

Letters to the Editor

Address letters to the Editor, EXCALIBUR, York University. Those typed (double-spaced) are appreciated. Letters must be signed for legal reasons. A pseudonym will be used if you have a good reason.

American dominance result of system not individuals

Dear Editor,
It is with a mounting sadness that I read the shrill crusade Excalibur has grimly launched in its first two issues this school year.

In the guise of a self-protective nationalism, you have chosen to lump together and attack certain members of the academic community, solely on the basis of their national origin. In counting Americans on staff and in the classroom, you seem obsessed by a blind, statistical numbers game, without any regard for the actual merits and abilities of the individuals involved.

I have no quarrel with your nationalist cause, I will accept your stated motives, but I question your insensitive style and some of your programmes. You swing wildly and without focus.

When I came here from the United States, I did not come like a concentration camp keeper (or a branch plant manager), shaking my head and mumbling that I don't know what "goes on." I know, or at

least can imagine, the many horrors and rip-offs the U.S. has done and continues to do in Canada and all over the world. On the other hand, even if U.S. commercial interests are Canada's enemies, I, as an individual, refuse to be made apologist or scapegoat for these interests.

My actions and my comings and goings are for my own simple, human reasons. Only for these things do I feel accountable. By including me in a headcount of things "other" than "acceptable" (ie. "truly" Canadian) you deny me my human uniqueness, and my chance to prove my own capacities.

You create the impression that the "aliens" (ie. Americans) conspire to take your schools, your minds, and ultimately, your country.

Dig yourself.

There is no plot on any individual level of action. Your enemies are rapacious institutions, and big-time, large-scale political sell-outs.

Save your bazooka fire for them, don't use it on the vulnerable individuals who come in peace to study, teach, and contribute to Canadian life.

If a student is being taught a course that lacks Canadian content, it is the student's duty to get things changed. Why make the issue one of Canadian abuse by an American professor? The real, unclouded issue is the professors responsiveness, regardless of his national origin, to the wishes of his students.

Can only a native Canadian give other Canadians the "information and those intellectual tools needed to build a decent society in this northern half of the continent?" Must someone be born in this country to respect its values and wish to contribute to its destiny?

The easiest way to play guerrilla-liberator is to yell "Fuck America!" and then, with a scattergun, shoot down whatever you declare American (or tainted by "Americanism").

I don't think, however, that Canada would best be served by such a simple-minded, blanket approach.

Jack Schechtman
Graduate Psychology

False impressions on heat in library

Dear Sir:

Re: your front page article "Library Workers Walk Out on Heat" by Ruth Chud.

We wish to correct some false conclusions both implied and stated by your reporter. You can hardly term our action a "walk-out" since, as you reluctantly admit, "the staff went home with the permission of their department heads." Furthermore, your comment that Mr. O'Connell "was not consulted before the walk-out" is simply irresponsible. Your reporter interviewed Mrs. N. Furuya, Assistant Director of Libraries and was certainly aware that she had been delegated the authority to handle this particular situation in Mr. O'Connell's absence.

"Excalibur" fired at the wrong target and missed the point. This entire university was subjected to "unbearable heat" because of an administrative error in physical plant. Thousand of students, faculty, and staff suffered discomfort, supposedly to save a few hundred dollars. The library staff acted to protest this kind of stupid and arbitrary decision. We are only surprised that we alone appear to have done so. In its attempt at sensational reporting "Excalibur" failed to expose effectively the real issue at this university — is the welfare of those who make up the community to take priority over those mysterious and all-powerful budget figures?

Yours truly,

M. Boyd, President,

York University Libraries Staff Association.

Happy thanks

Dear Editor,

I would like to thank York's "off campus housing" office in aiding me to find an apartment. The people running the office were helpful, friendly and beautiful. Thank-you again.

Yours in Peace
Jacek Ghash, Arts I

Application English tests discriminate

The English and Citizenship Division of the Board of Education for the City of Toronto conducts and sponsors an all-important test of English proficiency called the Michigan English test.

