

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. 4 p.m.

Housing Policies mock York ideal

The current position on gays elaborated by those persons entrusted with implementing housing policies at our University is one that I find to be reprehensible. It mocks York's ideal; moreover, it denies the usefulness of this lifestyle as one from which others at York could profit. Rather than ignoring the qualities of gays . . . rather than frustrating and humiliating gay women and men, the Housing Office should be attempting to grow in a dialogue with gays in a positive, adult manner.

This is clearly not the present case. I had hoped the initial incident reflected only a lack of knowledge and sensitivity. If this were the case, perhaps as gays we could have, in a quiet manner, made progress in helping the Housing Office see the many potentially-positive modes of sexual expression. However, every statement offered since the initial decision reflects growing obfuscation, sanctimony, and paternalism. This, most likely, symbolizes a deeply-felt homophobia which I, as a gay male, cannot allow to remain the stated policy of my University. The most recent revision (Excalibur, 13 January) changes the issue for gays not at all: rather, it only extends the discrimination further. Indeed, it angers me more, as it is in greater bad faith, in that it intends to use a social-legal criterion not open to gays as an alternative, and thereby attempts to place responsibility for discrimination onto the legal system, rather than where it clearly belongs: on those in the Housing Office who would use such a device to deny us facilities to carry forward our unique model of interpersonal relationship.

Most significantly — and for me, regretfully — they seem to be ever more reluctant to question their decision (and its underlying values) in any clear way. When a problem is not even recognized, a clear contradiction must be perceived for there to be change.

It is now up to us as gay women and men to offer such a public contradiction: a clear refusal to accept this present decision. Yet, to be effective, we must do more. We must seek a formulation of contradiction that the Housing authorities will understand.

Surely, this is a difficult task. We must be true to our views of our rights, and aware of their weaknesses and needs. To help me and other gay men begin to develop such a statement, I would hope as many gay men as can would come to the regular Tuesday gay male walk-in at Harbinger (214 Vanier residency) on 25 January from 12 noon - 6 p.m. We need each other's support; I need your guidance. If you have questions, call Harbinger (667-3509), or me (364-6786).

Chuck Wheeler,
GAY and Harbinger Collective

Reader says chiropractors deserve more recognition for their cosmic services

I am really getting annoyed at the mockery often made of the chiropractic profession. Chiropractors are science professionals pursuing a career that alleviates faults in biomechanics of the human body. They are often found exercising therapy in necks, legs, arms and yes even backs. I have found that the people mocking these chiropractic professional are not former patients, but conversely

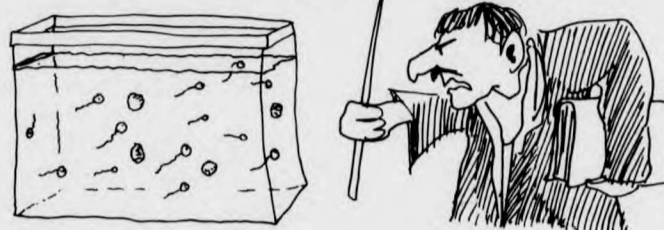
people who have never needed treatment.

It should be noted that students in the chiropractic field must pursue 5 years of long hard study. Only after successful completion of these 5 years are they allowed to practice.

I feel it is time that chiropractors receive the recognition they undoubtedly deserve.

Ed Lubberdink
Calumet College

OKAY, HERE'S THE QUESTION: "LOUIS XIV WAS THE KING OF WHICH COUNTRY?" AND I DON'T WANT TO ALWAYS SEE THE SAME HANDS.



Biological subtleties

In a letter of January 13, E. Thomas wrote that if a person . . . "cannot distinguish between the union of sperm and egg, which is a new human being, and a blood or a skin cell, his beliefs are both morally evil and incredibly stupid."

I think the difference is rather subtle. A human skin cell has genetic material identical to the fertilized egg from which it developed, the primary difference being that the former's DNA readouts says "be skin" while the

latter's says "divide and differentiate". However, if you take this dividing egg and give God several months in which to direct the development of a beautifully intricate, highly evolved nervous system, you will likely have the basic framework for a human life.

The following additional growth, birth, feeding and 20 years of educational input, stand clear while pronouncements spew forth on what is morally evil.

