

# Letters to the Editor

## Prof Recruiting

Sir:  
Your editorial, appearing in the Oct. 23 edition of EXCALIBUR, implied that the political science department would not divulge its recruitment procedures. This is not quite accurate. I indicated to the political science union two weeks ago that, if invited, I would be pleased to discuss in detail the specific criteria and procedures we use in hiring new faculty. That offer still stands. Moreover, if EXCALIBUR wishes to provide me with space for about 600 words, I will try to spell out in writing those same criteria and procedures.

Of course, recruitment policies are revised every year; and political science is now in the process of working out its basic recruitment policies for the coming year. This rethinking process can be witnessed by any student who wishes to attend departmental meetings. All meetings of the department are open. All department committees, including the recruitment committee, also meet in open session and all have student representatives. Whether you are satisfied with the system of student representation on departmental bodies or not, you can hardly argue that the department's recruitment procedures are secretive. At the very least, students have an excellent opportunity of finding out what is going on.

Perhaps you are correct in writing a finish to the Haggar case. Dr. Haggar apparently has little interest in pursuing the matter. But my statement to the political science union still stands: We wish the student body to feel satisfied that no injustice was done to Dr. Haggar. Since I am now informed that Dr. Haggar never filed any charge against York University with the Ontario Human Rights Commission, we still await a written and clearly formulated statement of the charges.

Harold Kaplan  
Chairman  
Political Science

## Takes Exception

Sir:  
Every odd weekend I like to sneak a look at EXCALIBUR just to see how you poor sods are getting along without me. I take particular exception to the Oct. 23 issue.

The front cover of this issue looks like a copy of the Socialist Weekly. Perhaps it hasn't reached your ears yet, sir, but this year cowboys and socialists are definitely out! Are you aware that you are registered at a very middle class campus with students coming from a very affluent background? Just whose ears do you think you're

*We're not sure whether to take you seriously or not. Do you write letters to the Toronto dailies protesting whenever they run stories on labor disputes?*

*Despite the fact that many of the students and faculty here are middle class and affluent, there are literally thousands of others (staff and Atkinson students) who are not. They are very much a part of the community that EXCALIBUR serves.*

*Furthermore, labor disputes are not disputes confined to just the working class. If the Building Trades Union does strike, that will affect every person at York. It will mean that many services essential to running York will be withdrawn. It will also mean that to come in to York one will be crossing a legal picket line.*

*The purpose of giving Page 1 coverage last week to the situation was not, as you incorrectly assume, to foist some sort of worker consciousness on middle class students (although that awareness would not necessarily be a bad thing) but rather to inform this community of some very important news.*

- the editor

reaching? You are the laughing stock of the campus, Mr. Waller. You have turned EXCALIBUR into an anachronism.

Frank Liebeck  
York '69

## The Lights Go Out

Sir:  
The lights go out. Dictaphone machines and electric typewriters stop. Elevators grind to a halt between floors, trapping their unfortunate occupants. Refrigerators stop cooling, allowing their frozen contents to thaw and spoil. Classes are stopped in mid-sentence. Classes are cancelled. Hundreds of persons grope their way through the darkness to the exits, their escape lighted by a flickering match.

Students are stranded in their 9th floor apartment of their residence or in the 1st floor and must choose whether or not to climb the dark stairs. The emergency lights in the stairwells last for 30 minutes, if they work at all.

This university of 17,000 people depends on the surging current of electricity which is its pulse of life. Cut it off and its life stops. Power failures are not an unknown phenomenon. They are a price we must pay in our technological age, for we have become dependent on electricity. Because we are so dependent each power failure must be treated with serious consideration. The cause must be found and rectified. The cause must also be prevented from recurring.

York University has been plagued by a number of power failures during this past summer and fall. The causes have been many.

On Sept. 15, water got into the circuit box of Graduate Residence #1 and shorted the whole campus system. On Oct. 21, a construction vehicle hit a hydro line on campus. The cause of the Oct. 24 failure is not yet known.

W.W. Small, vice president (administration), claims that the failure of Sept. 22 was the responsibility of the North York Hydro. However, North York Hydro says it was caused by York University contractors working in the 27-6 cable and thus the responsibility lies with the university.

Mr. Small says that some of the failures in the summer were intentional shut-downs for construction purposes and that all persons were warned in advance. Those people who were with me at Osgoode during the summer will remember the suddenness of the power shut-down and the fact that no warning was given at any time in advance. Those who were caught in the elevators will have good cause to wonder why no advance notices were put up and why no maintenance staff locked the elevators so that they could not be used.

