which hurts everyone in the long run.

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This week Excalibur sent representatives to the national conference of the Canadian University Press (CUP) in Ottawa.

Two representatives that is. Most other newspapers sent the same number, some sent one, and about 25 of the 75 papers in CUP failed to send any.

The free chevron staff of the University of Waterloo sent twelve. That's more active staff members at one meeting than most university newspapers see throughout an entire year.

And that was only a small proportion of the free chevrics. Enough remained back at Waterloo to maintain the occupation of their offices they have been carrying on since last September when they were arbitrarily and anti-democratically shut down by the Waterloo student federation and then president Shane Roberts.

Apparently, chevron staff meetings are regularly attended by between 40 and 50 people. That means, the free chevron has the largest active staff of probably any newspaper in Canada.

And from our experience with them in Ottawa this weekend. They operate in what really is a participatory democracy (Pierre Trudeau take note), - every staff member of every political stripe having a say and a vote.

Waterloo operates on the semester, with system functions during the summer, as will the occupation of the chevron's offices. The staff is committed to maintaining the round-the-clock occupation, until the paper is reinstated as the recognized student newspaper at Waterloo.

And from the size, competence and dynamism of the staff, a glimpse of which we caught at Ottawa, it is clear that the long struggle of the free chevrics, is far from dying but shows every sign of being capable of defying the anti-democratic student federation until they are reinstated.

The necessity of a free and autonomous student press is a goal worth fighting for, and we restate our support for their free chevron staff as it fights for freedom of the press at Waterloo.

Important staff meeting
today at 2 p.m.
to discuss the election
of next year's editor

Editor-in-chief
Managing editor
News editor
Entertainment editor
Sports editor
Photo editor
CUP editor
Business and advertising manager (non-voting)

Michael Hollett
Anna Vaitiekunas
Paul Kellogg
Evan Leibovitch
Dave Fuller
Bryon Johnson
Debbie Pekilis
Olga Graham

Our staff box this week, includes only the names of staff members who qualify to vote for editor-in-chief of next year's Excalibur. According to Excalibur's constitution, staffers qualify when they have contributed to at least six different issues of Excalibur, with at least two of these being in each of the first and second terms.

Numerous staff members come very close to qualifying and may appeal for the right to vote at today's and next week's staff meetings. Screening of candidates for the position of editor will take place next Thursday at 6 p.m. and Friday at 3 p.m. in the Excalibur staff lounge.

Staff at large who qualify to vote for editor - David Saltmarsh, Alice Kein, Maxine Kopel, Ian Kellogg, James Brennan, Mary Marrone, Keith Nickson, Walter Rigobon, Ed Fox, Warren Clements, Kim Llyewellyn, Ian Wasserman, Don Belanger, Ted Mumford, Ara Rose Parker, Ronen Grunberg, Amelia Amaro, Graham Beattie, Agnes Kruchio, Bob Pomerantz, Jenny Johnson, Denise Beattie.