David Andrew
Department of Biology

York doesn't justify policy

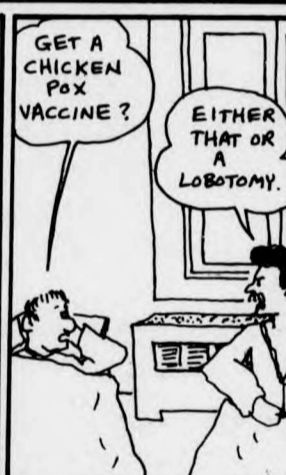
I am greatly concerned with the proposed housing policy that came out of the January 6 meeting of the committee on housing. Foremost among my objections is the reported "new set of priorities for evaluating applicants that would favour formally married students over a student-worker couple or two cohabitating students."

I think it would be naive to question the rationale for this aspect of the proposed housing policy, in view of the recent attention given to the anti-gay housing policy at York.

Nevertheless, I think it criminal that the housing committee makes no attempt to justify its proposed policy to the York community. I cannot accept Jane Corbett's statement that she is "reluctant to be explicit right now" about these proposed changes, apparently because they are not yet finalized. Nor do I find solace in Corbett's statement that the purpose of the proposals is to "make the system administratively more efficient and fairer to all students."

Kathleen Moyatte

AS THE CAMPUS TURNS



A September scenario at York

By DAN ANDREAE

As everyone knows, tuition fees are going out of sight. Who knows how far it will go? I can just (see) a meeting next September between a York guidance counsellor and a new York student. Let us call him Marvin Glimpshire. This is how it might go.

Counsellor: Why hello Marvin. I'm glad you've chosen York. We need all the students we can in order to finance... what I mean... Marvin, take a seat. Your going to love your four years at York. Just think, where can you learn, have fun and meet people for a mere \$750.00? A real bargain, eh? Now Marvin, as I'm supposed to have your best interest at heart, I'm going to ask you what you want to major in.

Marvin: Psychobiological history, sir.

Counsellor: Very wise choice Marvin. A triple major! Now, let's see. You'll need books. Hum. \$47.95... I figure you'll

spend about \$200.

Marvin: On top of my tuition fees?

Counsellor: Why Marvin. Remember the fantastic opportunity you're getting! Now, pencils, paper, binders... just add another \$65.00. That should cover you. Now, you'll want the official York underwear, the autographed picture of Ian McDonald, and a years supply of...

Marvin: How much will this cost? I really can't afford this. My father's an unemployed Phd., and I just blew my summer money on a trip to Europe.

Counsellor: Nonsense. We're only talking about an extra \$89.95. Now Marvin. On your form you request residence. How nice. Lets see. You can pay your \$800 in ten or twenty installments. Plus tax.

Marvin: Eight hundred dollars!

Counsellor: Marvin. Control yourself. Lets see. Do you want a

bed in your room?

Marvin: That's not included! What do I sleep on. A straw mat?

Counsellor: Of course not. You have a choice. A bed with sheets, or without sheets. The bed with sheets costs \$12.97 more.

Marvin: This is outrageous. I'll bring my own water bed.

Counsellor: Now, Marvin. You can take package A or B.

Marvin: What do you mean?

Counsellor: Package A gives you bed, waste paper basket, girlie picture for your wall and...

Marvin: This is ridiculous. I'll bring my own girlie picture. What about food?

Counsellor: I'm glad you asked. The whole thing costs only \$859.27. Breakfast and lunch are extra. Marvin. Marvin. You're going cross-eyed. You're foaming at the mouth. What? Oh. You want to use the washroom. Fine. Out the door and turn to your left. Just remember to leave the quarter outside the door.

Tenant evictions are dramatic, drastic and destructive to neighborhood feeling

As a former chairman and executive member of the YUTA, I would like to comment on the Housing Office's proposal to establish a time-limit on a tenant's stay in Graduate Residence.

A core-group of tenants who live for several years in the residences are an asset to the H.O. Such tenants tend to treat their apartments as "home", and extend this attitude to the building and other people in general; for example, painting their apartments, developing friendly relations with caretakers and neighbors, reporting and acting as a deterrent to acts of vandalism, and finally, permitting the H.O. to concentrate on its primary objective: locating and renting vacant apartments to potential

tenants as soon as possible.

Does the end justify the means? Eviction of all members of and ad hoc category of tenants next fall seems unduly drastic and dramatic: putting people out of their homes — disrupting what little "neighborhood" may exist in the residences — to make room for tenants who may not exist, seems counter-productive. If the HO insists upon a time-limit, it should not apply retro-actively, and:

- (1) every tenant who currently holds a lease should be given the option to renew it, and
- (2) provision should be made for appeals and exemptions from the rule.

Ken Colburn
Sociology Grad Student