

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. Printed at Newsweb, Excalibur is published by Excalibur Publications.

News 667-3201

Advertising 667-3800

Is there anything on to-day's menu besides boycott?

When you've got nothing else to complain about, complain about the food.

The maxim that suited the army so well, fits the university food-boycott-rally issue like a glove. They were both based on a falsehood, for there are more important things to complain about than food, both in the army and at this university.

Putting things in perspective - the food on campus this year is far superior in quality to what we had under the monopolistic control of VS. There have been some rumblings of discontent in Complex II, but overall the general consensus seems to be that an improvement in both quality and service, has occurred.

Prices have increased - how much, no-one, not even Dale Ritch, knows. What's more, students aren't likely to find out by attending the rally on food this afternoon. The fact is that prices in food are relative to quantity and quality. How do you compare Kentucky fried chicken with that of the Swiss Chalet?

But prices so far have remained competitive with outside sources - so what are we arguing about?

The ULS became entangled in the food issue during the summer because of the lay-offs of the union VS staff, and because not all were re-hired by the new caterers. Now no-one, not even Dale Ritch, is talking much about the staff.

In fact, should a boycott ensue, food workers in the Cen-

tral Square cafeteria will more than likely lose their jobs, despite Ritch's assurances to the contrary.

Subtly, the strategy changed from protection of workers' rights and unionism, to university run services as opposed to private enterprise-run services.

But even that is confusing - it is not university - run food services that is in question. No-one wants to see the York university administration running food services at York. If that should happen we'd be thinking back reverently to the good old days of Versa-food.

The point of the whole boycott exercise is a student-staff-faculty run university. A triumvirate of the "little," yet essential, people in a university environment forcing the Board of Governors and the administration out of the seat of power.

And there's the issue - the important issue - the issue people in this university should face squarely, instead of sneaking through the back doors of the kitchen in Central Square.

Food is a bogus issue on this campus, at this time. A lot of people worked hard for two years to come up with what they considered the answer to the university food service. Perhaps we should give them more than a month to find out if they made the right decision.

Let's talk about something else for a change.



EXCALIBUR

Staff meeting

today at 2 p.m.

R. 111

Central Square

Have fun, Steve

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Historical notes

Take-it, the York student handbook for 1975-76, is finally being distributed on campus. Problems with the printers caused the delay.

A brief section of an article on York students and politics by ULS-member Paul Stuart was brought to our attention. It outlined the events of last year's student council elections in which the ULS was at one point suspended from campaigning because it had allegedly begun its campaign before the official opening date. Of particular interest is the following:

"The ULS defense was that at the last council meeting on February 12, Anne Scott on (last year's CYSF president) announced that the campaign would begin on February 24 - four days before it should have started. The ULS contended that, as the misunderstanding was Scotton's responsibility, it should not be penalized and that, in any case, the need for universities to be the centres of free debate took precedence over any bureaucratic technicalities. "Scotton insisted that she

said the campaign would begin on February 28. Later the ULS dug up two York Daily Bulletins stating that the campaign was to begin on the 24th. The bulletins had been issued after the CYSF meeting on the 12th; the details on the campaign were submitted by Anne Scotton. All this proved that not only had the ULS acted in good faith, but that Anne Scotton had deliberately lied in order to sabotage the ULS!"

We just wondered if this was libelous.