

Editorial

Give us a break

There are many things we enjoy a great deal about putting out *Excalibur* each week, as well as some we enjoy less.

There are also a few things we haven't quite decided about.

One of them is our status as the York University Community Newspaper.

Certainly we enjoy our position as the voice of the student body. It gives us our priorities, sets our editorial agenda, and makes us feel like we belong.

But it also encourages some campus groups to think that we're *their* newspaper, and that

to the extent that we don't satisfy them entirely, we're ignoring the needs of the university.

In fact, the opposite is true. *Excalibur* is tugged at from so many sides, that any motion at all is sure to be contrary to somebody's opinion of where we should be going.

There are those who would have us report in length on the politics of the student body, unions and administrations, to the exclusion of all else.

There are those who would have us write articles which abandon a critical perspective, for one which will support

student leaders and their opinions.

There are those who would have the paper a weekly entertainment round-up, since they consider campus news unimportant, uninteresting reading.

There are those who would



have us print the time and place of every event on campus, to encourage people to attend.

It's obvious we can't do all these things. We have to weigh many factors, and come up with an editorial policy which will reflect each, at least partially.

Our biggest handicap is our current debt to the university, which (as our loyal readers will know) has come too close to closing us down. Although things are dramatically better than they were a year ago, we're still in the hole for thousands of dollars.

Thus, the paper's continued existence depends on high

profits, which in turn depend on large amounts of advertising.

Simply put, this all means that we have less room for stories and notices than we'd like. Like all newspapers, we receive more information than we could ever hope to pass on. Just what we do pass on is often the result of hard decisions where the lesser of two evils is still quite unsatisfactory.

Important news stories go unpublished, exciting sports events are dropped from the sports section, and York plays, visual art and music are left unreviewed.

We have come to accept all this. We ask our readers to do the same.

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