This enables, at least in theory, countless immigrants learning English as a second language, to be considered as candidates for admission to universities and other post-secondary institutions as well as better-paying jobs.

However, the marks achieved by a candidate, although they may determine his immediate future, as well as his long-term prospects, will never be known to him.

At university admission offices, clerks give standard answers such as "it's confidential," to the great annoyance of rejected candidates. If he turns to the board of education the candidate is told of some technicality about university standards requiring this confidential structure.

Universities receive the marks 2 to 3 weeks after the test. Candidates can receive, not the marks,

but an "average score" not less than 6 weeks from the test. If my facts are correct, then we can draw the following conclusions:

1) that the universities and post-secondary institutions have requested that marks be transmitted to them confidentially. The purpose of this measure can only be for easier control of admission procedures either in the area of excluding undesirables or including the favoured, regardless of their achievements in the test.

2) that the board of education, English and Citizenship Division is supporting this unfair procedure, firstly by not relaying the actual marks of the test to the candidate and secondly, by delaying the sending of the average score 3 to 4 weeks after the university receives the marks, between which times, a candidate may be conveniently rejected by the university (and still never have seen his results.)

Angelo E. Exacoustos
(an immigrant student)

An open letter to students of faculty of Fine Arts

The same thing happened this year as happened last year, the student elections for representatives on Fine Arts department Faculty council, resulted in chaos.

Students, many of whom were only in first year were asked to choose and elect their representative for faculty council after having been on campus only two days.

At least half of the fine arts student body which had patiently sat through a meeting called to introduce the teaching staff to the new students, left as soon as a meeting to elect student council members was called. Small wonder! The meeting was a farce. What percentage of the student body knows any of the people who they are being asked to elect? What percentage of the student body knows or had any contact with the faculty council elected last year? What percentage of the student body know what the faculty council is or what its duties are? The answer is simple. About 25%, if even that.

We need a place to meet. A place where students can come together to discuss the working of their own community. There is no permanently available space as yet. The Elections for Student

representatives should not take place at the beginning of the year when large numbers of the student population is new. The elections should take place at the end of the year when people know each other and when student discontent is at its height.

The meeting yesterday fell apart, after the nominees got together and decided that elections would have to be held at a much later date to allow the fine arts faculty time to get to know each other, and because of problems imposed by Jewish holidays impinging on an early election date.

The first meeting of faculty council will be represented by myself and the other remaining faculty council Members from last year, Graner, Rich, Chesley, etc.

You are invited to attend the first meeting of faculty council, whether elected or not. Both student and staff members welcome you with open arms.

Elections will be held at a date after the first meeting.

Times and dates of the first meeting (usually 2nd Tuesday of each month) will be announced.

