

More Letters to the Editor

Lecture not stopped for Hutcheson prof says

The fable of Chicken Little (who thought the sky was falling when an acorn hit her on the head) and that of the little boy who cried wolf should be well enough known that they require little elaboration. What these fables teach are the dangers that follow from misconception, lack of judgment, and a disregard for the facts. Chicken Little and the little boy have nothing on this year's editor of Excalibur.

Of the many distortions and errors in fact contained in Excalibur's coverage of Social Science 175 I would like to comment on one which affects me personally since it reflects on my integrity.

In three different places in the paper there are statements to the effect that I cut my lecture short by 20 minutes to allow John Hutcheson the opportunity to pacify students who might be worried about the future of the course and/or Ridpath's future in the Division. The editorial goes even further my making a mealy-mouthed accusation that Hutcheson and I were engaged in a conspiratorial rear-guard action on behalf of the Division Chairman.

Fact: I ended my lecture just about 11:40 am as your photographer (also a member of Soc.Sci. 175) and anyone else present will admit. This is 10 minutes, not 20, before the end of class time. Furthermore it has been customary for me to end this early because as a matter of policy the faculty team in Social Science 175 tries to leave 10 minutes at the end of class for questions and discussion.

Fact: When I called for questions, there were none. I then packed up my notes and books and began to leave, as did a number of students. Only then did Hutcheson rise to say that he wanted to discuss a petition that was circulating in order to clarify some of the issues surrounding the dropping of the course.

Fact: I was unaware of Hutcheson's intention to raise this issue. Furthermore, as a matter of fact, Hutcheson did not "give a 20-minute spiel on how Soc.Sci. isn't really trying to give Ridpath the boot" (as the editorial claims). First, he didn't speak for 20 minutes, and secondly, he made it quite clear at the outset that he wished to address himself only to the question of the course and not Ridpath's position.

The editor makes reference to "gutless liberals" and "liberal bullshit". (I assume he's not a liberal.) How nice that it is not necessary to qualify his output; it's just bullshit, plain and simple. If the editor is not also gutless, he will print a retraction and offer his apologies.

David Shugarman

After talking with professors David Shugarman and John Hutcheson, we believe Shugarman was a victim of circumstance. We reject any idea of conspiracy between him and Hutcheson. We regret any embarrassment caused and extend our complete apologies.

U of T prof supports Ridpath

Although I would normally not express an opinion on administrative issues at another

university, I believe that in the matter of the termination of professor John Ridpath's appointment as a lecturer, I have personal knowledge which should be brought to the attention of the York community. In particular, I am familiar with Ridpath's teaching ability which I understand has been criticized by certain members of the York Social Sciences department.

During the winter of 1969-70, I attended a series of lectures given by Ridpath on the History of western philosophy. Each lecture was well organized, clearly presented, interesting and enjoyable. It was obvious from Ridpath's command of the material that he had done a large amount of detailed research in philosophy. I have nothing but the highest praise for his lecturing ability; he ranks with the best I have heard both before and since I started lecturing myself over six years ago.

An additional point in Ridpath's favor is the fact that he openly acknowledges that he is an advocate of Objectivism, the philosophy of Ayn Rand. Indeed, the issues he discussed were clarified by fully understanding the context in which his comments and criticisms were made. If anything, Ridpath was unnecessarily careful to identify the source of each opinion he expressed, whether it was that of the philosopher under discussion, another commentator's or Ridpath's own.

I have to wonder whether Rid-

path's detractors have been as candid with their own students or in their evaluation of Ridpath. Since I know by personal experience that their criticisms are false, I suspect that they have a motive which they would never express in public: namely, their dislike of the philosophical and political opinions which Ridpath advocates so openly.

It is a truism that the primary justification of a university is the education of its students. From this it follows that excellence in teaching should be encouraged. The York administration can make no greater mistake than not rehiring John Ridpath.

Edmund West,
Professor,
Dept. of Physics,
University of Toronto.

Excalibur Sports no angel on equality

Your picture and caption on March 13 projected the attitude of the Physical Education department as one of male chauvinism. In reality, the poster was designed by a small group of students from one course (wonder which sex thought to use the usual sexist selling gimmick?)

How is it possible that your paper can publish an "attack" on a department (with misinformation no less) regarding sexist attitudes and then devote the entire article

(Page 17, March 23, 1972) to the YeoMAN Athlete of the Year? Is the YeoWOMAN Athlete of the Year not worthy of newsprint? Also, how many articles and pictures have you printed this past year on women's sports as compared to the men?