Mr. Small said that there is nothing York University can do about the power failures. He says that the university (of 17,000 people) had no influence upon officials of North York Hydro to take steps to prevent future power failures.

He does not feel it is necessary or prudent to enquire of the hydro authorities the reasons for the blackouts at their end of the power system, nor is he reassuring that any steps are being taken to prevent future power failures.

He does not think the number of failures suffered by the university in the past 4 months unusual or warranting any investigation, but is content to rest on the university's record of the past 9 years in this regard.

Contrary to this, however, is the opinion of a North York Hydro employee that the number of power failures at York is unusual and exceptionally high.

What should the students of York University do to obtain some action on the part of the administration? The law student's first thought is a

lawsuit for negligence, for nuisance, for breach of contract, for false imprisonment.

It is negligence when the university takes no steps to prevent power failures when a reasonable man would, in light of the number of blackouts in the past.

It is a nuisance for the university to maintain its power system in such a state that it inconveniences a student when the power fails in getting to his 9th floor apartment.

It is breach of contract when classes are cancelled due to power failures.

It is false imprisonment when the university knowingly keeps its power system and elevators in such a state that persons are trapped between floors.

The law student's second concern is that the Law Society of Upper Canada requires a certain number of hours of classes in order for a student to be called to the Bar. If the power failures continue the Law Society may feel bound to take a hand in the matter.

The law student's third concern is that the administration has contempt for its students' welfare and indeed imposes upon them risk to life and limb by leaving them to stumble in the dark.

Surely the administration can be induced by reason and moral suasion to act in the matter of these power failures before a lawsuit arises. This letter is intended to achieve such a result.

Martin Peck  
Osgoode Hall (II)

## Suicide No Answer

Sir:  
We have come by a copy of your Sept. 11 EXCALIBUR, with the poem on the back page handed to a teacher by a Grade 12 student.

It certainly is sad, and tragic, and poignant and touching — but it also is weak, and selfish, irresponsible, juvenile and sick. Suicide is no answer to life — self-pity is no response to the challenge of living. The people who opt out are nothing — they are dead and they are gone. They alone have lost for they have missed all of life's adventure — the adventure of each day.

They leave behind them one or two people who loved them and whom they have hurt. Those left behind are wounded and wonder where the weakness had come from. They blame themselves, and are left hurt with a scar on their lives that life will not heal.

The world has not gained by the life of a suicide — the suicide has not gained for he is dead.

The poignancy lies in the poor fellow wanting to be remembered and pitied through his poem — but his memory would have been more vivid if he had lived to act — to choose the difficult way, and live.

Harry Woedring  
University of Calgary

**staff  
meets  
today  
at 4**

# Radio York's Underground Fire

## Top pops

1. Get Together/ Something
2. Baby It's You
3. If There Ever Was A Time
4. Save The Country
5. Je T'aime-moi Non Plus
6. Question 67 & 68
7. Move Over
8. Something In The Air
9. Green River
10. White Bird
11. Honky Tonk Woman
12. I Still Believe In Tomorrow
13. I'm Yours and I'm Hers
14. Killing Floor
15. Fortunate Son/ Down On The Corner

- Beatles  
Smith  
Lighthouse  
Sugar Shoppe  
Jane Birkin and Serge Gainsborough  
Chicago  
Steppenwolf  
Thunderclapp Newman  
Creedence Clearwater Revival  
Its A Beautiful Day  
Rolling Stones  
John and Anne Ryder  
Johnny Winter  
Kaleidoscope  
Creedence Clearwater Revival
- Apple  
Dunhill  
R.C.A. Victor  
Epic  
Fontana  
Columbia  
Dunhill  
Polydor  
Fantasy  
Columbia  
London  
Decca  
Columbia  
Columbia  
Fantasy

## Action Albums

1. Abbey Road
2. Through The Past Darkly
3. Mountain
4. But Anyhow
5. Johnny Winter
6. Blind Faith
7. Green River
8. Hyde
9. Tommy
10. Soft Parade
11. Lee Michaels
12. Driftin' Way Of Life
13. C.K. Strong
14. Easy Rider
15. Led Zeppelin
16. Chicago Transit Authority
17. Hot Buttered Soul
18. The Band
19. Poe Through The Glass Prism
20. Melanie
21. Best of Tim Harden
22. Brotherhood
23. Deep Water
24. Tons Of Sobs
25. Soulful
26. Saffin Chickens
27. Rehearsals For Retirement
28. Looking Back
29. Crosby, Stills and Nash
30. Retrospective

