

A dopey theory

The otherwise realistic tone of Brad Meslin's travel notes from Afghanistan was somewhat bent by his noting of a sign that "Pierre . . ., French" was caught with "150 kilos of marijuana hidden in a 750 BMW motorcycle gas tank". As an experienced dope fiend and motor-

cycle nut, it seems to me that this unusual arrest could only have happened in one of the following ways:

1) Pierre discovered the secret of compressing the distances within atoms and was thus able to get 150 keys into his tank, but couldn't find

any room for gas, and the police were suspicious of this foreign freak pushing his 750 across Asia.

2) Pierre built a gas tank big enough to hold that amount, but it covered the whole bike, cutting off his vision and causing his crash through the walls of the customs shed.

3) Pierre's motor backfired while his bike was being examined and immediately all the gas station attendants started sucking on his exhaust pipe.

4) Pierre actually only had two kilos in his gas tank, but when one of the guards attempted to test the contraband, he set his moustache on fire and thus decided to increase the amount seized by a factor of 75.

If you ever hear from Mr. Meslin again, would you ask his opinion of these theories? **Wilder McWeed**



Stuart praised for Elvis piece

Congratulations for printing an excellent article on the late Elvis Presley. Paul Stuart said practically all that should be said about the passing of this great entertainer. Regardless of what critics and detractors of Presley say, the man had talent, charisma, and a superb entertaining ability.

Stuart's selection of Presley's best records is both accurate and very useful for those who are serious about assessing Presley's ability first-hand.

Of all the articles on Presley that I have read since his passing, this is the one I will keep.

By pointing to both the highs and the lows of Presley's career, Stuart thoughtfully showed that talent and ability outweighed all the problems that plagued Presley and that after all is said and done, Elvis was not a pretender, but truly the King.

John G. Kay
Winters College

USSR: two nations?

Another interview in *Excalibur* (Dec. 8) with a Russian emigré - again made sweeping generalizations about the Soviet Union.

It appears that there must be two very different USSR's, at least from the account of his personal experience, which is in contradistinction to that of the vast majority of the Russians.

For instance, contrary to his claim that the Helsinki Agreement was not publicized in the Soviet Union, it was in fact published *in full* in several major papers (in particular, *Pravda*) with total circulation of over 30 million. Some Soviets even have a poster version of the text hanging in their homes! It was the socialist countires which pushed for implementation of this agreement. They are justifiably proud of this historic step towards world peace.

(The Helsinki accord deals with disarmament, improved trade relations, and cultural exchanges. Here in Canada, it is virtually impossible to obtain a copy, and it has never been reported on or discussed in full.)

The interview also suggests that the major concern of the Soviet people (or at least the Soviet Jews) is to obtain visas and to emigrate. In this context, it is odd that in recent

years more than 1000 Russian Isrealis have applied to return to the Soviet Union, and that new applications to emigrate have dropped to a trickle. Apparently Israel is no socialist paradise.

Considering this emigrés distortions, it's not surprising that he might be considered a "parasite of the land." I hope he finds milk and honey (or at least a job) here in Canada.

As for the journalism, might I suggest a more objective treatment of such touchy topics as human rights? We get enough subjective journalism on such topics from the *Globe & Star*.

Eric Walberg

Large corner

It was interesting to read (*Excalibur*, Jan. 5, p.4) of the "accident-prone intersection of Jane and Keele". No wonder this intersection is busy - after all, Dufferin, Bathurst and Yonge all meet there too.

D.C. Russell
Math. Dept.

Ed. note: How true. We meant Jane and Finch.

Readers fed up with feminists

We five students of McLaughlin College are fed up with the recent wave of feminist propaganda. We feel women have no greater calling than to be a housewife and mother. The much-maligned phrase "barefoot, pregnant and in the kitchen" while perhaps overstating the case, still represents fairly accurately our remedy for the moral turpitude that threatens to break apart the fibre of today's society. The family is the basis upon which our country is built, and only through the rediscovery of our traditional values will the stability of the future be ensured.

Miss Gail Nathanson Miss Lynn Burgess
Miss Irene Fehr Miss Leh-sih Linr
Miss Kris Russel

"Best in Canada"

Our BA defended

I received the pamphlet concerning graduating from Atkinson College which was distributed to our class by our professor, Ian Smith.

I must take issue with this pamphlet because I believe that Atkinson College and York University are the best educational institutions in Canada. They have given me the opportunity to study, an opportunity that hasn't been readily available to me elsewhere.

I also believe York and Atkinson are the best schools for other reasons:

- 1) We have an excellent creative writing program.
- 2) We also have top quality

professors available for consultation like Irving Layton, Eli Mandel, Miriam Waddington and Ken Danciger.

If the pamphlet is saying our BA isn't top quality because of lack of finances alone, then I say it is very wrong. Atkinson and York are top quality universities because we have been the opportunity to study and learn and that is all we need.

Perhaps the teachers will carry on less money anyway like Socrates for the sheer joy of teaching. There will be no need to stop classes and our BA will still be top quality. I'm sure the professors will be willing to carry on, the best professors that is.

Elaine Freeman

AGYU

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