

LETTERS TO THE EDITOR

All letters should be addressed to the Editor, c/o Excalibur, room 111 Central Square. They must be double-spaced, typed and limited to 250 words. Excalibur reserves the right to edit for length and grammar. Name and address must be included for legal purposes but the name will be withheld upon request. Deadline: Mon. 4 p.m.

"No room for gays," - York housing policy

A couple of the points I made in a recent letter to Excalibur on the subject of the York housing office were excised (presumably for space reasons) and thus were not brought to the attention of your readers. I would like to reiterate them briefly and then to mention another, far more insidious aspect of housing office policy which has just recently come to my attention.

In my original letter I said: Particularly obnoxious is the university's practice of requesting post-dated cheques in advance, when this procedure is quite clearly forbidden under present legislation. The inefficiency of the university housing office and their constant excuse that their procedures are being revised (existing procedures, they say, are self-contradictory) is becoming very tiresome. The expressed sentiments of the housing manager (who I understand has been laterally transferred since this mess first started) that the university has no obligation to repair apartments, or to clean them in preparation for new tenants, but that these functions are being performed merely as a goodwill gesture by the university, are incredibly arrogant. They reflect, I believe, a contempt for Ontario landlord and tenant law as it is presently in force.

Since the original letter was published it has come to my attention that the university housing office has a blatantly discriminatory policy in relation to graduate residences, one which is sexist in the extreme and which is an insult to the 2,000 or so gay women and men who are students at York.

It is incredible that the university should presume to use housing policy in this discriminatory manner to further the oppression of their gay students, and yet recently two York women who wanted to share a one-bedroom apartment went through endless hassles and great embarrassment at the housing office in their efforts to live together on campus. In the end (good for them) they got what they wanted, but not without having to get insistent and angry about it in a "scene" with the housing manager. And the York policy didn't change; it was just "waived" in this one particular case because the students concerned were not intimidated and stood their ground.

Who people at York sleep with or live with is no-one's business, least of all that of the administration of the university. It is deplorable that at a Canadian university in 1976 gay students could be harassed in this way. We demand that the university immediately repudiate this policy and replace it with a clear statement of non-discrimination on the basis of sexual orientation. To continue to do otherwise is simply the most despicable form of bigotry.

Paul Trollope

York footballers not bad

May I take this opportunity through the pages of the Excalibur to reply to Mr. Carr's letter of November 25th.

Mr. Carr is quite right in this assessment that many of our sport teams have been able to combine a worthwhile educational experience for our student athletes with a winning record. There is also no question that our football team has not enjoyed a winning season.

However at that point our approaches differ. I prefer to meet the challenge and work towards the

goal of striving for excellence in all facets of our program and particularly to make football a sport of which the total York community can be proud.

To this end any student wishing to try out for next year's football team (or for that matter any of our teams) is asked to contact me at 305 Tait McKenzie, telephone 667-2346.

Frank Cosentino
Chairman and Director
Department of Physical
Education and Athletics.

AS THE CAMPUS TURNS

WARREN CLEMENTS



Mark their words

I feel the students should start to come down on the faculty a little harder for the exact dates of exams. Here it is, less than two weeks to exams and no specific times have been set for subject examinations.

I feel it is the students' right to know the exact date and time of an examination one month prior to writing. This allows the student maximum time to request days off work, re-schedule activities that coincide with exams, and allow students maximum time to prepare.

A fellow student in my psychology course asked the

prof when are exam was, his replay was 'I don't know, do any of you?' It is not the prof's fault but the faculty's, however it is the prof who must take all the abusing remarks from the students.

I have found that high schools are more prepared when it comes to exhibiting exact time and dates of exams.

I just feel that the students would appreciate knowing full details of exams a month prior to writing, after all preparation is the key to success.

Ed Lubberdink
Calumet College

Absurd criticism of football team

Mr. Carr's criticism of the York Yeomen Football team in last week's Letters to the Editor was unwarranted. His suggestion that the team should be disbanded is absurd.

That the team did not win any games this past season is an undisputable fact but anyone who attended any of the home games would realize that this was not for want of trying. For ignoring wins and losses, the team record showed a great improvement over last year especially in the area of touch-downs.

