

# LETTERS

## NAUSEATING REVIEW

Gary Cohen's review of Carole Pope and Rough Trade was nauseating. I'll admit I'm not a fan of their music, but after reading Cohen's frenzied, histrionic account of the concert, any equivocal feelings I had about the band were happily shaken off.

I cannot understand why people at the concert were ready to 'sweat or die' with Miss Pope when she sings such meaningful tunes as 'High School Confidential' and 'For Those Who Think Young'. Perhaps a little sweating is allowed, but dying? High school was fun, yes, but I think you're getting carried away.

I do agree with Cohen's heralding the band's professionalism. Indeed, Miss Pope knows her market — high school kids buy most of their records; accordingly, they sing ditties about high school and being young. One utterly tasteless number I've inadvertently heard is entitled 'Furor about the Fuehrer'. I find it quite disturbing that my classmates might revel in this muck.

Apart from the subject of Cohen's review, his prose is revolting. As I've never heard one before, I don't exactly know what an "artesian well of a voice" is. I have a vague idea of the metaphor Cohen is sweatily clutching to, but I don't think that that one is an accurate description either. I would also like to have seen the band when it 'melted together.' Is that a new video effect? Other pollen-dusted metaphors are too embarrassing to note.

One run-through of 'High School Confidential' should, I think, have satiated the youngsters; but no says Cohen, a second playing 'gave the band their commercial stamp of approval.' Yuck.

Phil Jenkins  
4th Year English

## BELLINI AND KING REPLY

RE: "Bad Taste" by Profs. Lumsden and Cunningham, March 11 issue.

That you assume Googalunga is a Third World character is interesting indeed. Let us assure you that it was never our intention to offend anyone.

Googalunga began as an innocuous doodle penned by Bellini's four-year-old sister. His addition of eyes and teeth resulted in *Googalunga, Space Monster*. The drawing was soon discarded. Thirteen years later, Bellini remembered the drawing and showed it to King, who wanted to revive Googalunga for a comic strip. King decided that he have a family, that they be cannibals, and that they pursue a family in their own neighbourhood. The comedy would arise from this situation. It is much like Sylvester the cat pursuing Tweetie Bird, so that he may devour Tweetie.

Now, however sincerely we

accept your complaint, we feel compelled to continue the series until its end. But your most serious charge was not in calling our work "racist," but in accusing us of stereotyping. That means that we aren't doing our job as cartoonists. Our integrity stems from the originality of our characters. Maybe next time, he'll still be a cannibal but we'll put him in a suit and have him teach at a university.

Bellini & King

## GOOGALUNGA REPLIES

There was a letter in last week's issue from D. Paul Lumsden, Associate Professor of Anthropology and Griffiths Cunningham the Master of Bethune College. It states that the cartoon GOOGALUNGA "was a serious lapse in good taste and judgement, and it demeans us as a University."

These people have hurt my feelings. I sort of cried when I read this letter, realizing that even an ugly but charming little cartoon character like myself must come under attack. Isn't there enough ranting at York already?

I must know why they assumed that I am a "Third World" cartoon character. Actually, I am a monster. The cartoon strip is not set in a Third World or any other nation. Would the human characters of the strip have such a lovely suburban home in a Third World nation?

I should eat both of them.

Googalunga

## RIDPATH LACKING MORALITY

Re: Collectivism and Individualism Debate between Professor Simmons and Professor Ridpath respectively. Ridpath repeatedly stressed the immorality of taxes. Yet, he receives his paycheck from an institution subsidized by these same 'immoral' taxes. How sincere can he be? The majority of students applauded his moral, taxless society. I hope this conviction holds up when the government increasingly cuts back on low interest loans and grants to education in the customary fashion as of late. Ridpath and his supporters would be rudely awakened if there were no taxes to subsidize their presence at York. Only the rich could afford to be here.

Students were curiously silent when Ridpath kept to his principles and answered that in his moral, individualistic society if people were not willing to help two thousand earthquake victims out of rubble, the two thousand people would die. There may be principle there, but where is the morality in a society that would allow the possibility of inhumanity to man?

Will Ridpath and his supporters always be the ones the earthquake missed? Maybe Ridpath and his objectivist

followers can afford the society of their dreams, but doorways tend to be overcrowded during earthquakes. Or maybe they'll end up like Ayn Rand, lonely and kowtowing to the almighty dollar until the day she died. A time comes when one must admit that 'no man is an island'.

Lorna J. McRae

## NOT A COMPETITION

Re: Selfishness vs. Egalitarianism, Thursday, March 11, 1982.

Much work went into the planning of the debate held on March 10, 1982, between Political Science Professor Harvey Simmon and Economics Professor John Ridpath on the issue of *Collectivism vs. Individualism: The Role of Government* and so we were certainly pleased to see coverage of the event by *Excalibur*.

However, the debate was in no way designed to resolve an issue in the traditional manner with a formal vote taken at the outset, before hearing arguments, and again at the end. The purpose was, rather, to provide a thought-provoking forum for students by presenting them with discussion on two differing points of view.

In outlining some basic ground rules, the moderator of the occasion clearly stated this purpose. Keeping this in mind, it should have been evident that to cite either a winner or a loser would be inappropriate and any declaration of such is the personal impression of your reporter as no opportunity to make relative comparisons (by applause or any other measure) was provided. Indeed, no vote, formal or informal, was recorded.

It follows from the intended purpose that the focus of the discussion be on underlying philosophical beliefs. Professor Simmons takes the philosophical stance that man has a moral responsibility for the well-being of his fellow man and that this responsibility is best discharged through the mechanism of government co-ordination and regulation. Professor Ridpath, on the other hand, believes man has a moral responsibility for his own well-being, and as a free individual, has the right to live his life without government interference.

These are complex questions and we would hope, as the organizers of the debate, that students would be inspired to think about such broader issues rather than the more trivial (if somewhat irrelevant) issue of who came out ahead.

Wendy Alger  
Secretary  
Economics Student Assoc.

## DON'T STAND BY

With elections scheduled soon for El Salvador, it is perhaps pertinent to give some thought to another election held not long ago in another Latin American country.

In November, 1980, the military-dominated government of Uruguay allowed the people to vote in a constitutional referendum. The people voted almost 60% *against* the military regime — an outcome unprecedented in Latin American military dictatorships. In spite of this overwhelming display of popular opposition, however, the government has continued its previous tactics.

Uruguay continues to have one of the worst records of human rights in the world.


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**PUBLIC INFORMATION MEETING: 7:30 to 9:30 p.m. at 33 St. George Street, on Monday, March 29th, Wednesday, April 14 or Thursday, April 29th.**

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