

YORK BRIEFS

CYSF elections set for March

Council of the York Student Federation elections will be held March 8 and 9 rather than in early February as previously planned. Although the February dates, which precede Reading Week, usually generate more student interest, CYSF voted 5-3 for a March election to allow the present council a freer reign with Winter Carnival and academic projects.

Faculty of arts council bans smoking

In a spirited debate, rife with historical allusions and parliamentary quibbling, the faculty of arts council voted last Thursday to ban smoking at its meetings. Led by Professor Dennis Russell (a veteran anti-smoking campaigner) the discussion occupied most of the monthly meeting, which began late due a lack of quorum. A compromise proposal to segregate smokers met defeat. Once the prohibition was passed, arts dean John Saywell jokingly requested the provision of corridor speakers and division bells to permit smokers to follow debates and enter the Senate chamber for votes. (Parliamentary procedure forbids smoking in meetings).

York clinic makes some changes

The York Student Clinic is revising its hours. The clinic is still open 24 hours a day, but the hours between 9 am and 12 noon will now be given over to clinic projects. Updating the existing files and research work will fill this time slot. Emergencies are inevitable and the clinic is still prepared to handle them anytime. The hours from 12 noon until 5 am are reserved for counselling services. These include birth control counselling, abortion referral, sexual and psychological problems. The night staff is on duty every night from 8 pm until 9 am for counselling. The clinic will now close Sundays from 9 am until 8 pm. Call 3333 for emergency services.

59% at York feel that homosexuals are abnormal

By ALAN RISEN

In a survey of 100 York students taken on Friday 50 per cent said they felt that homosexuality is "abnormal or sick".

Many students qualified their statement by explaining that by "abnormal" they meant a "deviance from the norm" rather than sick. As Susan Schopenhauer of College G writes, "Although I think that homosexuality is abnormal, I do not think it is disgusting or sickening. Abnormal is not necessarily sickness."

The survey also asked the students how they would feel if they found out that their best friend was a homosexual or lesbian. Fifty-seven per cent replied that they would be shocked; 30 per cent said that it wouldn't matter. Seven per cent replied they would be angry; 8 per cent, frightened; and 3 per cent, happy.

The students were also asked how they would feel if they discovered that their boyfriend or girlfriend was bi-sexual. Fifty-two per cent said they would be shocked; 16 per cent said it wouldn't matter. A surprisingly high number, 20 per cent, said they would be angry; 9 per cent answered "frightened"; and 3 per cent, "happy".

Opinions were polarized. One College G student wrote that "In my opinion they are very sick people (unsigned)," another wrote "Many of my friends are homosexual. I accept it and do not see anything wrong with those of the same sex having relationships."

Sixty per cent of students felt that homosexuals should try to hide their physical affection for each other in public although some qualified their answers by saying they felt the same way about heterosexuals.

Another prevalent feeling among

the students which is indicative of York's liberal reputation was "I don't care as long as they enjoy it and leave me alone."

When shown the survey results, York Homophile Association president, Roger Wilkes, told Excalibur, "I find this sort of generalized random survey to be totally useless in attempting to draw a picture of how society feels about any given phenomenon. By lumping together such vague terms as 'abnormal' and 'sick', people are being forced to make polarized value judgements and the resultant 'statistics' have nothing to do with the way people actually think or would react in a 'real world' situation."

Campus Comment

Question: Do you feel that homosexuals should try to hide their affection for each other in public?



Susie Seligman, Vanier
No. Why should they? It eliminates any guesswork on my part.



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The Pub Scene...

has changed a lot this past year in Toronto. Some of the best rock and blues in town can be heard at the pubs.

But going downtown can sometimes be a drag. There are lineups, heavy cover charges, expensive booze, parking, tipping, then driving home and well...

There is also an alternative... right here on campus. THE GREEN BUSH INN puts on most of the same rock as the downtown pubs. Sweet Blindness, The Downchild Blues Band, Jericho, Whiskey Howl, Fergus, The Irish Rovers and Everyday People have all played The 'Bush' this fall. And there's more to come... Huron and Washington, Tunora, The Rock Revival, Abernathy Shagnaster, and Toronto's only living legend... King Biscuit Boy are just a few who will be here in the coming weeks. Tonight a new group from Australia called Flying Circus... with some of the best damn harmony work you've ever heard.

If good live rock isn't to your taste we've also got The Cock 'n Bull. There you'll find conversation, deli food, shuffleboard, disco and English pub atmosphere combined.

A quarter gets you into both places and a buck gets a couple of beers with change. (We've also got a full range of hard stuff and imported wines at reasonable prices.)

But, best of all, you'll be helping to bring York a full-time pub that will be wholly student run, operated and managed, with no outside corporations to screw things up. Almost 5,000 York people are already members of The Bush so it's a great place to meet somebody, both old friends and new, especially on Wednesday night when it's less crowded. (What else is there to do on Wednesday night?)

So join us, this or any Wednesday or Thursday. Toss a quarter at the guy at the door, grab a few beers and settle down with some great rock and old or new friends. It's on in The Cock 'n Bull from 4 o'clock and Founders Dining Hall from 8 o'clock. Help us put some warmth into this concrete mass of a university.

JOIN US!

Green Bush Inn

campus pub

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