

Correspondence

Bureau of Clarification

As a member of *Excalibur* staff, I wish to comment on the headline "PLO is the Way to Go" (*Excalibur*, Nov. 22). I did indeed write the article, but under no circumstances did I create the headline, which I find to be misleading. In fact, most reporters do not submit their own headlines.

The article concerned a member of Israeli Parliament who, in a lecture during Israel Week, advocated negotiation with the PLO, not support for the organization itself. I thus disassociate myself from any misunderstanding caused by the inappropriate headline. Neither the headline nor the article reflects any personal bias whatsoever.

Leora Aisenberg

BOGged Down

Last summer, the Board of Governors instituted a series of Trust Funds for colleges not belonging to CYSF in order that the central student services which we all use would continue to be financially supported by students. Bethune, Glendon, Osgoode and Calumet each had part of their college's money automatically placed in these funds. Through negotiations with CYSF, each college (and Osgoode) was to determine the amount to go to the various student services. When both the college and CYSF had mutually agreed upon a sum, a cheque was then to be issued. We at Calumet were dubious as to how practical the situation was, but were told that there was to be no argument - this was how it was to be. Faced with the situation, we decided to make it work. For three months,

our negotiators have had countless meetings with both needy services and CYSF. The first product of these joint talks was the proposal to give *Excalibur* \$2,000.00. When this was ratified by the Calumet General Meeting, the membership also insisted that the money not go towards the debt which *Excalibur* had run up with the university over the last several years, but that it go only to day to day operating costs of the newspaper.

It is with great dismay and surprise, that we learn from Mr. Becker (the Vice-President's Office of Student Relations) that he has decided to withhold the money which Calumet - and also Bethune - had given to the paper. He is withholding the money that it might be put towards the debt. We find this disturbing for several reasons. First, unless without our knowing it Mr. Becker has become a student, we fail to see what authority he has to interfere in the disbursement by students of student funds. If the administration intends to retain authority of these funds, why go through the charade of having student-run trust funds at all? Surely we could all save a lot of time. Secondly, if *Excalibur* is not to receive the funds necessary to its operation, then presumably it will not operate, and will furthermore be unable to repay its debt (unless the administration has earmarked next year's student-run trust funds to go to this same end as well). While we have not always agreed with the stands taken by *Excalibur*, we believe that any university that cannot, or will not, support a newspaper hardly deserves the name. York is supposedly a scholastic community, not a monolithic oligarchy. There is a

place for an alternative voice to the administration's version of reality. There is a place for *Excalibur*, and it is a place which we at York desperately need to have filled.

We view this action by Mr. Becker as an unwarranted perversion of the intentions of the Board of Governors. Either students do control the funds which the B.O.G. says they ought, and we do have a newspaper and other central student services, or it would seem that we, along with the Board of Governors, are extraneous entities to be controlled by those wonderfully omnipotent administrators of the ninth floor.

Calumet General Meeting
Office of the Trust Fund

Service gives writer cramp

With assignments, examinations and deadlines, undoubtedly almost everyone in academia has at one time or another found themselves at the mercy of a local typing service. It is sometimes a necessity to farm out your typing when you find yourself swamped with other things to do and little time to do them in.

An issue that concerns me, and many other students that I have spoken to at this University is the outrageous rates that the CYSF Typing Service has been extorting from York students. I have even confirmed a case where two dollars per page was extracted from some poor freshman!

What I suggest is that instead of creating false expenses for the typing service (such as a rental expense which the CYSF collects from the typing service as revenue to go, undoubtedly, towards religious, cultural, and

nationalist student organizations--since the CYSF pays no rent for the space themselves), the CYSF forgo this revenue and perhaps subsidize the typing service to provide a REAL student service: low cost typing.

I am sure that the CYSF could either strike a reasonable bargain with Dawn's CYSF Typing Service or replace it with a more responsible organization.

Consider it, Keith.

Bob Cash
Student Representative
on Senate

Many thanks

Margaret Laurence and Margaret Atwood attracted over 1,000 people at last month's events sponsored by the York Women's Centre in aid of the True Davidson Literary Fund.

The Centre would like to thank the York Community for helping to raise \$1,285.00 towards the foundation fund, the purpose of which is to supplement the collection of literature that True Davidson left to York University.

Watch for announcements of other Women's Centre events: movies, Come & Meets, Mid-Day Seminars and celebrations. The community is invited to all these events - you will be very welcome.

York Women's Centre

Critic 'Uninformed'

In the letter of November 22 by Andrew C. Rowsome, I find a number of uninformed "criticisms" of *The Sand*. As dramaturge for the production, it was part of my function to study the actors throughout the rehearsal period. To even suggest that the talents of the actors were not tested is ludicrous. These actors portray-

ed characters which were different from themselves in physical build, age or sex. I watched them struggle with their own feelings to reach an insight into their characters in an emotional test such as they have never before been confronted with in a university production. When rehearsals began these actors were largely ignorant of the depth of human suffering which occurred during the Holocaust. This play forced both them and myself to reflect, and learn something about ourselves. Surely all of this is important for theatre students learning their craft.

I do not see *The Sand* as a "thinly disguised lecture" and the letter gives me no concrete example of this. As well, Mr. Rowsome's assumption that Marion Andre imitated a famous photograph for the climax of the play is sheer nonsense. Perhaps Mr. Rowsome is unaware that this play is autobiographical and the murder of the boy was a very real incident in the playwright's childhood.

I don't deny that there were problems with both play and production, but this was a learning process for us all. It is important for the Theatre Department to invite the challenge of a new play which poses problems and questions for actors, audience and playwright.

We tend to forget that the playwright is human and is still affected deeply by his childhood. People did not recover easily, if at all, from their experiences of the Holocaust. I think it is pitiable to suggest that Marion Andre would mock the tragic events of the time, which led to the violent deaths of all of the members of his family.

Kelly Rossiter



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