I am sure that as a result of their participation the players on the team will have learned something and learning, not winning, is what University is all about.

If Mr. Carr feels so badly about being told that the University he attends has such a "terrible football team" then may I suggest that he try changing universities or at least coming out on a Saturday

afternoon next fall to support the team.

The York Yeomen have the potential to be a top team, and with the enactment of many of Mr. Aldridge's suggestions may achieve this goal in the near future.

Wishing both the team and the coach a better season next year.

Penny McCabe

Women are to blame

The facts which Laura Sabia cited — such as the percentage of women attending university has never been higher than in 1929 and the percentage of women teachers and principals is lower than in the past — are indisputable and depressingly so. She and so many advocates of the women's movement — both men and women — perceive that it is men who are holding women back from achieving their ambitions or from satisfying themselves, when in fact men are encouraging women.

The responsibility for women's ambitions and feelings lies within themselves. No one can change an individual woman but her own self. The more women throw responsibility onto men, the more deeply women will remain in a rut. Women hold themselves back from enjoying their sexuality and their talents and, in thus strictly controlling themselves, they vastly limit men's enjoyment of themselves.

Women's real enemy is not man but fear: fear of achieving satisfaction in any area of their life.

Until women stop blaming men for their own problems and face their own fears, society as a whole will basically remain the same, or, like a person left long untreated for a serious illness, take a definite turn for the worse.

R. Barreto-Rivea
Director

Robin Beckwith

Reader says NSD report was poor

I vaguely remember criticizing Excalibur for its lack of coverage of campus events. It seems that the coverage is nothing but a series on Barry Edson's CYSF.

Three weeks ago, National Students Day occurred across Ontario, and York University took part in the activities. Excalibur gave a detailed description of Mix-ups mar NSD at York. In spite of the speakers and workshops we had on the programme they did not say what National Student Day was, or cover the events of the day.

We are aware from the article that the crowds were sparse but the purpose for the crowd is not stated. In my estimation, the handicap lies in the inadequate reporting or lack of interest from the newspaper. Maybe I am wrong, and the top reporters were 'out to lunch' when the workshops and speeches were going on.

If Excalibur stopped to consider why the crowds were sparse they may realize that it was due to their lack of fulfilling their purpose of being a means of communication for the York community. How can people say the students body is apathetic when the organizers and producers cannot commit themselves to the events in a way to reach the concerns of the students. It is not too late for Excalibur to publish the real content and purpose of National Student Day with perhaps a comment on its results at York.

Furthermore, Excalibur should in the future let the students in on the events which involve students opinion and participation.

Naomi Laird
Bethune College

Admin. fools leading to mass action

I am becoming convinced that the policies of this university are masterminded by fools. The actions taken by the administration with respect to student affairs this year seem deliberately calculated to anger and frustrate students and to result in mass action by them.

The administration's continuing and unwarranted meddling into student affairs is absolutely intolerable, and students must fight until the administration is forced to back down.

Mr. Becker's ridiculous policy concerning the tearing down of signs and posters in Central Squares is, in my opinion, the last straw. His actions are so petty that one wonders that his office is not already an administrative laughing-stock throughout the province. The incredible lengths to which this man is willing to go to interfere in student affairs would be laughable if it were not for the fact that he is severely hampering the operations of student government and of many York clubs and organizations.

Further, the willingness of the administration to use Becker as a puppet hatchet-person vis-avis student affairs is also to be deplored.

The administration must be isolated and defeated in this matter, as in others, and this must be done without further delay.

Paul Trollope

They never hide a price

Regarding Ms. Brenda Weeks's letter to you (Excalibur, November 11), it is our policy never to cover or hide preprinted or other publisher's price labels that appear on books. To set the record straight, the blank sticker Ms. Weeks removed from *Memoirs of Montparnasse* was in fact placed over \$2.50 price no longer applicable in Canada by Oxford University Press, the book's present publisher.

They would be quite happy to explain to Ms. Weeks the reason for their price change.

The Bookstore's cost, of course, is calculated on the \$4.95 list price at which Oxford recommends this book be sold in Canada.

R. Barreto-Rivea
Director