

Excalibur

Everything secret degenerates; nothing is safe that does not show it can bear discussion and publicity
—Lord Acton

Excalibur is the York University weekly and is independent politically. Opinions expressed are the writer's. Unsigned editorials on this page are decided upon by staff vote and do not necessarily reflect the views of individual editors. Excalibur attempts to be an agent of social change and a forum of democratic debate. Typography by Fotoset, printed at Delta Web. Excalibur is published by Excalibur publications, a body incorporated under the laws of Ontario.

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An editorial potpourri: constitutional changes, cheaters & Argentinian refugees

What follows is a grab-bag of editorial pontification. Everyone will no doubt be extremely pleased that we're keeping it short and combining three in one to save space and to spare the limited attention span of our readers.

...

When, a week and a half ago, the student politicians got together and hammered out a model of what might be the new student government of York, there was reason for optimism: maybe now we'll see some co-operation between what sometimes seem to be a motley crew of petty feudal lords from rival fiefdoms.

The idea of a trust fund for central student activities is marvellous (maybe some will sooner or later be directed our way). The idea to reduce the number of constituency reps and have two members of the CYSF executive elected at large ought to cut down the number of boring by-

elections held every fall and raise the level of political debate (if you want to get elected vice-president you'll have to know what you're talking about). And though it's years overdue, the student organizers are to be congratulated for planning to have the chairperson of the Student Senate Caucus and the student governors sit on the central council.

But... (editorial writers love this word)...we were a little leery of the possibility, however remote, that an individual college council could, its constitution permitting, opt to appoint both college reps. Even if none of the college councils are leaning that way now, this point merits attention. When you're making a constitution you have to look a few years down the road; you've got to have safeguards.

York's student councils ought to ensure that at least one councillor from each college is elected at large under the new model; it ought to be made impossible for a group of college politicians to disenfranchise the electorate of an entire college now or five years from now.

...

We've always known there were a lot of, er...nerds around here but it was certainly disappointing to see them ruin the Christmas exam held in Economics 340.3.

The supervisor left one of the two rooms where 100 student were writing the exam, and a circus resulted. Seats were exchanged, answers yelled out, text books unsheathed.

Students Doug Emsley and Keith Jerry thought it was a fiasco and that a new, compulsory exam ought to be held. We agree. While it would have been unfair to those who tried to do the exam in good faith, the point is that the thing became a farce.

What did the administration do?

It showed little concern for academic integrity and held an optional exam. Some very bad publicity for York resulted and a bunch of people who would not seem to belong in a university got a free ride.

A note to the Economics department: please make sure that exams are conducted properly in the future, it's part of your job and derogatory editorials in the Globe don't make any York students look good.

...

The York University Faculty Association deserves to be congratulated for deciding to sponsor a political prisoner from Argentina under a new immigration sponsorship program.

Amnesty International has estimated that over 1,500 people have "disappeared" in Argentina since a military coup in 1976. Amnesty issued a bulletin on December 21 which stated that "there is considerable evidence that many victims of abduction by the security forces must now be presumed dead."

It's nice to know that, cutbacks or no cutbacks, some people can still find time to look to the world outside and lend a hand.

**Staff
meets today
at 3 pm.
All
welcome**



Chinese Week approaches

By B.J.R. Silberman

This year's Chinese Week which will begin on Monday will be geared to non-Chinese students says Brian Goh the president of the Chinese Student Association (CSA) at York. Its purpose will be to give them a chance to learn something about the Chinese and Taiwanese culture. Most of the authentic Chinese movies that will be running during the day in the bearpit beside the bank will be shown in English.

There will be a display table set up in Central Square where Chinese crafts will be on sale. Highlighting the week will be the variety show. At the moment, Goh says, the CSA is working on getting a Chinese flutist and performers to do three traditional lion dances.

The show will be held in Winters College and will also feature Chinese folk singing. Students who would rather eat than enjoy the colourful costumes and music will be able to sample steaming Chinese dishes of vegetables and meat.

Not by coincidence Chinese Week will begin on the day following Chinese New Year. According to the ancient calendar the new year will mark the "year of the sheep".

