

the Editor

All letters should be addressed to the Editor and sent to Excalibur, Central Square, Ross Building, York University, Downsview, Ontario. Excalibur reserves the right to edit all letters more than 500 words long. Unsigned letters are the responsibility of the editors. All letters will be published however due to space limitations letters may not be published the week they are received.

Our readers respond to "Save the Pigeons"

... I feel the pigeons have a right to be saved and that extermination of them must be stopped.

Bob O'Brien
Osgoode Hall

... This is my letter of support to terminate the extermination of our pigeons.

Roland Gote
Osgoode Hall

Tomorrow is the last day to send any "Save the Pigeons" letters to Excalibur. We'll be presenting them to York president David Slater on Monday.

Although the present flock of about 100 pigeons is quite dead, we hope the letters will change this absurd policy for the benefit of the next group that dares to set foot at York. The first step is to remove the poison grain that now kills any that land in the area. We regret that space did not permit us to reprint the letters unedited.

... The sight of that poor dead pigeon on the front page of Excalibur just cut my heart. I like the pigeons. When I go for a walk by the Ross Building with my friends, I love the sight of them flying up in front of you as you near them.

Man is too selfish. If something inconveniences him, he gets rid of it. When is this destruction of nature and helpless little creatures going to stop?

Maureen Boyce

... We protest against the killing of defenseless and harmless pigeons.

Janis Jones
Coralei Anderson
Maxine Samiga
C. Sloan
R. Darragh

... In the Feb. 10 issue of Excalibur I was very sickened by the picture of the dead pigeon donated by physical plant. It appears to be a very sad affair when a school of this calibre has to stoop to exterminating its inhabitants. Is life to some people really that cheap?

Robin Peglar

... No matter where it happens, it is appalling that a whole flock of birds can be exterminated in the interest of efficiency and cleanliness. Surely the York campus is barren enough, without killing the few birds that remain to grace the concrete.

Carol Anderson
D.E. Hara
V. Hatton
M. Kneeland

... We think pigeons are alright, even their shit. We think exterminators are just shit.

Betty York
Deborah Peters
Nancy Lyon
Candise Arima
Nancy Adams
Stong College

... Coming out of a day of sterile immersion in our planned campus complex, nothing in sight makes me feel alive again as delightfully as a flock of pigeons rising to the sky. It's pretty generous of pigeons not to desert the poisoned air of the city environment, as most birds have done; we're lucky to have some nature left — so what do we do? — poison the birds!!! Well that's pretty underhanded to say the least.

Let's throw out the pest-controllers, and spend the money cleaning up after the pigeons if they're good enough to stay alive after such treatment. None of the other birds have stayed. Don't blame them, either.

Julie Morris

... Please do not let them kill the pigeons. They are such beautiful creatures. How could they kill them! I think it is a sin and a monstrous thing to do.

Could you imagine Venice without the pigeons flying over St. Marc's Cathedral? Could you imagine Trafalgar Square without those lovely friends? And Montmartre, beautiful Montmartre where they are so friendly, so trustful and... so spoiled.

Why not spoil and love ours and let them free and happy and... ALIVE.

Beatrix Ambarian
Osgoode Hall

... Why, at a time when it is being made so obvious that we have little more to do to annihilate all of our wildlife and other examples of nature's resources, is this deliberately being done?

Now, it's a crime, an actual summary offence, to purposely harm an animal. A man was convicted in Toronto two weeks ago of killing a cat and he was fined or charged. What's the difference here? If it's a sin to kill a cat, dog, or human, it's a sin to kill hundreds of birds.

Myra Cohen

... That the university administration could allow the massacre of unsuspecting birds is shocking, to say the least, but predictable. It seems to be a sickness of our age of progress that we destroy whatever we deem unnecessary or what is in our path.

Hence we cut down trees instead of finding a better solution to high wires. And we destroy birds because they shit on the Ross Building.

Sandra Robinson

... The only thing I have to say is "What the fuck do those mothers think they're doing?"

Guy Markson



... I'm "DAMNED OUTRAGED"

at the picture in Excalibur! As a standing member of SAD (Society for Animals in Distress) and a staunch supporter of all animal causes — especially cruelty and killing — I willingly submit this letter loudly protesting and condemning Darcy Robinson, the York-employed pest control companies and everyone connected with them for this inhuman act! Killing birds because they are keeping the Ross Building from being clean!! Really! I've always thought York was a little screwed up in their thinking, but this is the limit!! I don't think they'll ever top this one.

Dawn James
Osgoode Hall

One of the major charms of the older parts of Toronto (and indeed of most good urban places) is the way in which the man-made environment makes room for and encourages some of the more interesting and lively varieties of natural life.

Tree-lined streets, an unexpected clump of flowers, and especially birds in the eaves of public buildings and squirrels scampering along the pavement are more charming and endearing than those empty and desolate open spaces which represent Nature at York. We should encourage the pigeons, not destroy them. Why don't we import some squirrels from downtown? And why does the Ross building have to be clean?

Jean V. Matthews
Stong Fellow

... I think there are other more favorable solutions to the problem, which no one bothered to look for, except in the context of expense.

Leonard Stanley

... Whoever rids me of my pigeons is ridding me of the only wildlife I have to enjoy between classes on this desolate campus. As for the cleanliness of the Ross Building, I doubt very much if a few grey or white splotches will spoil the aesthetic splendor of that work of art — and if at least pigeons enjoy the window-sills of our Hum. Building, well, why not let them wallow in their ecstasy?

R.H. Dolman
Founders

York U. car rally

TIME:	Sat. March 4th, 1972						
PLACE:	North of York campus						
LENGTH:	55 miles or approx. 2 hours						
MEET:	10:00 am North lobby, 2nd floor, Ross building						
REGISTRATION:	\$2.00 on day of rally or \$1.00 during pre-registration March 1st - 3rd, 12 noon - 3 pm North lobby, 2nd floor, Ross building.						
PRIZES:	<table border="0"> <tr> <td>First</td> <td>\$115.00</td> </tr> <tr> <td>Second</td> <td>\$55.00</td> </tr> <tr> <td>Third</td> <td>\$25.00</td> </tr> </table>	First	\$115.00	Second	\$55.00	Third	\$25.00
First	\$115.00						
Second	\$55.00						
Third	\$25.00						

Sponsored by



FORD SALES LIMITED

FLY AN AIRCRAFT!

If you want to learn to fly, or if you have a license and want to rent an aircraft at reduced rates, you should attend the following meeting to discuss the organization of a University Flying club, on

Monday Feb. 28, 2 p.m.

Curtis Lecture Hall, Rm. B

or Call Jim Davies,
635-3854.



Hundreds of Poplin, Nylon, Leather, Melton, Corburn, Jackets, Sloop & Sweat & T-Shirts

CRESTED POPLIN JACKETS \$12.95

From \$7.50 Chenille School Crest with every jacket order of \$25.00 and over.

Canadian Novelty Shirt & Sportswear Co.
2462 Yonge Street Telephone 486-0997 486-0999

GRUMBLES

71 Jarvis 368 0796

This week

Luke Gibson

Next week

Tom Jans & Mimi Farina