

# LETTERS TO THE EDITORS

## Student says man won't stop racist attacks

I am a graduate student in Sociology and live at 8 Assiniboine Road. For the past few months, I have been racially harassed by a white tenant who lives on my floor. Not only has this person been littering my doorway with advertising flyers such as pizza, chicken, etc., but he has resorted to calling me racist names, making racist remarks outside my apartment door and when he sees me in person, and even pushing a racist letter under my door. In addition, this tenant has been disturbing me by deliberately banging on the side of the wall that separates the two apartments.

I have taken several steps to remedy the situation yet the harassment continues. I have contacted Housing Services in writing and in person and a letter was sent to this tenant but that has not deterred him. On February 27, I had Metro police on the building and the police stated that this was an internal matter and that the accused tenant had not committed a criminal offence. On March 14, a representative from Human Rights came to visit me and I made an official complaint. This representative from Human Rights was unable to contact this tenant but left several messages on the tenant's answering machine. He has not responded to these messages so Human Rights has not been able to contact him. On April 3, I called York Security because this particular tenant was banging very loudly on the wall that separates his apartment

and my apartment. He refused to open his door to speak to a York Security guard, despite the fact that the guard identified himself.

Despite the above measures taken, I am still racially harassed by this particular tenant. As a matter of fact, my attempt to remedy the situation by contacting the above authorities has resulted in an escalation of the racial harassment. It is extremely sad that any University student should engage in such racist behaviour.

Janice Joseph

## New GSA President says he'll 'behave'

This is a letter of reassurance to all of those grad students who expressed concern about the presence of alleged "Union candidates" in the recent GSA executive election. It will also double as one individual's endorsement of OFS / CFS in the current CYSF referendum. The GSA election has now come and gone and to date, so far as I know, the level of "psychological and physical coercion" here at York has remained remarkably stable. I've done some asking around and the consensus seems to be that individual liberties have remained largely intact. Furthermore, I'm told, the picket lines have yet to materialize, the RCMP has not yet found it necessary to mobilize on campus and, at last report, our national security has not yet been jeopardized. I would also like to inform the York community that so far I have managed to refrain from abolishing private property, kicking dogs, and undermining the nuclear family. Contrary to some "concerned" predictions, to this point at any rate, my Union affiliation (and the natural propensity for nastiness which is allegedly inherent in it) has been held in check. Hopefully I can maintain this pattern of behaviour over the months to come and thereby relieve the "uneasiness" felt by certain "concerned grads" here at York (Thanks for the apology Ron - I think!). This will not, however, be an easy task because, I'm told, only "anti-union" people (you know, the "value-free" types) can have any appreciation of and sympathy for the rights of the individual. Since I obviously do not fall into that

category I will just have to try doubly hard and trust that those same "concerned grads" will endeavor to keep me on the straight and narrow (ideologically speaking). One never knows when a sudden "Union attack" (it's like a "Big Mac" strike" me and I'll feel compelled to commit all sorts of unspeakable acts (I think Act 179 falls into this category).

But seriously folks...I would like to thank all of those who participated in the GSA election and to reassure all grads that the CUEW does not control the GSA and that the GSA has not, nor will it, become "a mere rubber stamp for Union policies." There never was a "CUEW slate". This was a cynical piece of political opportunism by a man who now claims that his campaign slogans "should not be taken as statements of fact". Someone owes the Union an apology, and it isn't me. I only hope that such "slogans" have not succeeded in driving a wedge between grad students on the basis of an orchestrated non-issue.

Finally, and this concerns all York students, including grads (who have a vote!), I would like to comment briefly on the current CYSF elections. I would like to go on record as being strongly in favour of OFS/CFS. I urge all York students to vote YES to the continued financial support of these two fine student organizations. Every candidate that I have encountered in the CYSF election supports increased accessibility to post-secondary education at reasonable cost. How this can be accomplished through the CYSF without the OFS/CFS is a mystery to me. If York withdraws from OFS/CFS it will make this task impossible. These organizations do productive work on this and many other issues (Visa students, the status of women, student employment et cetera) and are fully worthy of the support of York students. I urge all York students to vote YES to both the Ontario Federation of Students and the Canadian Federation of Students.

Sincerely,

Terry Conlin  
President (elect) Graduate Students Association  
Internal Vice-President, Canadian Union of Educational Workers

P.S. My thanks to Excalibur for its balanced coverage of the GSA election. It's too bad I cannot say the same about the coverage of the CYSF election.

## A rebuttal

I wish to respond to the ignorant, pseudo-logical, bleeding-heart liberal, knee-jerk reactionary twit (Letter, March 24) who insinuates that I am a "Jewish Conspiracy" theorist! As a rebuttal to this assault on my character, I would like to make the following--pardon the expression--"revisions".

Firstly, I didn't use the term "Holocaust fabrication thesis", but "Holocaust thesis" (The view that it did happen). The Oxford Dictionary defines "thesis" as "a proposition to be maintained (asserted as true) or proved". Thus, scientific validation is independent of the term in its essence.

Secondly, an individual's historical perspectives (Holocaust fabrication,) do not ipso facto indicate his/her personal biases (anti-Semitism).

Thirdly, the historical revisionists don't claim that the Holocaust is a "Jewish Conspiracy". Some claim that it's a Zionist Conspiracy. Neither do they "explain away mountains of evidence which documents the Holocaust through the use of the former theory. No doubt, Mr. Henry will reply with the Establishment Media argument that anti-Zionism is, in itself, anti-Semitism. I agree that there exists persons who use anti-Zionism as a disguise for anti-Semitism, but, at the same time there are certain persons who use anti-Naziism as a disguise for anti-Germanism.

Fourthly, how can Mr. Henry spew forth such unwarranted assumptions concerning the revisionists, and I without supplying proof? At least I had the honesty to provide evidence (addresses) to substantiate my defense. It wouldn't surprise me one iota if, next time, he would accuse me of being a war criminal!

In conclusion, I can only state that it is not the Earth which is flat, but Mr. Henry's brain!!!!

Mark Stephen Christensen  
(Next time... get my name right, you imbecile!!)

## CYSF Speaker comments

The position of Speaker of the Council of the York Student Federation is that of an impartial third party. The Speaker must be knowledgeable with respect to Parliamentary procedure to ensure student meetings run smoothly, fairly and according to the CYSF Constitution.

A column in the Excalibur March 24, 1983, suggested that I should have tape-recorded an All-Candidates meeting for the Excalibur. I would like to make it clear to the Editor and to the readers of the Excalibur that the Speaker's job is not to record election meetings for the newspaper. It is only to ensure that the meeting runs in an orderly manner and that the candidates and the York voters have a fair opportunity to speak.

Tye Winston Burt  
Speaker of the Council

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We want to go home. Pizza and cold water do not a hardy group make: we're still moving. Tho' there are places we'd all rather be. Case in point. It's 4 a.m. Do you know who's sleeping in your bed? Thanks to Roman whose pickiness and persistence is really appreciated. If you want to see your name Adam--A-D-A-M--you have to bring stories in!! Happy birthday to Michael--can you think of a worse way to have spent it? Two out of three writers surveyed have ants. The other one has mice. Thanx to Pawl for the H2O. I hope you are going to save Sushi. Have a good mix. See you on the way out--is this life on the nightshift? And now it's time to say.....GOOD NIGHT.....

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