

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 Daison's, Excalibur is published by Excalibur Publications.

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Nursing the patient toward an early grave

Ian Macdonald has shown himself to be a prime mover in the courageous decision of the Council of Ontario Universities to accept whatever havoc the Ontario government chooses to wreak on post-secondary education.

Macdonald is one of four authors of a COU sub-committee report on the future plans and policies of the province's univer-

—Ralph Ashford

Neanderthal turkeys with murder on wheels

If you think Evel Knievel has guts, try riding a motorcycle around Toronto some day. The inconsiderate, unthinking flock of turkeys driving automobiles these days has made motorcycling more exciting than it was originally meant to be.

You're tooling down the highway, when all of a sudden some toilet bowl driving the second biggest car money will buy changes three lanes, in one easy sweep, without looking to see if there are any other vehicles in them. You're cut off, and what can you do about it? Toot your horn?

Forget it. Most of the time, these potato-brains don't hear it anyway. And if they do, they never have the decency to acknowledge the fact that you almost met God.

And if, on the off-chance that a driver does look at you, you give him the middle finger he deserves, he'll probably cut you off out of pure spite. Believe it. It happens.

The over-popular radio (and, of late, the in-car tape deck with more speakers than a motor has pistons) creates another type of milksop motorist — the one that dances a two-step all over the gas pedal while bathing in euphoria from a new Stevie Wonder song. Needless to say, when he cuts you off, a motorcycle horn as loud as a bull elephant's fart won't attract his attention.

Pensioners are supposedly back-to-back with the poverty line, but for some reason a number of them that drive own the car that inspired Sher-

sities. The report reads as if it were written by minister of colleges and universities James Auld himself.

Does the report object to Auld's slashed budget policy?

Does the report condemn a situation which requires a massive reduction in faculty, at a time when universities are still undergoing slow but steady

enrolment growth?

Does the report ask Auld to explain his dismissal of a report by his own committee, the council on university affairs, stating that the system required an additional \$16 million?

Does the report react against the governmental pressure to decrease access to universities?

It does none of these.

It recommends instead that universities accept these threats to their survival, and details the most efficient methods of disposing of unwanted faculty, students and courses.

And having said that, it feels justified in asking for a tuition increase to boot.

Macdonald describes the report as an attempt to balance "desirability and inevitability".

But the recent successes of the province's secondary schools and community colleges in removing oppressive government spending ceilings and winning fair salary increases for their faculty have demonstrated that the government's wishes are not inevitable unless, of course, they are accepted without protest.

When Macdonald first came to York University, he spoke of his plan to get out and meet the people who run the university, to participate in "developing a good consensus of what all of us want this place to be".

Now, near the end of his first year as president, he is collaborating in the plan to turn York and the other Ontario universities into exactly the sorts of places we don't want them to become — narrowly-defined, barely accessible, costly centres of government-approved "learning".

NEWS ITEM: The Ontario government demands that universities "rationalize" their programmes to avoid costly and inefficient overlapping of courses...



Boy oh boy, I got all the first year courses I wanted. I got humanities 104 at York, science

150 at Queen's, social science 124 at Western...

Excalibur on ice:

The newspaper hockey team takes on Information and Publications today at 3 p.m.
Interested staff should meet in the office at 2 p.m.

Editor-in-chief

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News editor

Photo editor

Entertainment editor

Sports editor

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Opinion editor

Staff at large — Alan Risen, Ted Mumford, Steve Hain, Bob Livingston, Ian Balfour, Shelley Rabinovitch, Julian Beltrame, Frank Giorno, Bob McBryde, Steven Brinder, Jim McCall, Anna Vaitiekunas, Dale Ritch, Paul Stuart, Marg Poste, Alan Shalon, Thomas McKerr, Greg Martin, Michael Hollett, Anne Camozzi, Ralph Ashford, Anthony Gizzie, Debbie Pekilis, Keith Nickson, Cathy Honsl, Mira Friedlander, Jeffrey Morgan, Paul Wassman, Neal Humby, Dara Levinter, Dorothy Margeson, John Mansfield, Brenda Weeks, Lorne Wasser, Tony Magistrate, David Spiro, Jim Wilson.

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Laurels and darts

Glad to see it.

With the United Left Slate in office, we can await some interesting campus politics next year.

We feel confident the majority of CYSF councillors can produce needed changes and reaction at York. And to back up that confidence, Excalibur will continue in its gadfly role.

The ULS has promised many worthy platforms. We trust they will deliver.

Once again, welcome aboard to all the new councillors. The next move is yours.

Excalibur is pleased to present this year's Joseph McCarthy Memorial Award for Excellence in Political Broadcast Reporting to Radio York, for its dynamic, unbiased and reasoned analysis of Tuesday night's election returns.

Quote of the night goes to announcer Scott Marwood, who at one point saluted his listening audience with, "Well, I guess I should read those disgusting election results again."

It's a shame the bilge has to flow through Toronto via CKRY's cable link-ups.