

LETTERS

proportion," said Donato. Weren't they pretty disproportionate to begin with?

Why does Mr. Donato keep getting involved in situations that make him look stupid? Maybe there is a fatal flaw in my nature that prevents me from grasping the obvious answer to this question and I just can't bring myself to believe that someone could behave in such a consistently silly manner and still expect other people to take him seriously.

Perhaps he is on some kind of medication and is too embarrassed to say so. Perhaps he was lobotomized as a child and no one told him about it. I'm running out of alternative answers — somebody help me, please!

M.J. Matthews
3rd Year Visual Arts

Recycle papers!

To the editor,

re: *Excal* editorial by Riccardo Sala "Answers to some recycling questions" (March 29, 1990 Issue 39)

We were troubled by your article which undermines the efforts of all the environmentally concerned groups. Not only were your com-

ments uneducated, but you were constantly contradicting yourself.

We would like to offer our constructive criticisms and clarify certain points of your article:

"Recycling is not viable. There are only two sites on campus where newspapers are picked up"

ONLY two! Well since you know where you can recycle, why not put a little effort into saving our environment? Instead of disposing of old newspapers left at the paperboxes, why not carry them back to your offices or some other central depot. You took them there, so surely you must be able to take them back in a similar fashion. Then you can contact Chris Mark of Physical Plant at x22373 and arrange for a pickup.

"A great deal of newsprint picked up in Toronto for recycling ends up in warehouses or is thrown out all together"

It is a fact that there is currently a surplus of newsprint; but this is not being thrown out. Part of it is being exported and another is, as you say, being stored in anticipation of the new facilities.

"We regularly throw out less than 1,000 papers"

Well if it's "regularly" and you seem to have a pretty good idea of how much is wasted, why not reduce your circulation? What is the common denominator of your wastage? 800? 900 papers? Simply don't print them! You explain that some issues are exceptional and very popular. You

say you can't guess which ones. And you give a *SPECIFIC* example: the exam schedule. So it seems that you know very well which issues have greater appeal and thus you *CAN* control your printing, to minimize wastage.

"Some paperboxes, such as those at Steacie, have a low pick up rate. Others, such as those at Vanier and Founders are excellent customers"

Again, you seem to know very well which paperboxes have greater circulation. Why can't you use this knowledge and distribute your papers accordingly?

"The *Toronto Sun's* and others"

overprinting would dwarf *Excal's*"

That is no excuse. It is like saying "Look! That student is failing at school. Why should I work hard to get passing grades?"

You also undermine the very successful blue box programme. It is true that some batches of recycled glass etc. are thrown out. But the reason for this is that they are highly contaminated and it is not feasible to sort them. If we all pay a little more attention and put only acceptable materials in the blue box then such happenings will be eliminated.

Get your facts straight. Recycling is viable both on campus and

in the broader area of Toronto. It is mandatory if we are to survive on this planet and it is being practiced by many members of York U's community.

If you are concerned about our environment as you claim to be, we hope you will take these things into account and make an extra effort to reduce and recycle the waste which you produce. Also it is important that you encourage the recycling of your paper, have a message reminding your readers to recycle. We hope our comments were constructive.

York U Can Recycle

OPINIONS

Excal defends delivery

by Riccardo Sala

Iain Calder's letter takes me to task for my March 29th editorial. In defending *Excalibur's* position on recycling I came under fire for an article "which undermines the efforts of all the environmentally concerned groups," as Calder puts it.

As one of those responsible for the delivery and disposal of the papers, I did not like to throw them into the garbage cans. We were in trouble with Department of Physical Plant workers long before ecology

groups came on the scene.

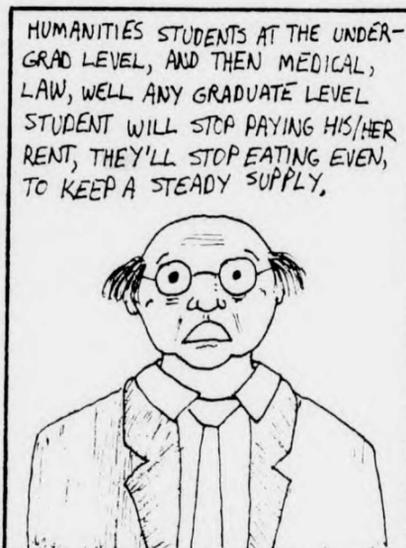
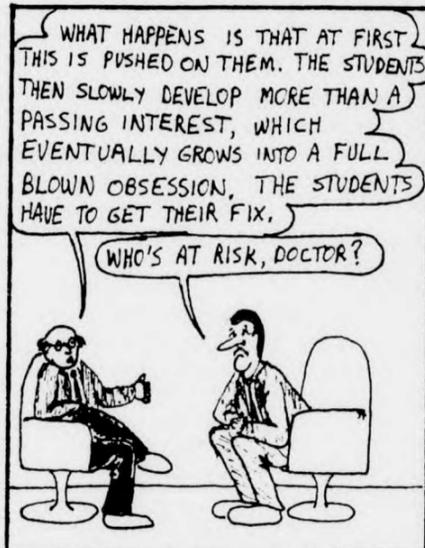
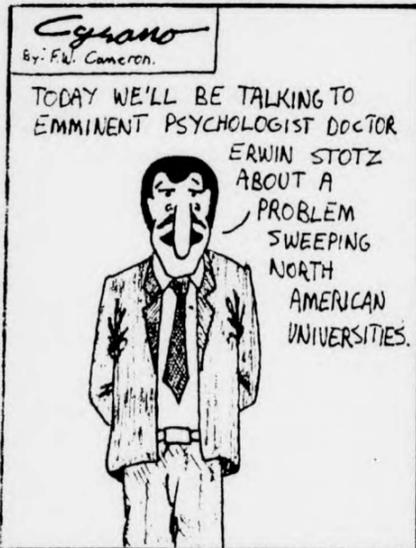
When the environmentalists did finally catch up to us, the year was almost over. The delivery had become a routine, and that routine included the environmentally odious habit of throwing old *Excaliburs* in the garbage.

Solutions take time, however, something which is on the shortlist of many volunteers at *Excalibur*. For that reason, I was less than receptive to the two original letters taking me to task near the end of the year, effectively asking me to change

everything for the sake of a months' worth of papers.

Hopefully the summer will be different. With the reduced output of the paper more thought can be channelled into implementing some of the reforms that Calder mentioned.

That takes human resources though. If you feel so strongly about what you wrote, why don't you come in? This is a volunteer organization, understaffed at times, and the willingness to help construct and guide a recycling programme of the paper would be welcome.



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