

Nasty nitpickers' gnarled negativity nailed nicely

By GARY SYMONS

It's been awhile since we at *Excalibur* received a flattering letter—we pick more bombs out of our mail than compliments—but this week's delivery more than made up for them all.

Believe it or not, all you who delight in picking out the hundreds of typos, misspelled words, and grammatical-types errors in each and every issue of your favorite campus fish wrap, York's own *Excalibur* just received notification of a first place finish in the 1984 Ontario Community Newspaper Association Awards Contest.

Excalibur took first place for General Excellence among college and university newspapers, and walked away with three out of a total of seven Special Awards: Editorial, News and Features, and Advertising. The Loyalist College *Pioneer* took second place for General Excellence and Windsor University's *The Lance* placed third.

Upon hearing of the award, last year's editor Roman Pawlyshyn hopped up and down saying, "I'm very excited."

"The way I look at it, it was really a team effort," Pawlyshyn added. "There were a lot of

photographers and writers who did a lot of hard work."

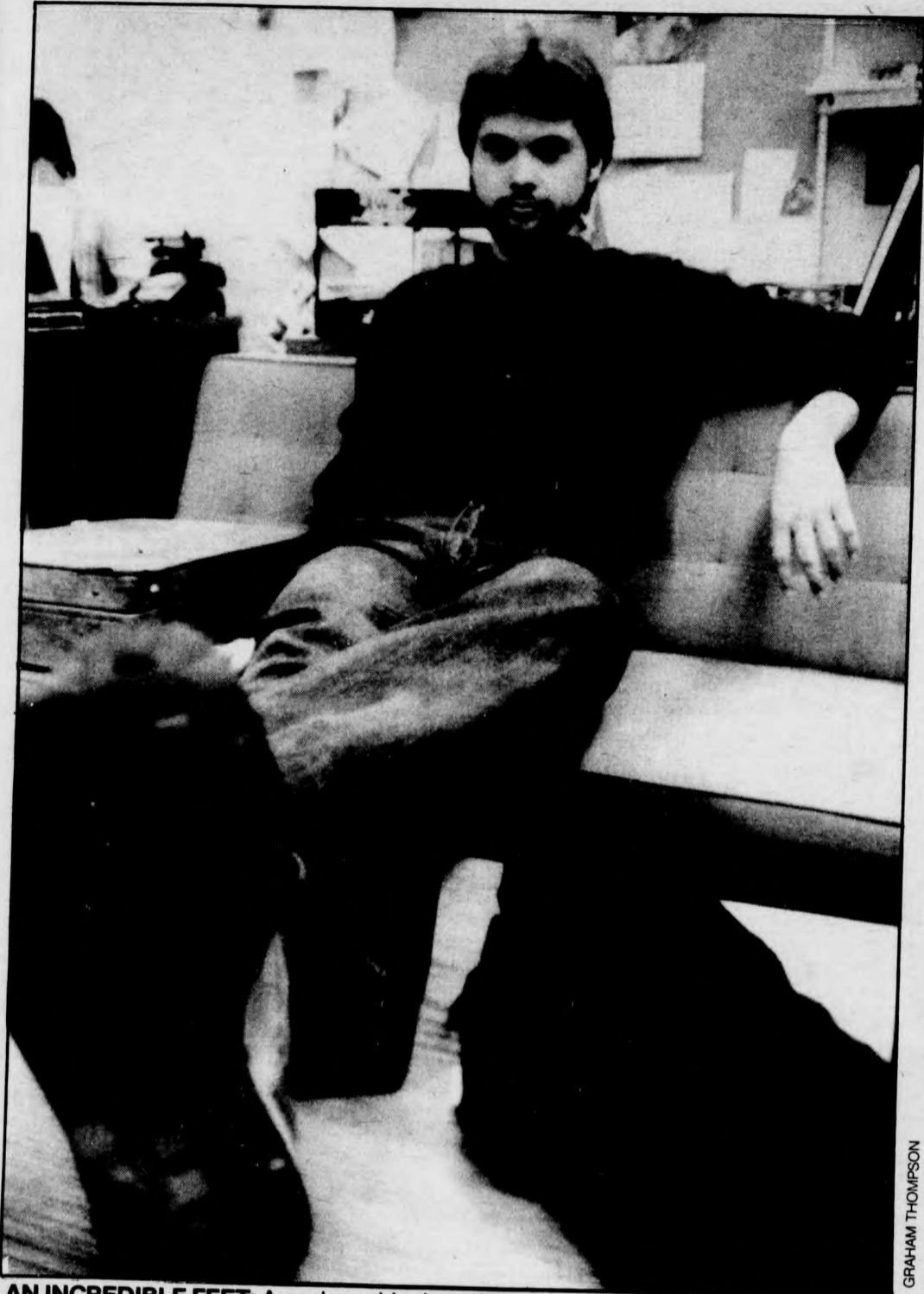
Also, Pawlyshyn said, "A large part of the credit should go to one of our star reporters, Ms. Helen Hinkle, and our Penguin Fax—an exclusive *Excalibur* feature no other paper had."

