

# 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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## Staff union is the only answer to ridiculous demands

When is a union not a union? When half the members are excluded from the ranks.

The York University Staff Association is experiencing just such a problem in its attempt to secure a "voluntary recognition agreement" from the university's administration.

Both sides have their own idea of who is eligible to join the support staff bargaining unit.

They agree that professional and managerial senior administrators are on the management side, as are employees with access to confidential material, such as the president's secretary. But beyond that, the lines grow fuzzy.

The administration wants to exclude administrative assistants from the bargaining unit, along with anyone employed in the departments of personnel services, computer services, payroll and information and publications. The staff association quite rightly refuses to agree.

Who, after all, is an administrative assistant? If the occasion arose, that title could fit any secretary who has a hand in running the university's affairs, as indeed most of them do. And the idea of automatically excluding four departments from

the YUSA unit makes the whole concept of an effective staff union laughable.

Vice-president Bill Small has told the staff to aim its darts at the Ontario government and not at the university, and to some extent he is right. The government, by consciously throttling university spending, has put a stranglehold on York's ability to hand out wage increases.

But by the same token, the administration's demands for a massive "exclusion list" from the staff bargaining unit are ridiculous, and it would come as little surprise if YUSA were to vote at its general meeting this Monday to forget its negotiations with the university and simply ask the Ontario Labour Relations Board for certification as an individual union.

Such a move might create tensions which neither side is anxious to see — notably a shift from negotiation to confrontation in future contract talks. But in the face of a surprisingly aggressive stand from the administration, the staff has little choice if they wish to carry on any kind of organized fight for higher pay.

Bill Small, commenting on the current state of unions in general, deplored what he considered a move in society toward

"self-aggrandizement".

YUSA's case falls more along the lines of self-preservation. And unless the administration

softens its hard line immediately, certification as a union is the staff's only hope for a decent bargaining future.



"That professor must be new — he didn't even try to take cover when the last exam bell rang."

### Letters To The Editor

All letters should be addressed to the Editor, c/o Excalibur, room 111 central Square. They must be double-spaced, typed and limited to 250 words. Excalibur reserves the right to edit for length and grammar. Name and address must be included for legal purposes but the name will be withheld upon request. Deadline: Mon. 5 p.m.

## Don't be a sucker for Angel Dust

Angel Dust has made its campus debut!

A student was taken by police to a Toronto psychiatric hospital last week. It is believed that this person ingested what he thought was MDA. He was wrong. Just how wrong is being determined by psychiatrists and concerned personnel at the hospital.

A sample of the drug taken by this person was taken to the Addiction Research Foundation, 33 Russell Street, Toronto. Analysis of the sample proved that it was PCP or "Angel Dust".

#### MASQUERADE

I made a trip to ARF and was given some interesting information about PCP. First it is not usually sold as PCP. It is usually touted as MDA or mescaline. For those interested in doing MDA or mescaline, forget it! There just isn't any on the street. A small number of people

may have access to an authentic source of supply but the chances of any of this hitting the street market are negligible.

Since April 1974, 48 samples brought in as MDA, mescaline and TAC were found to be PCP. There are, of course, a lot of people who have never taken real mescaline or MDA, and believe they are getting the real thing.

Phencyclidine hydrochloride (PCP) is a white, crystalline powder readily soluble in water or alcohol. Sometimes brown food colouring is added to masquerade PCP as "brown organic" mescaline or "beige" MDA.

PCP is a synthetic drug, unlike any natural component of the body and chemically unrelated to either LSD or mescaline. Originally developed as an intravenous anesthetic for human use, PCP was discarded due to its considerable undesirable side effects such as convulsions during surgery, and its after effects of delirium, visual disturbances, and agitated behaviour.

#### SPARKS HOSTILITY

Look Out! "It has been suggested that PCP acts primarily on the sensory cortex, thalamus, and the 'mid-brain' to inhibit an individual's ability to integrate internal and external information. The drug seems to be able to bring out psychopathology in an individual which may previously have been hidden. People who have taken PCP often lose their ability to sustain directed thought and to think sequentially while affected by the drug. Frequently, individuals exhibit

negative feelings or outright hostility to their surroundings."

If you are buying MDA, mescaline or THC, what you are probably receiving is PCP alone or with LSD. For those few people who buy PCP as "Angel Dust" and claim to like it, remember this; PCP is a dangerous unpredictable drug. It's use nowadays is restricted to veterinary medicine.

The supply of authentic, organic psychotropic drugs has all but dried up. A great number of people, deprived of an easy source of income (selling drugs) have refused to give up because of a lack of "safe" drugs. These greedy, unfeeling assholes are selling animal tranquilizers as MDA, mescaline and THC.

Your mind and body are delicate, complex constructs — don't be a sucker.

Mike Upton  
Harbinger Community Services

### Excalibur should check sources

Excalibur and Ms. Kruchio should check their sources, in this case, the Globe and Mail, before "quoting". No one from the Faculty Women's Caucus, least of all myself, has ever stated in print or elsewhere that the Report of the Task Force on the Status of Women at York University was being "suppressed."

It would be amusing, if it were not so tiresome, to see how the press will resort to fabrication in order to picture women, in this case faculty

women, as at one another's throat. We are quite united, I can assure you.

Virginia Hunter,  
Co-chairwoman,  
The Faculty Women's Caucus.

### Isn't anyone Versa's keeper?

Versafood makes me sick! This is a fact.

Living in residence last year, there was no way I could avoid it and by Christmas time I was so sick that I had to go to the doctor. This year I am not on a meal plan and I have been trying to avoid Versa as much as possible, but the other day I made the mistake of eating in Central Square.

An hour later I was sick. My stomach was so upset that when I lay down I could not move.

I was absolutely appalled at how the quality of Versa has deteriorated, even from last year. The sandwiches are never fresh and a lot of the perishable food has gone bad.

Don't we have some kind of investigating committee that can look into this? I realize that Versa is a monopoly, but the health standards are very far below adequate. There are too many people who depend on it for their nourishment and they're getting "ripped off" in every way possible. Can't anything be done about it?

Suzanne Boles  
Bethune College

Excalibur  
will next publish  
on January 9, 1975.

Important  
Staff meeting  
2 p.m. today  
Room 111  
Central Square

The positions of news editor, sports editor and photo editor will be ratified at this meeting, and the first-term honorarium for the news editor will be discussed.

Editor-in-chief  
Managing editor  
News editor  
Entertainment editor  
Sports editor  
Graphics  
CUP editor

Warren Clements  
Doug Tindal  
Michael Hollett  
Agnes Kruchio  
Frank Giorno  
Peter Hsu  
Gord Graham

Staff at large — Alan Risen, Ted Mumford, Steve Hain, Sue Cooper, Bob Livingston, Ian Balfour, Chris Gates, Shelley Rabinovitch, Julian Beltrame, Bonnie Sandison, Paul Kellogg, Bob McBryde, Steven Brinder, Jim McCall, Anna Vaitiekunas, Dale Ritch, Paul Stuart, Marg Poste, Alan Shalon, Thomas McKerr, Greg Martin, Robin Beckwith, Oakland Ross, Anne Camozzi, Alison Olds, Ralph Ashford, Dara Levinter, Martin Felsky, C.T. Squassero, Anthony Gizzie, Debbie Pekilis, Keith Nickson, Cathy Honsl, Mira Friedlander, P.T. Puhl, Jeffrey Morgan.

Business and Advertising

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