

Editorial

Another typically great editorial

This week started out much like any other here at *Excal*. Gary and Jonathan got up late Monday morning, arrived early Monday afternoon, and spent the rest of the day planning Tuesday's schedule.

They were determined, in the way that they always are on Mondays, that this week's editorial would be discussed and finalized at Tuesday evening's editorial meeting, and that it would be prepared on time no matter what. It was a typical Monday.

So when a typical Wednesday night rolled around and a typical editorial was typically still not written, it was business as usual.

Many of you out there don't appreciate *Excalibur* enough. Many of you don't like it very much. Most of you aren't even reading this far. (It's a typical week, after all). But for those of us who put this humble tabloid together, this weekly cycle has become part of us: almost circadian, if you will.

The weekly ritual of deciding what self-important stand the journal will take on the issue of the day has become ingrained in us. We've done the weekly worrying about it for so long that we're anxious on Wednesday nights at 3 am whether the editorial's written or not.

It's that kind of a job. Frankly, there are many parts of it that we don't like. Any kind of criticism. Any suggestion that there are ways to better do what we're doing so well already. Any notion that we're not the men (and women) that we think we are.

But there are some plusses. The Entertainment Editors like all the

free records that the record companies send. The Sports Editors like to see well built athletes flexing their muscles while scantily dressed. The News Editors like to drop in to say hi. The Editors like their pay cheques. The Photographers like all the free paper and equipment that they get to take home. The fellow who stole the Editor in Chief's briefcase is probably pretty happy too, on the whole. It's been a good year that way.

In fact, when we look back on it, it's been a pretty good year over all. This is so because of the efforts of many using people.

No newspaper can function without a network of sources. Hats off to all those brave people who broke into offices, made photocopies of everything in sight and delivered the contents to *Excalibur* in plain brown folders.

Crime stories are always good for a little excitement. The thugs, hooligans and other assorted scum who practice their trade in these parts provide good copy, if little else. And thanks to the outgoing student council for making its contribution to stories on white collar crime.

A constant threat of strikes provides enough fodder to satisfy even the most eager labour reporter. Thank you unions.

Certain issues arrive out of nowhere, but provoke pages of letters to the editor. The conflict in El Salvador and Bob Steadman's performance as Chief Returning Officer for the CYSF fall into this category. At first glance the issues

appear unrelated, but a careful perusal leads one to the conclusion that both stories are controversial because the reader has to identify the good guys and the villains.

Excalibur's sports coverage changed with the times. Far more space was devoted to the Yeowomen this year than in previous years. Several of the York teams enjoyed very successful seasons. It proved to be a refreshing change for Toronto area sports writers to inform their readers of teams doing well.

The entertainment section provided coverage of a wide variety of events, with accent on performances at York. But all that the masses wanted to talk about was that one Gary Numan cover.

Yorkscience wins our rookie of the year award. This column was the recipient of praise not only from the science faculty, but many other quarters as well. (Keep those letters coming Mrs. Dubinsky).

Excalibur finally made it into the big time last week. York's weekly was raked over the coals about the Numan cover once again, this time in front of the Chairman of the CRTC. Frankly, we were disappointed that we had not been mentioned at the Kent Commission hearings, which are still investigating the performances of Canada's newspapers. There is still time to get your complaints in to that body.

And so, dear readers, it is time to say farewell until next fall.

And no, *Excalibur* does not apologize for the Gary Numan cover.

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