Letters to the Editor

Address letters to the Editor, EXCALIBUR, York University. Those typed (double-spaced) are appreciated. Letters must be signed for legal reasons. A pseudonym will be used if you have a

Newspaper should follow up stories

Sir:

At the beginning of the academic year you ran a long editorial on a Political Science 311, which deals with Communist China.

The editorial spoke extensively about the authoritarian professor and the highly structured course. Why was there no follow-up letter or story as to the progress of the

course after a petition was circulated and a brief confrontation in the class?

The class after a couple of discussion sessions and student caucuses was permitted to split into groups. One group had the choice of setting up their own course structure and marking procedure. The other course decided to stay with the professor and do exams and essays. The class split roughly in half.

The professor is using the two

groups as a type of experiment to see if he should reform his own teaching methods. At the end of the year, the class will meet and somehow attempt to determine which group has benefitted more. This would seem to be a very adequate solution to a very important problem.

I must stress further that Excalibur must be very careful to give complete stories on issues such as this because some students

desiring to study Communist China next year may consult past Excaliburs and be turned off the

Admittedly, the professor had taken an authoritarian stand at the beginning of the year but his stand changed, and the community should have been notified of this. I hope you will consider this practice in the future.

> Paul Koster **CYSF President**

Ed. Note: Give us a chance, Paul. The editorial appeared Oct. 30, not quite the beginning of the academic year as you state. Also future activities in the course are reported on in this very issue. The matter of the dual structure was taken to the political science department's undergraduate studies committee where briefs were considered and decisions effected -- just a month after the 'confrontation'.

Technioiditis strikes York sci. students

Sir:

Science students beware!

A dreadful disease has struck the York campus -- technioiditis. A similar condition exists among many arts students -- degeneracy.

Technioiditis was first noticed in a second year thermodynamics class when the majority (over 80 per cent) of the class refused to discuss the relevance of the war in Vietnam to our lives. "A waste of a lecture and our time," one affected student said.

The outbreak was confirmed when a majority of these same students agreed willingly to cancel a 204 class (theoretical physics and chemistry) to watch an event of doubtful significance -- the second landing of men on the moon.

The technioids argue that events taking place on the moon will have a great effect on man's future and that we should be thankful to be able to participate in watching history being made, but I say what is the use of looking to the future if our present warrants more attention if we hope to survive.

Who the hell will give a damn if we landed on the moon two years before if the earth is covered by a bunch of ashes?

Take heed, technioids!

Ted Deffett

Ed. Note: This letter, which was received following the Nov. 15 Moratorium, was misplaced by EXCALIBUR. We apologize to the writer that we were not able to run it sooner.

Acoustics and rugs in Ross Building

I wish to complain about the Murray Ross Building -- you call it the Ministry of Love, I believe.

Let me assure you, it certainly vas not built with that lauda emotion in mind by the starkly functional architects York hires.

The classrooms are dreadful. With the lack of windows and those low ceilings, even the most stouthearted of students must surely develop claustrophobia before a class hour is over.

Also, the seminar rooms have the worst accoustics I have ever encountered. I don't know what it is, but if you're sitting in any seat but the front ones, it is extremely difficult to hear the prof. Also, discussion at any but a close range is almost impossible.

I am also angry at the elevators in the Ross Building. In the morning, at lunch times, or around 5 p.m. they are unbearably slow. An administrator I was talking with one day half-seriously suggested that the next building at York should be built so that the elevators are stationary with the building moving up and down around them.

Despite all these drawbacks, however, I noticed that one floor is halfways bearable -- the 9th floor, where the chief administrators reside. It is really quite plush, if you haven't been there ... thick green carpets, softer lights, woodpanelled offices in some cases, I

Now I understand why the accoustics in my seminar room are

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