

cont'd from p. 4

it is not wrong to keep money which has been accepted without knowing its origin. The recipient in such a case, like a greatly expectant Pip, may then dream self-indulgently of his own worth and of the perspicacity of his benefactor. There is an abundance of bliss to be enjoyed in the artificial Eden of ignorance, where one never has responsibility. But Yor cannot avoid culpability *now* by insisting the truth was not known *then*, at the time of the donation. President Arthurs has been apprized of the illegal source of this money; it is not too late to act ethically by refusing it.

The sum of money in question is large. Much good might be done with it; it is needed, some urge. This may be so. York's benefactor would be pleased to have his reputation's garment cleansed of some of its feculence. Shall we pretend not to know that the money is derived from prostitution and gambling? Shall we be like the perfumed and supercilious aristocrat who insults humanity by intimating that his money was bestowed upon his family long ago by a discerning deity's Providence, although his ancestors amassed their wealth by trading slaves? Will we act as though we know nothing of the sordid past, for present enrichment? A few months ago an Ontario man agreed to throw himself into a large vat of swine excrement for a reward of \$10,000. A picture of this person in mid-leap appeared in each of Toronto's quasi-reputable newspapers, and in the other as well. What might such a man do for \$1 million? What would we be prepared to do for \$10 million? What indignity would we not be simperingly willing to submit to, what evil to digest?

If we do not refuse our benefactor's interested generosity, we demonstrate to a corrupt human that his maxim that "everybody has his price" is lamentably true; that York University will help to whiten the sepulchre, will excise its scruples and wear a sack over its figurative head, for the sum of \$1 million.

Affluent criminals take note.

Marko Zarkovic
Atkinson College,
English Literature major

Excalibur's wording in headline insensitive

Dear Editor:

I am both surprised and disturbed by the placement and wording used in the February 8 issue of *Excalibur*. A headline on the front page referring to an article on "Hunting Humans" was placed directly above another headline that read "York Yeowomen were mauled by McMaster Marauders."

Two things concern me about this. The words "York Yeowomen were mauled by McMaster Marauders" are too similar to the words "Women were mauled by murderers." Also, the placement of this headline directly above the one that refers to an article about mass murderers further emphasized the parallel.

Secondly, the definition of the word "mauled" is to have been

beaten and bruised. Did the Marauders do this to the Yeowomen? Women are exploited and abused on a daily basis. I thought that a university publication would be aware of the insensitivity such wording illustrates.

Sincerely,
Samantha Bourque

Why not have voting all week long?

Dear Editors:

If CYSF wants more people to vote in the upcoming elections, why not extend the voting over the week, just like the health care referendum?

Richard Abel

Anti-fascist prof called neo-Nazi in Excal

Dear Editor:

Tim Doucette's statement that Guelph University professor Stanley Barret is a "neo-Nazi" is utterly false ("The fascist regime of modern education," Feb. 20). Obviously, Mr. Doucette has not read the book, for even a cursory glance at the preface (no less!) would have amply illustrated Prof. Barret's strong distaste for fascism. While we're by no means suggesting that Mr. Doucette should have overexerted himself in his research (there are, after all, only four copies of the book in the York library), had he gotten as far as page x of the preface, he would have come across these words by the

author:

The radical right is a philosophy for old men (not necessarily age-wise), for the jaded. Its perspective degrades humanity. The radical right attempts to build a social order that exploits human weaknesses. It latches on to what in essence are flaws in the human condition, but rather than trying to surmount them, it drives the wedge in deeper, as in the case with racism itself.

Prof. Barret's work details and documents the history and growth of the extreme right in this country. It is a critical study, not an endorsement of fascist groups.

No one, to our knowledge, has ever seriously claimed that Hannah Arendt was a Nazi simply for writing *The Origins of Totalitarianism*.

Perhaps Mr. Doucette has confused the book's popularity amongst the right wing elements with Prof. Barret's unequivocally critical position. Or perhaps he is repeating hearsay. Regardless, the statement that Prof. Barret is a "neo-Nazi" is libellous.

Sincerely
Claudio Iacoe
Cosmo Vecchiarelli

Tim Doucette apologizes for the error. A retraction was printed in the February 22 *Excalibur*.

correction

Winters vice-president (finance) Donald Robertson was incorrectly identified in the Feb. 22 article "\$28,000 surplus discovered at Winters College." *Excalibur* apologizes for the error.

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