

# Cross-Canada student news at Xcal

The Excalibur lounge is more than a place where our staff meets and reassures one another that, despite the contrary opinions of the readers, we really aren't a bunch of hacks.

It is also a reading room, where newspaper junkies can sample the wares of the student press from across Canada.

As a member of the Canadian University Press, Excalibur is on the mailing list of about 60 papers. Here is a random sampling of our current stock:

*The Varsity*; University of Toronto: The second finest university newspaper in Toronto, the Varsity appears three times a

week, like a recurrent nightmare.

*The Eyeopener*; Ryerson Polytechnical Institute; A classy rag which ought to be consulted by the yearly stream of York students who inquire about majoring in journalism at Ryerson. The department of Journalism at Ryerson has its own daily paper, *The Ryersonian*, but the writers who know the score work on the Eye in their spare time.

*The Chevron & The Imprint*; University of Waterloo; Two newspapers at Waterloo are vying for student loyalties. The Chevron is the official paper of the Waterloo council; The Imprint is a new

independent weekly. The Chevron has labelled The Imprint a "scab newspaper," while the folks at The Imprint say the Chevron editors have scuttled staff democracy. A nasty rivalry which makes for interesting reading.

*The Silhouette*; University of McMaster: Toronto Star move

over. The big 'ol Silhouette, complete with colored headlines and massive coverage, is the envy of struggling little publications like ourselves.

We have newspapers from every province sitting on our shelves just pleading to be read. We have staff

meetings Monday at 5:00 pm and Thursday at 3:00 pm. If at any other time you would like to drop by the Excalibur lounge and see what's going on at other campuses, just mosey on in to 111 Central Square, sit back on one of our tatty chesterfields and peruse.

Paul Stuart

## Harbinger's Column

by Lawrence Yuen



It is surprising and perhaps a little disturbing to find out that many individuals, both students and professionals, are really quite unaware of what sexuality is all about. The term 'sexuality' is very broad and as such it is a bit difficult to define it precisely. Sexuality is an integral part of ourselves and encompasses concepts such as our physical and emotional expression of attachment to others, a knowledge of what our body space is, and a general awareness of the process through which we grow and mature.

The fact that sexuality is given so little importance by educators is alarming because it has some very important social implications. Our daily interactions with others, at work and in social situations, involves communication at both a verbal and non-verbal level. True communication is often impossible and superficial interactions are the norm. We need to learn much more about ourselves, including our sexuality, before we will be able to relate to others more closely.

The increase in loneliness and emotional difficulties in our society seems to indicate that our emotional education may be inadequate. Many social service agencies try to orient and re-educate individuals afflicted with emotional difficulties, but the accessibility of such agencies may be limited. Even if these agencies are readily accessible, the people who may benefit the most from them may still avoid them. The public's ignorance and reluctance to take advantage of social services is perhaps understandable. It is a common belief that going to the counselling agency automatically means that one is 'mentally ill', and this is a strong taboo for many people.

What is needed is a re-education of the general public's attitude towards themselves and towards counselling services. There should be no stigma attached to the use of such services, nor to the individuals who are involved. It is a natural thing for us to turn to our friends for emotional and moral support, and to a large extent these social services are an extension of the support system developed between friends. It's just someone to talk to who can and will understand.

Harbinger is one such agency and our geographic location makes us very accessible to the campus population as well as to surrounding neighbourhoods. We provide an informal atmosphere where individuals can come in and talk—about anything. We respect the individuals' confidentiality as well as his/her anonymity. It is not necessary to have an appointment, nor is it even necessary to have a problem. You may just want to come in and talk, or you may want some information for your own personal use or for a research project. You'd be surprised at the amount of material we have. We can also refer you to another source if we don't have the facilities or the information you want. So come one give us a try! If you feel embarrassed, give us a call first, and find out how friendly we can be.

## York Unions



Two weeks ago the York University Faculty Association negotiating committee published a discouraging report on their attempts to negotiate a new Collective Agreement.

Discussions with the Administration have been going on since early April. As of two weeks ago, the Administration was refusing to move from a total wage offer of three per cent, well below any other faculty wage settlement in the province (and of course the salary position of York faculty is already poor).

Even more alarmingly, the Administration proposed to assume sole responsibility for workloads. When we remember that the Administration's Red Book two years ago wanted to increase first-year class size to five-hundred or so students, the Administration's plea for trust can only arouse alarm.

In other areas the Administration has seemed concerned to punish YUFA. It has been refusing to give YUFA the basic guarantee of the Rand Formula. And on October 19,

President H. Ian Macdonald embarked on an attempt to compile dossiers on faculty who supported the YUSA strike.

Why has the Administration dragged out the negotiations? Why has it resorted to provocation? Some faculty take the view that the Administration actually wanted to push the Union into a strike, vote and was determined to turn this University into a community college. The Administration suffers from an inability to plan ahead. It suffers from difficulty in planning the year until the year is almost over. It equates planning with balancing the book, year by year. The Administrators' reasoning is not the University's. For the administrator's reasoning is calculating (and cutting budgets). Or they rationalize - and fail to notice that the "rationalized" university looks like a community college. At the same time they appear to be unconvinced of the power of their "reason". If not why did they refuse to allow a mediator with experience in collective

bargaining at universities to be brought into the negotiations.

