

Excalibur

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

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Harbinger's Column

By Sandra Bullock & Victor Wagman

The following are common questions asked about Birth Control:

Dear Harby: How do I start taking the Pill?

Harby: After receiving your pack of pills count the first day of your menstrual bleeding as Day 1. On Day 5 begin taking the first pill of the pack. Take one pill a day until your pack is finished.

Dear Harby: Is it true that I.U.D.s are good for as long as they are kept in place?

Harby: No. A copper T or Copper 7 should be replaced every 2 years because the copper gradually loses its effectiveness. If you have a Progesterone T it will have to be replaced annually as the proesterone loses its effectiveness. There are some I.U.D.s that can stay in place until you wish to become pregnant.

Dear Harby: If I use foam when is a good time to insert it?

Harby: At least one full applicator should be inserted back into the vagina near the cervix. Try to insert it just before love making and no more than one-half hour before.

Dear Harby: What time should I take the pill?

Harby: Take your pill at about the same time every day. This will make it easier to remember and keep a constant level of drugs in your system.

Dear Harby: When should I insert a diaphragm?

Harby: It can be inserted up to 6 hours before you make love. If you've had it in for more than 2 hours, insert an extra applicator of jelly, cream or foam.

Dear Harby: How much jelly or cream should I use when inserting the diaphragm?

Harby: At least a teaspoon of the jelly or cream and spread a little around the inside of the rim.

Dear Harby: How soon after I start will I be protected with the Pill?

Harby: You may not be protected by the pill alone during the first cycle you are on it. Use another method of birth control or abstain from intercourse that month.

Dear Harby: What side effects can I expect from an Intrauterine Contraceptive

Device (the I.U.D.)?

Harby: The most common side effects are an increased menstrual flow, menstrual cramping and spotting. If you experience a fever, pelvic pain or tenderness, severe cramping or unusual vaginal bleeding contact your doctor immediately.

Dear Harby: At what point during intercourse should I put the condom on?

Harby: Always put the condom on the penis before putting the penis into the vagina. Pregnancy can result from an early unexpected or unfelt release of semen from the penis.

Dear Harby: When using foam, how much should I use?

Harby: At least one applicator full of contraceptive foam and use one more applicator full each time you make love.

Dear Harby: Is an I.U.D. safe from the first day it is inserted?

Lining up to pay that last installment on fees is one of the tedious rituals of January at York. But it wasn't always so tedious.... as the back issues of Excalibur testify.

Six years ago this month, about 6,000 York students were withholding their tuition payments, as part of a province-wide fee strike. The point was to protest that year's \$100 tuition hike.... two raises before the latest raise, remember?

A hundred students at York and the same number at Glendon were sitting in at the admissions offices, to force the administration to release OSAP cheques without docking fees from them.

After claiming to be bound by a government directive, York eventually gave in to the sit-ins. Two weeks later, York lost its president when David Slater resigned in embarrassment.

Slater had been embroiled in a financial scare that threatened a \$2 million deficit and the jobs of 150 faculty. The scare

Theatre Cutback opens for another run (a long engagement)

While we would much prefer a cheerful, light-hearted editorial to start the new year, last week's announcement of continued under-funding to post-secondary education has taken matters out of our hands. The universities will be faced with another year of trailing behind inflation at God knows what cost to the quality of education.

There is certainly precious little to be cut at York. The library system is so absurdly under-funded that, fearing it would be able to buy only 460 books annually by 1982, it has recently stopped subscribing to two to three hundred periodicals.

Then there are "secondary" things like the writing workshop and the math learning centre and the career counselling and development centre. But what about those — many of them first generation university students — who need extra — help during their stay at university and all the help they can get in the way of career counselling in a time of recession?

Cuts to academic programs, besides being extremely painful in themselves, will result in fewer people being attracted to this and other universities and worsen the decline in enrolment. And a distinctive part of York's identity has always been the interdisciplinary studies program — surely cutting into this area would spell disaster, for both the attraction of new students and the quality of education.

