

Letters To The Editor

All letters should be addressed to the Editor, c/o Excalibur, room 111 central square. They must be double-spaced, typed and limited to 250 words. Excalibur reserves the right to edit for length and grammar. Name and address must be included for legal purposes but the name will be withheld upon request. Deadline: Mon. 7 p.m.

Lecturer's "disciplined enthusiasm" a refreshing change

Allan Gould, a lecturer hired for a two-year contract with the theatre department two years ago, has been informed that his contract will not be renewed. A large number of his students have written to Excalibur protesting his dismissal. The following letter expresses the common sentiment:

I am greatly distressed by (lecturer) Allan Gould's dismissal from the teaching faculty of the theatre department at York.

Gould gives a course entitled Modern Theatre and Society that I am happily enrolled in. When I first started attending his lectures, I was immediately struck by two things.

First, I was simply amazed by the information and dynamism that he brought to his classes. It was not an unfocused or diffracted energy, but rather a disciplined enthusiasm that stems from a professional concern for his work.

Gould was always well prepared. His lectures demonstrated careful and astute research and analysis. He put theatre in a perspective that was excitingly refreshing, demonstrating at every step the ways in which theatre has been shaped by social

milieux and perceptions, and also the ways in which the social matrix has been affected by the work of artists in the theatre.

Secondly, there prevailed an atmosphere of relaxation and intimacy in Gould's lectures, despite the immensity of the halls in which he taught. Students were never afraid to ask questions or to interject ideas, because both were enthusiastically received.

I am mindful that one of the criticisms of Gould's teaching was that he is "entertaining" rather than capable. If those critics had actually attended his lectures, they would have realized that those moments of levity which make Gould's lectures fascinating and enjoyable as well as informative, are never had at the expense of his duties — transmitting and communicating instruction and guidance to his pupils.

I have found, during my years of university experience, that it is only the empty-headed and easily-threatened professors who lecture dourly.

During our first lecture, we were given the Gould residence phone number and instructions to call him at any hour to discuss important

problems. Those large numbers of students who have done so in the intervening months can all attest to his approachability and concern.

I am a graduating student this year, and what happens at York will not immediately concern me in the years to come. This letter is prompted by my faith in Gould's ability and the remorse I feel knowing that future students will be denied this valuable experience.

I am also prompted to write to express my concern for a university that thinks it can permit the likes of Gould to go elsewhere. York University, its theatre department and its future students will most certainly be the poorer for his dismissal.

Peter del Vecchio

Page three nude is unpardonable

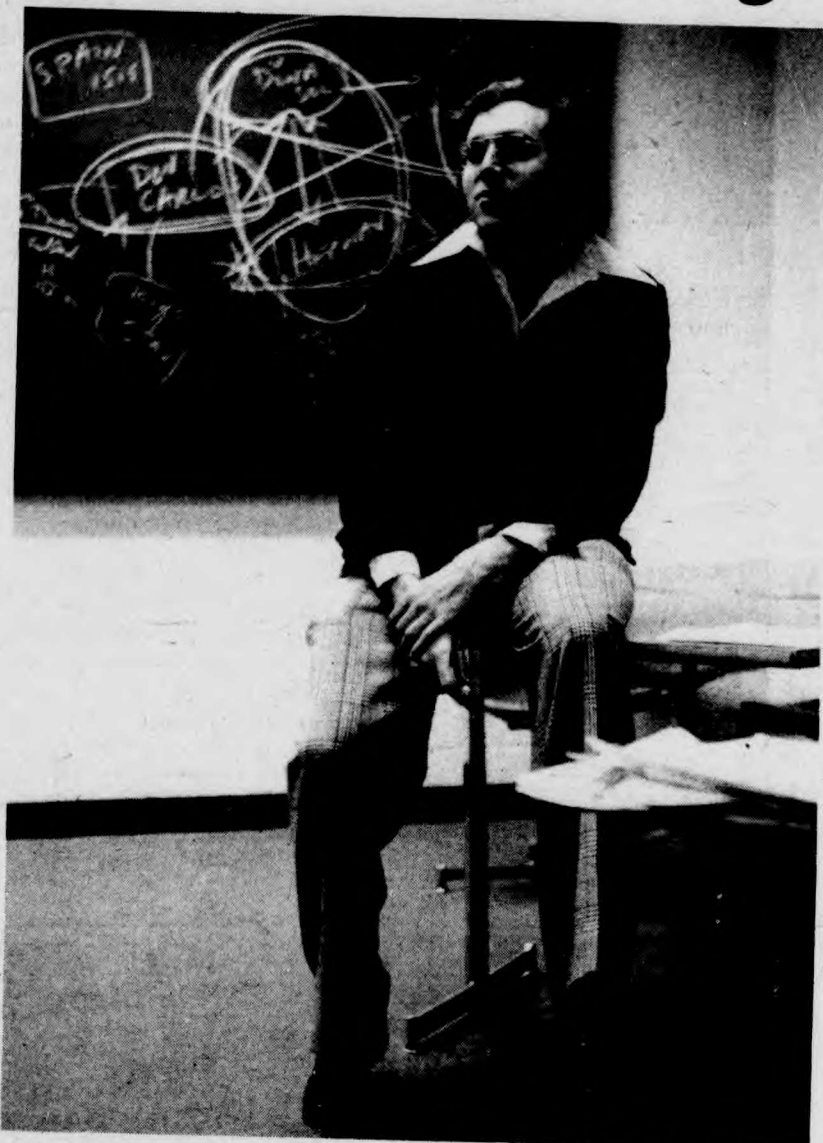
Well really! I think your irresponsibility in publishing that exploitative photograph on page three of last week's Excalibur is unpardonable!