President Macdonald likes to attribute his difficulties to his having to work with unions, which rely on confrontation rather than collegial decisions. But the confrontations preceded and led to unionization. In the spring of 1975 the President broke off negotiations and imposed a settlement on YUFA. This led to YUFA's decision to seek certification, which was seen as a way of protecting reason, discussion, and criticism in the university. Since YUFA's certification, the Administration has continued to adopt a posture of confrontation. The attempt to impose the Red Book model two years ago is an example. In this situation York faculty may have to consider resorting more fully to the freedoms of the Ontario Labour Relations Act in order to protect themselves and their university. One area of particular interest to faculty is forms of job action which preserve both in the long term and in the short term the faculty-student relationship which is essential to the University if it is to foster reason, scholarly and creativity in our society. In the meantime we must challenge the Administration to tell us how they can justify asking faculty students and staff at York to subsidize tertiary education in Ontario.

Nicky Lary  
YUFA Information Centre

## letters

All letters should be addressed to the editor, Excalibur, Room III Central Square. Letters must be typed, triple-spaced, on a 66 stroke line. Letters are limited to 300 words (seven column inches). Name, address, or phone number must be included or the letter will not be published. Excalibur reserves the right to edit for grammar and length.

Deadline Monday 4 pm

### Excalibur maked mistak aga agian

A university that produces students who publish a newspaper that writes, "Stevenson has not yet to comment on it..." (November 16, 1978, page 1,) loses credibility in justifying its position against cutbacks for university education.

C.E. Yates

### Move bookstore & create student lounge

To newly elected people, After three years at this campus I feel there is one easy and inexpensive way of greatly improving the environment for students - create an admirable and enjoyable student lounge at York. The bear pit is far too small, especially at lunch hour. Walking to Central Square between 11:30 and 12:30 is like the Yonge-Bloor subway station. Why can't students be given a better environment

— it's their tuition and presence that is the foundation of this university.

I suggest that student representatives push to move the bookstore to a different location (after all, it is a monopoly and will get all of the business wherever it's located). Or maybe move the T-D bank. (There is empty space on the second floor of Ross North). Then the space could be easily converted to a comfortable lounge where commuting students and others could meet, eat lunch and relax.

It sure would improve the student environment at York. Especially in the winter months.

Lloyd Davis

### The RWL's side of the story

Well, it's happened again.

The credibility of yet another student election has been undermined by a CYSF sponsored "election tribunal". Under the current CYSF stewardship, popular opinion and due process have been deliberately violated so that this clique can sustain itself in office.

Sulking because they lost the first election to YSAC's Brickwood and Weisfeld, the CYSF clique used their "influence" to change the rules of the game after it had been played, and behind closed doors to boot!

This year's pretext focussed on the distribution of the newsletter of the Revolutionary Workers League, branding it a "violation". This newsletter was distributed before, during and after the election. It commented on subjects in no way related to the campaign. In a small note, the RWL gave its editorial opinion that in the elections YSAC candidates should be supported. About 150 of these newsletters were passed out at York on the morning of the advance poll only.

In the first place, it is absurd that such incidental endorsement could have any real impact on the election. Why should our editorial opinion be cause for concern and yet not Excalibur's whose lead editorial openly endorsed Brickwood and Weisfeld by name? Copies of the Excalibur lay six feet from the Central Square polling booth. Oh well, that's the point of a pretext isn't it? Excalibur has weight and could answer back; the RWL is "just" an in-

dependent left group.

So complaints were made and the election tribunal met to confirm the predictable outcome. They held their meeting in secret. The RWL was not informed, invited to attend, or to make any submissions. Who knows what evidence, if any, was heard before the guilty verdict was pronounced? But somehow only the Board of Governors elections were re-run. Somehow the RWL "violation" didn't make it too the other elections!!! To cap it all off, the tribunal in their statement found that I distributed the offending leaflets. The fact is that Robert McMaster distributed no election leaflets on either election day. Of course, I could not reply to charges the tribunal did not have the courtesy to make me aware of. Furthermore, the statement that the RWL persisted in its newsletter distribution even after complaints were made is false. We were informed at our literature table by none other than David Chodikoff that there was a potential problem and out of deference to that we ceased all distribution until after the election.

Even though the circumstances are farcical we naturally regret having

supplied a pretext...

Robert McMaster  
for the York  
Revolutionary Workers League

### A thank - you from Brayman

Thank you — to everyone who spent time helping out with my campaign over the past weeks; and to all those who helped fund what would otherwise have been a low budget effort.

Thank you — to all those people who supported me in the election. Your solid support makes me optimistic about the future. I feel the Board will see it as a strong student mandate for constructive efforts by the entire B of G to combat continuing cutbacks. My efforts will be initially directed into looking into alternate funding for York, but I am enthusiastic about voicing any and all concerns to the Board, and encourage anyone and everyone to get in touch with me, at any time, through CYSF.

Thanks Again  
Shawn Brayman