1983-84 Managing Editor Bernardo Cioppa said, "It's a good feeling, because when Roman and I took over, we put a lot of work into it. We totally changed it around. We tried to bring some professionalism to the paper."

"It really is great to put all that work in and get that recognition," he added.

"Bernie and Roman set a standard," Advertising Manager Merle Menzies said, "for all new editors to work by."

Excalibur submitted two of last year's issues to be judged by editors and publishers from 12 of the over 240 OCNA weeklies. The features that won were "White Power: The Politics of Hate," and "Campus Types," both written by Paul Pivato and Kevin Connolly. The "White Power" feature was an investigation into neo-fascist Western Guard leader John Ross Taylor.



GRAHAM THOMPSON



AN INCREDIBLE FEET: A cockroach's view of the sure-footed former *Excal* Editor Roman Pawlyshyn (left). Managing Editor Bernie Cioppa reminisces about the notorious 'Tunnel vampires' story that almost lost him his job. Under their direction, *Excalibur* garnered several provincial newspaper awards.

3rd World conference draws speakers from Philippines and Nicaragua

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the US is gearing up to show off its military might *somewhere*.

This "psychosis of war," he said, translates into the Pentagon's mania for arms overkill in a desperate attempt to prove to the world that they are still "Number One." And since "Reagan can't accept the fact that a Central American country can go it alone without their help," Nicaragua is a likely target, he added.

The consul general stressed that Nicaragua is a pluralistic democracy working towards peace and economic independence, and dismissed Washington's claim of "protecting freedom" as "jingoistic hokum."

"It has absolutely nothing to do with ideology and nothing to do with any threat to American national security," he said. "What it does have to do with is teaching the world the lesson that their position of supremacy must not be challenged."

Despite his fears for the future of his homeland, he offered hope, and thanked the Canadian people for their contributions through the *Tools for Peace* program.

The second speaker was Jean Nacipil, the young student leader from the Philippines, who spoke about growing up in the police state of President Ferdinand Marcos. Nacipil said her grassroots movement is aimed at bringing true

democracy to the Philippines by breaking the stranglehold of what she termed "the US-Marcos dictatorship." Between the exploitation by multinationals and the tyranny of an aging despot, she said, social justice remains strictly hypothetical.

Nacipil said her movement is growing, not only among students and peasants, but also among former allies of the president who are now joining the opposition.

The peasants and laborers are seen by the government as nothing more than a pair of arms, she claimed, while the university is dedicated only to turning out what she called middle-level flunkies for the foreign compan-

ies. Still, there has been sufficient critical thought *off-campus* to generate this popular groundswell against Marcos "and his Warlord Politics," she said. The inevitable question was asked in the discussion period that followed: In the event of an overthrow, will the people be capable of governing? Ms. Nacipil said that we should not underestimate the abilities of her people, which drew applause from the audience.

As to what we can do, she recommended writing to the federal External Affairs Minister the Right Honorable Joe Clark asking him to review our aid to the Philippines in light of their continuing human rights violations.

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