It is shameful enough to have the authorities endorse Hefneresque parades on this campus, without having you actively reinforcing such degenerate behaviour.

To think that all that exposure re: Women's Year, the recent York Task Force on the Status of Women, and Stong's Proclamation of Women's Day, fell on deaf ears is most disconcerting. Your behaviour thus makes an absolute mockery of all that Professor Virginia Rock, Vietta Wilson, and all those noble women of this community have been trying to achieve!

It is time this kind of regressive behaviour is curtailed — starting on campus, where men are supposedly more informed and open-minded. OK, OK, so Bridget (Bardot) Baker was not coerced into making her appearance in Vanier's Dining Hall; but *must* you applaud her with the recognition she is seeking?

Burlesque shows are directly parallel to the oxen and bullock type of parading carried on during the period of slave-trading in the colonies, on arrival of a cargo of human chattel for sale. And this advocacy of the contemporary



C.T. Squassero Photo

Theatre lecturer Allan Gould, who teaches both full-time and Atkinson courses, has been told his contract will not be renewed. In letters sent to Excalibur, his students refer to Gould as "one of the few very excellent teachers in the department". His case is currently before the Senate Committee on Academic Dismissal.

prototype of slavery (to male chauvinistic piggery) should merit castration on sight.

Slavery is not only inhumane, but also wicked and unjust! After all, every animal in Toronto has the humane society to protect it from undignified treatment by man. So why shouldn't woman have the right to that dignity too?

I mean, WHY NOT?

Mary Quan

Paper reduced to smut peddler

For the record, I must protest the blatant sexual exploitation that your rag has begun to pedal.

I was shocked and disgusted by the photograph you ran on page three in last week's Excalibur accompanying an article on the Vanier Smut Show. Excalibur has no place in the dining halls of York University.

Imagine, showing a picture of a man in his Fruit of the Looms. Shocking!

Aren't you glad Radio York doesn't do things like that?

Rick Leswick

Vanier shouldn't leave new CYSF

Throughout the ongoing CYSF elections, Bethune College students, as non-members of that body, have been able to sit back and watch with some amusement the disorganized fiasco that characterized this year's elections.

These elections clearly demonstrated the perfunctory nature of CYSF. A history of ineptitude, lack of leadership and internal pettiness has culminated in a university-wide disenchantment with CYSF, as demonstrated by consistently low turn outs at election

time. Now, finally, the students of the university have elected a slate of candidates, most of whom are under the banner of the ULS, that seems capable of transforming the central council into a functioning body serving the needs of the students.

Now we hear that Vanier College Council has taken it upon themselves to threaten withdrawal from CYSF. It is strange to us, in Bethune, that other colleges are considering withdrawal just at a time when CYSF holds promise of being an effective vehicle to confront the problems faced by students at this university.