Last fall's staff strike saw our support workers make it crystal-clear to everyone that they were unwilling to play the fall-guy for the sake of the Tory government's cutbacks program — indeed, why should they starve so others can go to school or so administrators can be paid high salaries?

Should part-time faculty get the axe? Well, they tend to be young and, after all, that's what young people do these days isn't it — look for jobs that aren't there? But a

few years of cutting part-time faculty and graduate assistants will leave York with yet another gigantic cost: that of renting Varsity Stadium to hold lectures in.

No, we can't take any more cuts and the hard reality that cuts will be made leaves us with the prospect of an unfolding budget story that threatens York's academic viability.

And so it goes across Ontario. Community colleges will also trail behind inflation. Since the colleges are supposed to be the pragmatic way to enter the job market, the decision to fund them at 3.6 per cent less than the rate of inflation, indicates that Queens Park has little concern for an entire generation wallowing in the worst unemployment in forty years.

As if all this weren't enough — we have a tuition hike in store. While the five per cent rise (\$35 for a full time student at York) is not huge in itself, it is one more obstacle in the path of would-be students from low-income families who are having an even more difficult time in getting an education. And it comes at a time when Bette Stephenson, the Minister of Colleges and Universities has admitted that changes in the student awards program designed to help low income students "have not borne fruit."

Nor should any one heave a sigh of relief that the tuition hike is not larger. If the Ontario Federation of Students is right about recommendations of the still-secret P.S. Ross report, then the government is simply building up to a massive increase in tuition over a period of years.

If there is a message in all this it is clearly that this is the time for the members of all university and college communities to protest the non-education policy of the Davis government.

Harby: Not always. Use a second method of birth control ie. foam or condoms, for the first 3 months after the I.U.D. is inserted.

Dear Harby: What should I do if the condom tears or comes off in the vagina?

Harby: Contraceptive foam or jelly should immediately be inserted into the vagina.

Dear Harby: Can I remove the diaphragm and douche right after intercourse?

Harby: No. The spermicide needs 6 to 8 hours to do the job; so leave the diaphragm in for at least that long after your last lovemaking and do not douche before then.

Dear Harby: How long are condoms good for and how often can they be used?

Harby: They are good for 2 years if kept in a cool, dry place. A condom should be used only once.

Dear Harby: How do I know my I.U.D. is in place?

Harby: Learn to feel the strings which protrude an inch or so into the vagina, before you leave the doctor's office or clinic. If you can't feel the strings, or if you can feel the plastic part you may not be protected. You can expel an I.U.D. without knowing it, check the strings frequently during the first months you have the device and after each period or time you have abdominal cramping.

way back

came after Slater's administration predicted 1,200 more students than eventually showed up that fall.

Subsequent squabbling led to the resignation of two senior administrators, a threat to resign from a third, and a fourth's tiff with Slater over an unseemly demand that he swear out an oath of loyalty to the president.

In Slater's stead came history prof. Richard Storr — for one day. The next morning he woke up wondering what he was getting into and begged off, citing a heart condition. The throne fell to self-admitted "hard-nosed academic" John Yolton, who ruled until Big Mac arrived in 1974. All in all, January 1973 was an exciting month.

It was in the same month in 1976, that the advisory committee on student affairs first banned drugs from the campus. Exactly one year later, a survey showed that 50 per cent of the students in one residence smoked pot and hash — nearly all of them claiming they did it for

"kicks".

Of course, kicks come in many guises. One frosty January morning in 1976, two students "sunbathed" in swimming trunks outside the Petrie Building to collect donations they needed for school books.

Equipped for a regular jaunt to the beach with deck chairs, a radio, and lemonade, they lasted about 15 minutes outside, noting "You have to be careful the first time out, or you get sunburnt." Their enterprise earned them \$2.37 — enough for two paperbacks in those days.

There's no record whether York bookstore staff went on a book buying spree after winning a \$50,000 lottery prize in early January four years ago.

They'd been feeling lucky a few days before the draw when one cashier came to work with her sweater on inside out. Taking it as a lucky omen, no one would let her change it all day long.

Gord Graham