My experiences this year indicate that the department of Physical Education comes much closer to promoting equality for women in sports than does Excalibur.

Vietta E. Wilson
Assistant professor — female
Department of Physical Education

All students should benefit from calendar

Since Council of the York Student Federation collects \$10 from every student in the university, I was under the impression that it was supposed to represent the interests of all the students.

Yet in the counter-calendar only subjects offered to arts students were considered. No subjects for the students in the faculties of science or Fine Arts were included — why?

Even if the writers of the counter-calendar had gone to the trouble of publishing which professors in these faculties are going to teach which subjects next year it would not have been as large an insult.

If the CYSF takes money from all students, shouldn't it consider all students?

Nancy Rutherford
Faculty of Science

Bound Volumes of Excalibur

in durable hardcover, centre-stitched and bound, containing volume 6 (1971-72 academic year) can now be ordered in limited quantities.

These books are available at cost price: Approx. \$25.00 per book.

Send purchase orders, not later than April 7th, 1972 to:

The Business Manager
Excalibur Publications
Central Square, York Campus

NOTE: the number of sets available for binding is limited. Applications are handled on a first come — first served basis.

50% OFF for York students

Gold and Diamond Jewelry

watches, bracelets, rings, etc.

Russell Oliver Jewelry Co.
17 Queen St. E. (Showroom)
Suite 345
Phone 863-1573 for appointment

PROGRAMS FOR FOREIGN STUDENTS, SPONSORED IN COOPERATION WITH THE INSTITUTO DE CULTURA HISPANICA OF MADRID

SIX CREDITS AND A SUN-TAN

Contemporary Spain. Soak up its language. Its literature. Its politics, arts and music. And its sun.

And come back next Fall with six credits. Or, if you want to forget books for the summer, you can join a non-study group and heavy up on the sights and the beaches. Choose from one of 3 Summer Programs:

PROGRAM # 1
22 days tour of Spain.
Price: \$375.00 per person.

PROGRAM # 2
6 weeks. 4 study and 2 for tour of Spain.
Price: \$448.00 per person.

PROGRAM # 3
7 weeks. 4 study and 3 tour of Spain.
Price: \$485.00 per person.

All three programs include round-trip air fare from Montreal via Iberia. In-flight meals. Full accommodations in Spain (including three meals a day and laundry facilities).

Excursions and visits as per brochure itineraries. Program members will be provided with a booklet which will permit them to take advantage of the facilities offered by the Department of Assistance to Students — applicable to theatres, museums, monuments, etc.

The Study Program (charge of an additional \$50.00 for diploma — 6 credits).

SPANISH LANGUAGE 1 Elementary
For beginners. Classes will be given in Spanish with additional explanations in English.
30 hours, 2 credits.

SPANISH LANGUAGE 11 Intermediate
For students with a basic knowledge of written and spoken Spanish. Classes will be given in Spanish. Students will be provided with English translations of the lesson-guides.
30 hours, 2 credits.

SPANISH LANGUAGE Advanced
For students with a good knowledge of Spanish. Classes will be given in Spanish.
30 hours, 2 credits.

CONTEMPORARY SPANISH LITERATURE

A panorama of Contemporary Spanish Literature and of the most representative authors from Romanticism until today. Classes will be given in Spanish. Students will be provided with English translations of the lesson-guides.
15 hours, 1 credit.

CONTEMPORARY SPAIN

The political, social and economic organization of Contemporary Spain. Classes will be given in Spanish. Students will be provided with English translations of the lesson-guides.
15 hours, 1 credit.

ART

Theoretical classes. Visits to the most important museums in Madrid, especially the Prado. Classes will be given in Spanish. Students will be provided with English translation of the lesson-guides.
15 hours, 1 credit.

MUSIC AND FOLKLORE

Theoretical and practical classes with the use of records. Classes will be given in Spanish. Students will be provided with English translations of the lesson-guides.
15 hours, 1 credit.

Send off the coupon for the 'Contemporary Spain' brochure. It includes complete itineraries, course details and application form. Program applications close May 1, 1972.

Iberia International Airlines of Spain,
P.O. Box No. 6325, Montreal 101, P.Q.

Please rush me information.

Name _____
Address _____
City _____ Prov. _____

IBERIA TO SPAIN