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EDITORIAL

This horse isn't quite dead yet

At the risk of being accused of beating a dead horse or having to have the last word the Excalibur staff wishes to respond to the half-page ad which YUSA placed in last week's issue.

We do so partly because what is at issue, the ability to efficiently cover the news, is of importance, but also because YUSA's complaints and their rebuttal deal primarily with bad reportage—something of which their response to our editorial is guilty.

Ms. Harrell points out in her reply that the first Excalibur reporter she spoke with was both inexperienced and lacking background knowledge concerning YUSA. Ms. Harrell could have taken the time to explain what YUSA is and how its negotiations were being conducted. That is why the reporter is there—to get information. Reporters are not

always familiar with the topics they are covering. Nevertheless, she did not take the time to enlighten our reporter and that was fine with us. Not every reporter is going to get every story.

We promptly had a second, more experienced reporter speak with Ms. Harrell—the individual whose report Ms. Harrell claims caused "confusion amongst YUSA members".

By the time Excalibur appeared containing a figure we got from an informed source concerning the settlement negotiations had ended and the contract dispute had been resolved. YUSA members already knew what they were getting. Our information about the 15% package could have in no way affected the contract negotiations or the way in which YUSA dealt with its members, as Ms. Harrell infers. If there was any

confusion in the YUSA camp it found its way there under its own steam and not due to the Excalibur report.

It is this second reporter—an experienced member of our staff who is well acquainted with YUSA—whom Ms. Harrell refused to speak with. She did not speak with us because she did not like our coverage of the story—not because our reporter was not experienced. After the September 10 article appeared no inexperienced reporter approached Ms. Harrell on behalf of Excalibur.

Upon second reading Ms. Schmid's suggested story from the Canadian Congress of Unions Bulletin still smacks of propaganda (I write this after 15 minutes of soul-searching deliberations) and her behaviour in this matter still strikes us as irresponsible, as does Ms. Harrell's. The suggested article makes it seem as though union members were bargaining in a vacuum. Only they faced tough decisions; only they sacrificed hard-won formulas; only they had a point of view.

Ms. Harrell and Ms. Schmid want fair coverage—and so do we. Too bad for Ms. Harrell and Ms. Schmid that our idea of fair does not include myopia, casting aspersions or misrepresenting facts.

Next Week In Excalibur:

James Cotton Interview: Miller and Waters call him the greatest. Entertainment editor Pawlszyn has the latest.

Homecoming '81 Report: Excalibur goes all out to cover this year's events, including floats, football, food, fun and frolic.

Search For A President: H. Ian McDonald's term as York president comes to an end next year. Who's to replace him?



GOED COMIX BY TOM KING



NORMA ELLFESTER GETS \$15 FOR ENTERING THESE WINNING LINES INTO THE EMPTY WORD BALLOON CONTEST CONGRATULATIONS FROM ALL OF US AT THE EXCAL - ED.

CYSF By-elections

Jim Coutts may have lost his by-election, but that doesn't mean you will.

Watch for notices regarding by-elections for the C.Y.S.F. positions of Vice-President External, Vice-President Internal and the university-wide position of Board of Governors representative.

Nominations will be accepted in the C.Y.S.F. Offices, Room 105 Central Square, 6:00 p.m. Monday, October 20, to 5:00 p.m. Friday, October 30, 1981.

BUSINESS MANAGER

The Council of the York Student Federation requires a Business Manager. An awareness of student issues together with bookkeeping and business skills are required.

The deadline for applications is Friday, October 23, 1981. Please send resume to C.Y.S.F., Room 105 Central Square.