

light of my present involvement in a case against the Music Department, it would be inappropriate for me to comment extensively on this issue. Suffice it to say, my own experience gives Mr. Kelly's ordeal the character of *déjà-vu*.

Your editorial clearly betrays a bias against Mr. Kelly. With the stroke of a pen, *Excalibur* has presumed to usurp the role of Ontario's Human Rights Commission. *Excalibur* has fallen prey to a media subterfuge propagated through collusion on the part of desperate, vested interests in the Faculty of Fine Arts and the Department of Music.

I am sure that a record of Mr. Kelly's case will emerge through the progress of testimony under oath, which is quite different from the whitewash that *Excalibur* has accepted at face value.

It is true that public support for Ron Kelly has been conspicuously absent from the Faculty of Fine Arts and the Department of Music. However, I suspect that this has more to do with a lack of spine and an excess of "occupational protectionism" in the individuals concerned than it is to a shortage of hard information. I expect the latter will be extracted from them at a public inquiry. I fully anticipate that the Ontario Human Rights Commission will be capable of a more sophisticated and subtle comprehension of the ugly dynamics of discrimination than are *Excalibur's* one-sided editors and news reporters.

Whether or not discrimination occurred is a decision to be made by the *Ontario Human Rights Commission* and NOT by *Excalibur*. It is my hope that your readers will not prejudice Ron Kelly's AIDS discrimination case with York University as easily as your editors.

Stuart Shepherd, PhD

York right in Kelly issue

Dear Editor,

On March 2, 1989, there was an article written by Nancy Phillips in *Excalibur* about a discrimination case of a York University student. There is also an editorial which claims that discrimination is not the case; in which I agree with.

Ron Kelly who has AIDS claims that discrimination was the key role in his dismissal from a Fine Arts class by the music department. The music department told Kelly that he would fail first term because of the many unexplained absences.

Ron Kelly claims he missed classes because of his medical condition. Even though he missed these classes, I feel that he still should have brought a medical certificate to excuse himself from the unexplained absences he accumulated.

According to the editor this whole topic of discrimination against a York University student has been blown way out of proportion; and I agree with this statement.

I feel the university did the right thing by dismissing the student for too many unexplained absences, because no notes were submitted for medical proof of his whereabouts during these absences.

Ron Kelly may be happy that he has brought this scandal onto York University, but he has wrongfully accused the university with AIDS discrimination without any proof whatsoever. I feel the University should take a stiffer stance on this issue to regain credibility within the York community.

Yours Truly,
Manish Khatri

No smoking is a "farce"

Dear Sir:

In my opinion some students at York deserve to be treated as if they were still in high school. At least high schools enforce their no smoking bylaws while here at York. A farce has been made of York's no smoking policy by students smoking directly under the no smoking signs posted in front of the cafeteria in Central Square.

Might I suggest, therefore, that the University enforce its policies and that Security politely but firmly ask these students to move 100 feet to the smoking area in the corridor west of the cafeteria? If this does not work, it may be necessary to enforce the bylaw and impose fines.

Sincerely yours,
Harvey G. Simmons
Political Science

Interviews: a big joke?

To the Editor,
Re: CYSF Candidate interviews (March 9, 1989).

One question: Is this a joke?

Yours in disbelief,
Mary Jankulak

Did you keep your issue?

Dear Sir,

An observation on what seems to be a discrepancy between information contained on page 1 and page 13 of the March 2 *Excalibur*. Page 1 declares this to be a "collector's issue" and on page 13 we read a quotation from Lawrence Weiner, on

of the four participating artists in the current show as the AGYU: "He sees 'newspaper as art gallery,' a place for people to view art. He likes the fact that information can be carried across to a reader and then thrown away."???

Yours truly,
Selma MacHenry

Saying no to Science

Dear Editor,

When I ran for Senate last year on a platform of "Vote to End Mandatory Natural Science," *Excalibur* asked in its election editorial, "What does Joe propose to do, execute all existing faculty members on the Senate and pass the motion?"

Well, for those students who elected me, there's good news and bad news. The bad news is, much as it might improve things around here, executing all faculty members on Senate probably wouldn't be enough to pass my "lofty campaign platform," as *Excalibur* called it. There is a lot of groundwork that has to be done before a motion as major as mine can even be presented on the Senate floor.

The good news is that I have found that faculty is not as hostile to changing general education requirements as *Excalibur*, or even I thought. When I presented a document, which included proposals to broaden general education requirements, to the Senate Curriculum and Academic Standards Committee, of which I am a member, the atmosphere was positive.

Indeed, I learned that there is currently a comprehensive review going on how Natural Science is taught. However, it could take up to three years, with concerted lobbying by more than one student Senator on the Senate as well as Faculty Council level before we could make any changes.

If I have accomplished anything this year, I think it has been to prove that students asserting themselves about curricular change is not such a "foolhardy" idea as it seems, in the eyes of either students or faculty.

My term as Senator is up. To those members for next year's Student Senate Caucus: I hope you will keep the Natural Science issue alive.

Joseph Berkovits

Nothing to be proud of

Dear Editor:

Students proudly wearing their BBA T-shirts may be interested to learn that this designation is used by UN medical personnel in hospitals of the West Bank and Gaza to describe the injuries of many of their Palestinian patients. It means "Beaten By Army."

Yours truly,
Dennis C. Russell
Professor of Mathematics

"Say no" to library

"Calling all parents," an article in the Spring 1988 *Via* — the newsletter sent to parents of York students — warns that York's libraries have launched a telephone campaign seeking donations from parents of \$39.87 or more, the average cost of a new book. The parent dedicates the book to a son or daughter attending York.

450 new books were pledged in the first 18 nights of the campaign, and the library plans to call all parents of Arts, Science, and Glendon students before the end of April.

Last fall, York began to close its

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