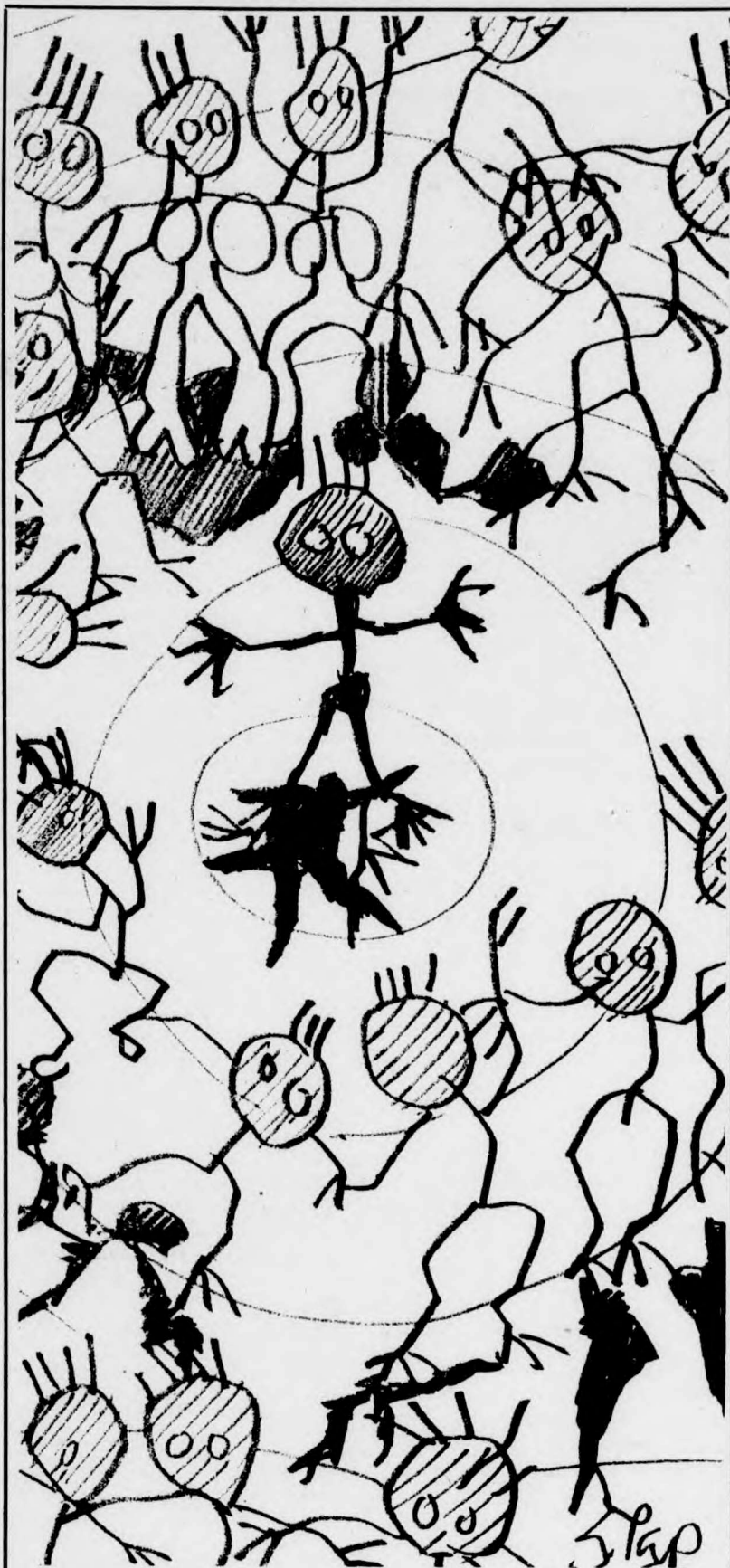
I hope to see you there and don't forget to bring your suggestions and Problems.

Ron Graner

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In last week's article on College E being renamed Stong College, we incorrectly ran a cutline under a picture of the college referring to it as Stong House. The copy for the College E article was, incidentally, written by college master Virginia Rock.

In our last issue, EXCALIBUR identified York cleaners as "caretakers". "Caretakers" is a category of its own and caretakers do not belong to the Service Employees International Union Local 204.



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Adapted from Edwin Willems, An ecological orientation in psychology, Merrill Palmer Quarterly of Behavior and Development, 1965, 11, 317-343.

In the Experimental game the person who is It stands at the center of a big field	gives Lo power to the It
He tries to tag children who run to and from safe areas	The others run whenever they choose
High Power is given the It by having the child who is It call the shots	Slow runners are assigned both high and low power It positions
says when the others run	We find:
Another condition	In the low as opposed to high power It positions poorly skilled boys experience tagging failure and utter expressions of defeat and distress
	Results confirm the research hypothesis

Howard Halpern, fourth year psychology student at York, will read his poetry Saturday October 3 at 8:30 p.m. It's at Poetry and Things, 719 Yonge Street half a block south of Bloor.

Howard will be accompanied on the flute by Christine Overall, a fourth year philosophy student at the University of Toronto.

Paula Rasky will make her debut as a professional folksinger, accompanied by John Goldberg on guitar. Admission one dollar.