- Beatles  
Rolling Stones  
Leslie West  
Teegarden and Van Winkle  
Johnny Winter  
Blind Faith  
Creedence Clearwater Revival  
Hyde  
The Who  
Doors  
Lee Michaels  
Jerry Jeff Walker  
C.K. Strong  
Soundtrack  
Led Zeppelin  
Chicago  
Isaac Hayes  
The Band  
The Glass Prism  
Melanie  
Tim Harden  
Brotherhood  
Grapefruit  
Free  
Dianne Warwick  
Rhinoeros  
Phil Ochs  
John Mayall  
Crosby, Stills and Nash  
Buffalo Springfield

- Apple  
London  
Windfall  
Atco  
Columbia  
Polydor  
Fantasy  
Qualify  
Decca  
Elektra  
A & M  
Vanguard  
Epic  
Reprise  
Atlantic  
Columbia  
Enterprise  
Capitol  
R.C.A. Victor  
Buddah  
Verve Forecast  
R.C.A. Victor  
R.C.A. Victor  
Polydor  
Scepter  
Elektra  
A & M  
London  
Atlantic  
Atco

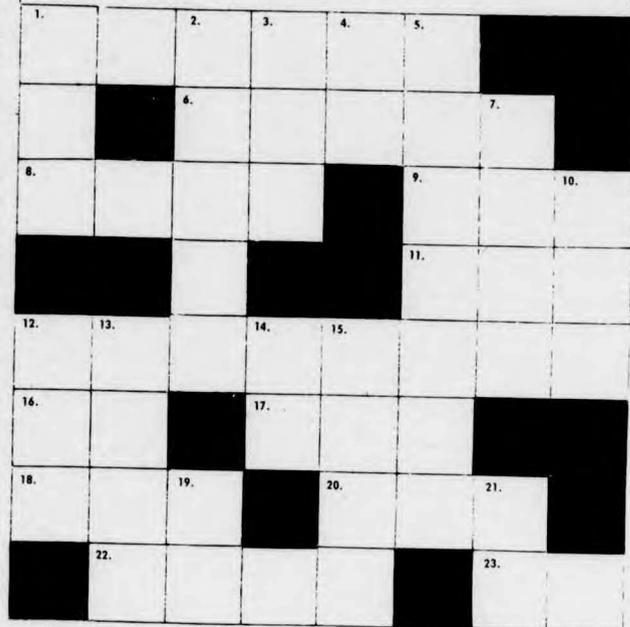
## New singles

1. Innervenus Eyes
2. Na Na Hey Hey Kiss Him Goodbye
3. Any Way That You Want Me
4. Walk On By
5. Don't Let Me Be Misunderstood

- Bob Seeger System  
Steam  
Evie Sands  
Isaac Hayes  
Ginette Reno

- Capitol  
Fontana  
A & M  
Enterprise  
London

# Crossword



## across...

1. A Lebanese-born political science professor who has charged York with discrimination.
6. A man has his mistress; a woman has her —.
8. A member of the Young Socialists is often referred to as a —.

9. Iowa Boy Scouts found eight tons of this weed last month.
11. This animal is bigger than a mouse.
12. These workers might go out on strike.
16. A Greek letter.
17. The national student union that as good as died when U of T students voted themselves out of it.

## Last week's answers

S	G	H	E	T	T	O
A	B	R	A	H	A	M
B	I	E	N	M		
E	S	N	E	M	O	B
H	A	S	H	I	S	H
S	O	D	A	E	O	U
O	P	E	N			T
O	S		U	R	D	U

18. Loyal Lackeys Organization
20. The old name (initials) of the U of T radical movement before it split.
22. A U.S. protest singer who played in Toronto Friday.
23. A printer's measure.

## down...

1. It's not like this in winter.
2. A protest march was held outside the offices of this newspaper on Sunday night.
3. Have you — your Festival button yet?
4. Initials of a famous actor.
5. Protesters picketed a Toronto newspaper Sunday claiming the paper has a policy to — the separatist movement in Quebec.
7. The — of the greasepaint, the smell of the crowd.
10. Teletypesetting.
12. The Canadian Party of Labor.
13. British firm that manufacturers air mattresses.
14. Alternating current.
15. A good liberal would say —, not damn.
19. First initials of pop singer Smith.
21. Myself.

Answers next week