

# editorial

Some of our readers have questioned where the bias in an *Excalibur* editorial originates.

Some people believe editorials are the voice of student opinion while even more believe they are the voice of York's administration. But an *Excal* editorial is neither.

York's student body is so large and so diverse that *Excalibur* believes no one collective opinion on any issue can exist. How can roughly 40,000 students possibly come to a consensus on one issue? Our editorials should not be seen as an expression of student opinion.

Nor should they be seen as the soapbox for the administration, as *Excalibur* is independent. The administration has no authority, whatsoever, over content in any section. Nor does it have any method to sanction us over content with which it disagrees. If an editorial sides with the administration, it is because of the merit of the case and not because we are anyone's puppet.

Our editorials will take sides.

But, editorials are not complete without a response — your response. We encourage members of our academic community to think, to act and to write.

We welcome submissions — letters and columns — and encourage you to challenge us and yourselves.

If you give a damn, write. Make *Excalibur* your newspaper.

## letters

### *Excalibur* accused of publishing biased editorial on AIDS case

Editors:

It was with weariness and annoyance that I read the editorial "biased reporting unfairly condemns York," *Excalibur*, June 8. Not once was it demonstrated how reporting on the Kelly case was "biased" against York. Surely, such an unsubstantiated claim shows *Excalibur's* bias against Ron Kelly and for York's administration.

Employing the on-the-one-handism technique that has become its trademark, *Excalibur* lays blame on both Kelly and the administration over the dispute that arose after York barred Kelly

from one of his classes.

The editorial writer pretends to be unbiased, but it is the university's position that is given the most weight. Kelly's arguments that he is the victim of AIDS discrimination are rebutted by the university's position which is quoted at length and accepted as the ultimate truth in the matter.

It is implied that Kelly is a publicity-seeking megalomaniac intent on ruining York's otherwise squeaky-clean image.

*The Globe and Mail* is falsely charged with "not investigating

### Chinese students thank York for support

Dear students, Chinese people will remember your reaction during the display at the East Bear Pit in Central Square from June 5 to 9. We got great help from the York University community. We are very grateful for all your support.

We received a total of \$1,687.95 from individuals and organizations. We will use this money to help the democratic movement in China through various ways.

We would like to thank the following organizations: Foreign Student Affairs, Science Graduate Organization, Chinese Student Association, Chinese Christian Federation, Jewish Student Fed-

the veracity of Kelly's claims," something which *Excalibur* has undoubtedly done, finding, as always, that the university, although "by no means faultless in this case," is really the victim of a vindictive student with AIDS.

It seems that the new editor, Nancy Phillips, is quite content to continue *Excalibur's* shameful role of apologist for York's administration. Considering the levy hike the paper received earlier this year, York students deserve more from its "community newspaper."

Cosmo Vecchiarelli

eration, Calumet College and Norman Bethune College. We will remember your help.

Sincerely,

The Association of Chinese Scholars and Students at York (ACSSY)

## analysis

### Pay Equity to close wage gap

by DEBORAH DUNDAS

The Ontario Government made a move to close the 36 per cent wage gap between men and women by introducing Bill 154, The Pay Equity Act, last January.

The Act stipulates that employers in both the public and private sectors with over 10 employees must implement a pay equity plan. York, being a public sector employer with over 500 employees, must have a plan in place by January 1, 1990.

Pay equity is not the same as equal pay for equal work. While equal pay for equal work has been law since 1951 (i.e. an electrician must be paid the same whether male or female), the purpose of the Pay Equity Act is to provide a means by which those jobs traditionally viewed as "women's work" are not undervalued.

The way the value of a job is determined is a complex process. Employers must determine how many groups exist within their organization. Each union at an establishment is considered a different group and must be dealt with separately.

Dear Editors,

I would like to clarify one or two points in the article entitled "Response to crisis" which appeared in the June 8 issue of *Excalibur*.

In this article you note that I sent a letter to Vice-President Bill Farr asking him to lower the flag to half-mast as a token of York's sympathy to our Chinese community.

Unfortunately, contrary to what is stated in the article, Mr. Farr has not responded in any way shape or form to my letter. As I understand it, he did respond to the verbal request of some others by stating that he would not lower it for political reasons.

In addition, it would be inappropriate for Mr. Farr to respond to my letter by stating that he would not lower the flag for political reasons. I stated in my letter that it is not the responsibility of the university to become involved in "the domestic political issues of another country." I suggested that

