

UNIVERSITY NEWSBEAT

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Excalibur and University Reach Agreement \$25,000 DEBT TO BE REPAID

Excalibur Publications, the incorporated body responsible for the publication of York's weekly community newspaper, has reached agreement with the University concerning the repayment of its \$25,000 debt to the University.

The debt, which represents some wage payments to newspaper staff members since June 1977, was accumulated during a period of increasing production costs and decreasing advertising and grant revenues. Advertising normally accounted for about

\$50,000 of an annual budget of \$70,000, the balance coming from the Council of York Student Federation (CYSF) and other student governments.

University departments, including the Faculty of Fine Arts, and the Communications Department, which prepares the biweekly "Newsbeat" page, are large purchasers of space in the paper. Although these *Excalibur* revenues were applied to the debt over the last two and a half years, expenditures made by the paper through the University

payroll department always exceeded these revenues, with the result that the debt continued to increase.

The newspaper's continuing legal problems with an external ad agency, combined with its inability to make regular payments to the University, sparked a review of its financial situation during the Spring of 1979. Questions were put to the Board of Directors at that time. No detailed discussions took place until September after the University had refused to extend any further credit to the paper until a repayment plan had been agreed to.

With the help of the President

and Business Manager of the CYSF, a detailed analysis of the financial affairs of the paper was finally completed in December. This revealed a 1979 year-end debt of approximately \$40,000: \$25,000 to York University, \$10,000 to various off-campus suppliers, and \$5,000 to the Canadian University Press. Further unknown obligations existed under a legal action that had been initiated by the ad agency whose contract with *Excalibur* had been abrogated in 1976.

As a result of negotiation with Assistant Vice-President (Student Affairs) John Becker, a Board Management Committee lead by Ms. Lisa McCabe has asked the University to permit

Excalibur to consolidate all of its debts with the University as of 30 June 1980, and then to take until January 1984 to repay the debt, which could be as much as \$29,000 by the end of the current year.

The University has agreed to this arrangement. Interest will be paid on the outstanding balance. The paper will have to increase its advertising content to produce sufficient revenues to yield a surplus on current operations in this and future years. The projected surplus in 1980 will be a modest \$8,000, contrasting with losses in previous years of \$13,000 in 1979 and \$27,000 in 1978.

One of the revenue-generating ideas adopted by the Management Committee is to reduce the amount of office space used by the paper in exchange for some 'rent' money, which the University would obtain from a used book store to be operated by the CYSF. This new store will occupy the lounge of *Excalibur*. A second revenue generator is the new typesetting equipment which *Excalibur* obtained last August. Other newspapers and publications at the University will be encouraged to purchase their typesetting from *Excalibur*, particularly during the summer months when the equipment will be totally available for external contract work.

The Board of Directors of *Excalibur Publications Inc.* is continuing to review its own structure and controls so that these problems will not recur.

ISRAELI STUDENT STUDIES AGING



Sarit Baicht

This article on exchange student Sarit Baicht completes the December 6 Newsbeat story on the York University-Hebrew University Exchange Programme.

Just last year Sarit Baicht was working towards her Masters of Social Work degree at the Hebrew University. Feeling restless for a chance to study abroad, and hearing York's clinical psychology programme highly recommended by her professors, this 29-year-old Israeli student applied for, and won, a \$6,000 scholarship to study gerontology (aging) for a year at this university through the York University-Hebrew University Exchange Programme. Now combining theoretical courses at the University with practical work at the Clarke Institute of Psychiatry, she is enjoying a real life experience impossible at home, where her studies were confined entirely to theoretical research.

tant for Sarit, who hopes to be able to help the elderly when she returns to her country next summer by developing better emotional and psychological support services. Through weekly rounds with doctors and psychologists at the Clarke, and through the group therapy sessions she helps to lead, Sarit has learned that modern treatment programmes are available

that can help the elderly lead more positive and happy lives, even those who have held "dark thoughts of the future."

Her fellow graduate students in psychology are highly motivated and serious about their studies, she says. Ranging from as young as 22 and fresh out of university, to people in their 40's, these students bring a wealth of different experience and perspectives to class.

Sarit finds her new situation — the setup of classes, the material studied, and the terrifically enlarged sense of scale — to be stimulating. Having grown up in a very small suburb of a town in Israel, this is the first time Sarit has lived in a big city. "For me it's a kind of excitement," she says, "for example, to open a newspaper and see what's happening, and then to discover it's all in one place is amazing."