ULS ELECTED

The ULS was elected, and I stress the word elected, on a mandate to unite the students and fight such issues as cutbacks and food service. By what right does Vanier have to begin a tearing down operation when the need is for unity?

As a strong supporter of the college system, Bethune College rejects such pettiness as being far more detrimental to the college system than the ULS could ever be. The strength of the college system relies not on reactionary outbursts like threats of withdrawal from CYSF when a particular ideological group is elected by the students.

As a representative of the students of Bethune College, I would like to denounce any attempt to disband CYSF because of its political leanings. The time to disband CYSF is when it proves to be the ineffectual bureaucracy that it has been up until now.

I congratulate Dale Ritch and his party for their hard-fought victory. You have a heavy responsibility to lift CYSF out of the slag heap of useless garbage. Good luck.

James McMurdo
Chairman,
Bethune college council

York's deficit substantial

Your editorial Let's aim our cannons in the same direction (Excalibur - March 20) unfortunately oversimplified the financial problem at York: "It all goes back to the balanced budget, the one York is trying to preserve for next year. University of Toronto plans to run up a deficit, but York, as a less wealthy institution, is unwilling to do the same."

The fact is that the University of Toronto has an accumulated surplus of approximately \$2.3 million which it proposes to use this year, in addition to budgeting for a deficit of \$1.6 million.

Unfortunately York, because of financial problems in previous years, already has an accumulated operating deficit of \$1.6 million (coincidentally the same deficit that University of Toronto, a much larger institution, will be faced with at the end

of the 1975/76 fiscal year).

The president, in his March 14 memorandum to the community outlining the financial position of the university, indicated that professional and managerial staff would have their salaries adjusted in line with increases granted to faculty, so that my personal fortune is linked with theirs. But it is, I believe, essential at this time of financial stringency that all pertinent information is promulgated to the community by every possible means.

In this regard, the above facts make it clear that the decision facing the university is not simply whether it should operate with a deficit in 1975/76, but whether it should increase an already very substantial deficit.

C.G. Dunn

Steve Hain

About the red 'n' white buttons

They tell me that this is International Women's Year.

Judging by the increased sightings of red and white Why Not? buttons (kind of reminds me of the Red Cross), the splatterings of a public relations campaign in the media (an informed public is a must), and the fact that any male applying to Camp Manitou for the position of charperson will be denied employment (you have to share the cabin with two other women, even though the notice at Manpower said you had your own cabin), the crusade for equal rights on the grassroots level is on the upswing.

A few weeks back, the minister responsible for the status of women placed an ad with us, and deposited in our offices about 2,500 of these little red saucers. I decided to experiment.

Why not attach the disc to the flap of my pants (previous explorers have charted out this region, dubbing it the crotch) just to see what reaction such a derogatory move would elicit?

Some were offended, others amused. Several servings of blank stares. I was called a child and a chauvinist, and there were those who felt they would be lowering themselves by speaking to me. (I find it rather unusual that these were the most vocal dissenters of what I was doing.)

Let me take this opportunity to publicly apologize to one enraged Ms. My tokenism incensed her so much that she attempted to take the law into her own hands. Her right foot rapidly approached, determined to nip off my left gonad.

Fortunately for me, the past 10 years had been spent idly pursuing the thrills of a hockey goaltender. The first commandment in the goaltender bible says that when a speeding object is directed towards the genitals, the quicker you get your hands down, the greater the chance you have of walking away with your stomach intact.

Armed with this training, I grabbed her foot, jerked backwards, and deposited her on her good intentions.

It seems as if there are several things that always stymie equality, for any and everyone. First, the bureaucrats must be convinced to implement policies that will clearly define the civil and moral issues that now find themselves at the mercy of 1,001 Arabian interpretations. (I thought we already had a bill of rights.)

Then, once and if the ball has been tossed this far, it gets chained to the leg of practice. Something about losing a little flavour in the translation.

There is always the personnel manager to deal with. It will be a period of heated debate and court battles, gearing towards changing people's minds. If that fails, we can always wait until the bigots die.

But you know, it's going to have to come from the grassroots anyways. When people realize that men and women resemble the genders found in the land of electricity, and that this is the only difference to be found between the two, then perhaps some ground will be broken.

Until then, all I can say is that in a hundred years, we'll all be dead.