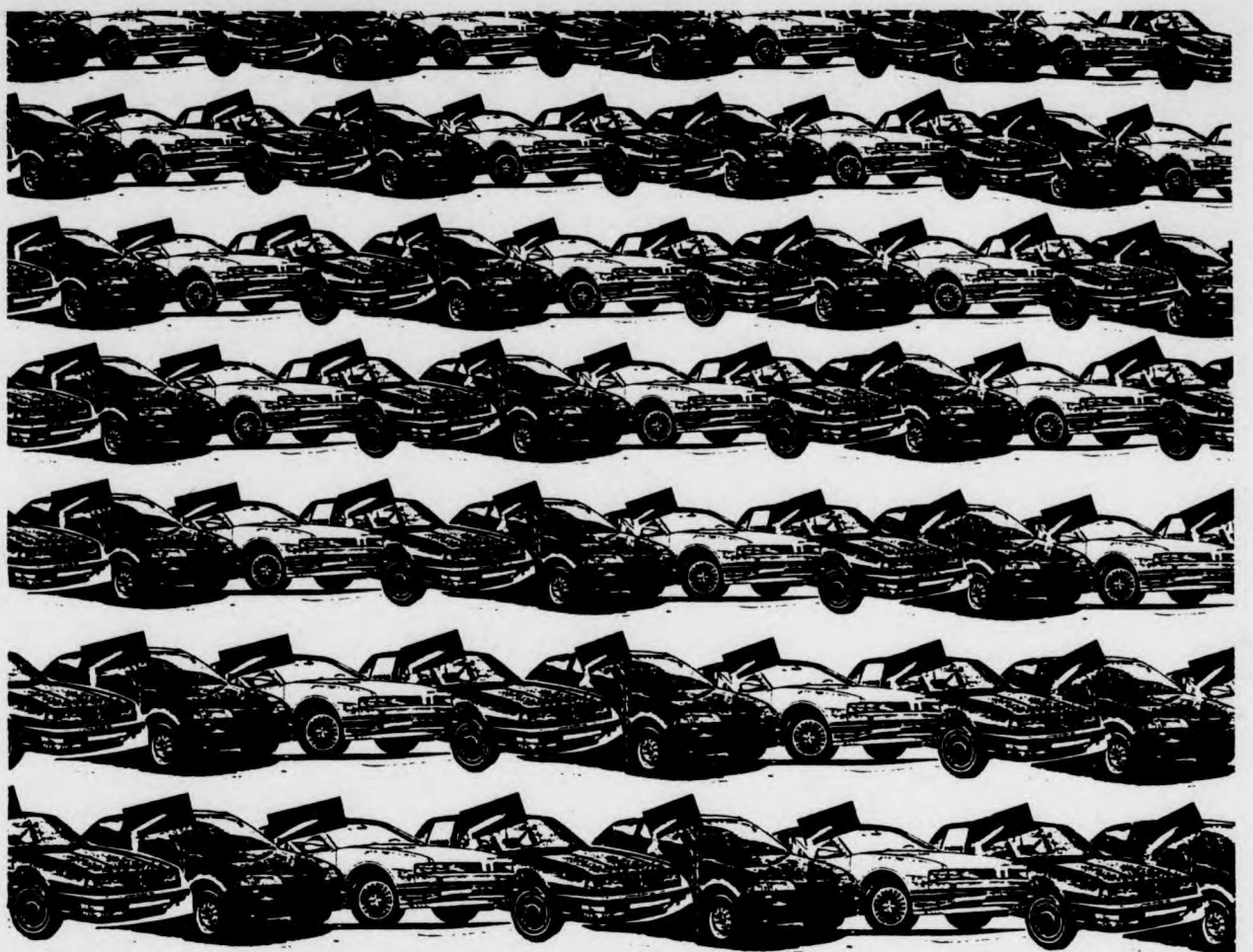
the grounds for lowering the flag were more humanitarian in nature.

To quote, "[m]any of our own students are losing friends and loved ones. And they are grieving. Surely we should at least express our condolences for our colleagues and our horror at what is happening in China by flying the flag at half-mast... Besides this, it seems to be that there should be, if there isn't already, a solidarity of

universities around the world. We are all fighting for the same thing: for the freedom to express our ideas and for the freedom to learn. This is being undermined by the Chinese government as they prepare, as news reports have it, to invade university campuses in Beijing. Surely York, as a university, cannot ignore these occurrences."

I hope that a response from Mr. Farr will soon be forthcoming.

Yours sincerely,  
Deborah Dundas



With the success of this year's parking lot convocation, York administration plans to introduce Phase II in 1990: drive-thru service. ("Can I have a pickle with that please?")

## Praise

Dear Editors:

I am glad *Excalibur* raised its voice concerning restricted summer hours at the library. They affect faculty too, as instructors and researchers. While past policy is a weak rationale, that of budget is stronger and points to the necessity for the academic community (librarians included of course) to maintain strong pressure on the administration to provide for our needs. I urge *Excalibur* to keep library hours at the forefront of your reporting.

Sincerely,  
Ian Brooker  
Associate Professor

## EXCALIBUR

Editor \_\_\_\_\_ Nancy Phillips  
Assistant Editor \_\_\_\_\_ Heather Sangster  
Production Manager/Art Director \_\_\_\_\_ Neil Ballantyne  
Copy Editors \_\_\_\_\_ T.J. Roberts, Bob Shairulla  
Staff \_\_\_\_\_ Lorraine Anthony, David Crabe, Paul Gazzola, Pam Jarvis, Mihkel Jurima, Howard Kaman, Zhila Kasharina, Jacob Katsman, Elan Kattsir, Anton Katz, Jeff Kippel, Dannis Koromilas, Andy Marshall, Stuart Moscoe, Bashir Patel, Jeffrey Ross, Shay Schwartzman, Pam Serkowney, Bob Shairulla, Andre Souroujon, Enza Vaccher, The Astonishing But Not Quite As Magical As You Think Wolgeleenter  
Advertising Manager \_\_\_\_\_ Merle Menzies  
Advertising Assistants \_\_\_\_\_ Jeff Kippel, Patty Milton  
Advertising Rep \_\_\_\_\_ Mei Yin Yap  
Typesetters \_\_\_\_\_ Mary Jankulak, Stuart Ross  
Board of Publications Chairperson \_\_\_\_\_ Brigitta Schmid

EDITORIAL: 736-5239  
TYPESETTING: 736-5240  
ADVERTISING: 736-5238

MAILING ADDRESS:  
Room 111, Central Square  
York University  
4700 Keele Street  
Downsview M3J 1P3