She reports matter-of-factly that the two years spent in the Israeli army "can change your attitude to many things," and that it "has a growing impact on your life because you enter into every system later. But it's so natural in Israel that you don't think about it." Asked if this changes young students' approach to their university studies, Sarit suggested, "some become more practical, while others still don't know what they want to do."

Sarit's impressions of Toronto are those of newness, bigness, friendliness, and a staggering lack of tension. "It's like a vacation," she says, referring to students being able to relax and concentrate on their studies rather than worrying about the ongoing conflicts of living in an armed country like Israel.

When she came from Israel, she had no idea of what to expect. Sarit says that her Toronto reception has been very warm, that she has been made to feel welcome at the University, and has made good friends in the graduate residence where she lives.

AGYU Shows Slice of Life



Demolition derby cars dynamite in Featherston exhibition

An exhibition of recent paintings by Bill Featherston from British Columbia will be shown in the Art Gallery of York University from January 10 to February 1, 1980.

Featherston's large realist paintings depict people at work and play in the small mill and logging community of Squamish, B.C., situated about 45 miles north of Vancouver, where the artist has lived and kept a studio for a number of years.

Gallery Curator Michael Greenwood explains, "The artist's fascination with the daily lives of the people of Squamish could be compared to the spirit of popular Japanese 19th Century woodblock prints. There is the same sense of delight translated into expressive shapes and colours, almost heraldic in their simplicity and directness of statement, as well as the same sharpness of observation and humour."

The Gallery, located in N145 Ross, is open weekdays from 10 a.m. to 4:30 p.m.

Burton Auditorium Hosts "Women of Margaret Laurence"

The Faculty of Fine Arts presents Hillcrest Productions' "THE WOMEN OF MARGARET LAURENCE", a one-woman tour de force starring Norma Edwards, on Thursday, January 17 at 8:00 p.m. in Burton Auditorium.

This dramatic anthology based on Laurence's 'Manawaka Novels' was prepared for the stage by Juliana Saxton and directed by Frances Halpeny.

Included in the production are Norma Edwards' portrayals of Vanessa (*A Bird in the House*), Stacey (*The Fire-Dwellers*), Rachel (*A Jest of God*), Morag (*The Diviners*), and Hagar (*The Stone Angel*), which reveal the innermost secrets of Laurence's characters and amplify many times the intricacies of womanhood, of love and marriage, of

death, and what lies beyond.

Currently on a tour of Ontario, "The Women of Margaret Laurence" was hailed by the London Free Press as a "remarkably moving portrait of humanity and a dynamic evening of theatre."

Margaret Laurence has, in the past, expressed the desire to have her five novels set in Manawaka (a fictionalized version of Laurence's hometown of Neepawa, Manitoba) read as a single work. "They are all infused with movement, processes of living, adapting, aspiring, achieving and dying," she has said.

Tickets for "The Women of Margaret Laurence" are \$3.50 for the general public, and \$2.50 for students and seniors. For reservations, call the Burton Auditorium box office at 667-2370.



Norma Edwards as Stacey (The Fire-Dwellers)

Three Visual Arts Students Win Artventure Honours

York visual arts students carried off three of the four top honours in the Royal Bank's recently closed Artventure painting exhibition held in the upper banking hall of the Royal Bank Plaza.

Of the eight participating students from the visual arts department of the Faculty of Fine Arts, Gregory Dru was awarded second place and \$200 for his untitled acrylic on canvas work; Theodore Dragonieri, third place and \$100 for his untitled mixed media collage; and Brent Roe, an honorable mention and

\$100 for his "A Short Rest By the Road" acrylic painting on canvas.

Works by York's Tom Crane, Victoria Sharp, Brynn Hatch, Brian Lewis and Carl Gluck were also featured in the exhibition, which included 25 paintings by 24 artists from York University, Arts' Sake Inc., Queen's University, University of Guelph, Fanshawe College, and the University of Western Ontario.

Introduced last year, Artventure now involves 25 colleges, universities and art schools across Ontario. Senior faculty members recommend their

students' best works for each exhibition, which feature such mediums as painting, sculpture, printmaking/drawing and experimental work. Entries are judged by a rotating panel of visual art professionals.

Al Maltman, public relations manager for the Royal Bank of Canada, stated the Artventure program "offers the province's top art students two vital elements in their career development — significant exposure and credit — through a unique form of professionally organized exhibitions with cash awards."