While most universities across Ontario and Quebec will celebrate the New Year with Chinese Week, many private people will pass it in more traditional ways.

Goh says the customs differ among Chinese people according to the state their ancient ancestors originate from. Goh's family custom is Suk Kien which is to visit relatives in the morning where ginger soup with dough is served.

In the evening the family gathers around a "steam boat" which Goh describes as "a big bowl like fondue which is heated constantly." Vegetables and meat are boiled in the pot.

The CSA hopes to convey the spirit of such Chinese traditions and culture in their displays and demonstrations next week.

Our Town

Bethune

An exhibition of photographs by Professor Don Summerhayes will be shown in the Bethune College Gallery, January 31-February 16. The Gallery hours are noon-5 pm and 8-10 pm....No admission charge and everyone is welcome.

A symposium entitled *Underdevelopment in Latin America, Africa and the Caribbean* is scheduled for Friday, January 26, Beginning at 10 am in the Bethune JCR.

Calumet

There is a General Meeting tonight at 5 pm. The agenda includes finance and discussion of a new student government. Dinner afterwards.

The Glass Orchestra will be featured at the next Calumet College lunch-time concert, Wednesday, January 31 at 1 pm in the Calumet.

CYSF Women's Affairs Committee

A lecture on *Non-Traditional Roles* is scheduled for January 30 at 7 pm in Curtis

Lecture Hall 'L'. Guest speakers are Elizabeth McTavish (York Career Centre), Ellen Shapiro (Life Insurance) and Delmarie Scherloski (Accountant).

Eckankar
Learn about the world beyond at the free introductory lecture on Eckankar, the Ancient Science of Soul Travel, Tuesday at 8 pm, Room S312 Ross. For more information see the information table in Central Square on Tuesday, 11-3 pm.

Founders

Founders College is pleased to announce a week of social and cultural activities to celebrate Latin America and the Caribbean. Events begin Monday, January 29 to Saturday, February 3. Pick up a schedule of events at the Founders College Council Office, Room 121.

Founders Student Council and the Cock and Bull pub are holding a dance featuring David Wilcox Hanuary 27 at 9 pm in the Dining Hall. Admission is \$2 for Founders students and \$2.50 for others.

Osgoode Christian Fellowship

The Osgoode Christian Fellowship is hosting a conference dealing with issues of

interest to Christians in the legal profession from February 2-4 at Osgoode. The title is *Power, Wealth and Influence*, and speakers include Lynn Buzzard (director of the Christian Legal Society, (U.S.A.)), Thomas Schaeffer (former dean of Notre Dame Law School), and many others. Schaeffer will be speaking on *Moral Discourse in the Practice of Law* on Friday, February 2 at 4 pm in the Moot Court. This lecture is open to everyone without charge. There is a \$20 registration fee for the rest of the conference. For further information, contact Julie Jai at 663-4849.

Stong

Ross McGill, associate fellow of Stong College, will be speaking on Jung at the next *Lunch and Learn* series, Tuesday, January 30 at 12 noon in Sylvester's Room 201. Interested members of the community are invited to bring a lunch - coffee will be provided.

Tait McKenzie Pool

Pool hours for Recreational Swim are from noon-2 pm and again at 9-11 pm, Monday through Friday...And as an added

incentive to keep yourself in shape, join the newly formed 50 kilometer Club.

Vanier

Tonight at 8 pm there's a dance, (featuring music by Bob McBride) in the Vanier Dining Hall. Admission is \$2.

Encounter Canada is exhibiting art from the Northern Images Symposium until Saturday.

Millionaire's Night is scheduled for Friday, January 26 at 8 pm in the Founders and Winters Dining Halls.

York University Faculty Association

An open information meeting to discuss the appointment of an Academic Vice-President will be held at noon-2 pm in Curtis Lecture Hall 'C'. President Macdonald has accepted the invitation to attend the meeting and to answer questions regarding this appointment.

York Women's Centre

Margaret Campbell, M.P.P., and former family court judge will be at the Women's Centre (Room 102 B.S.B.) today from noon-2pm.

Laura Brown