

## Is this where York University is going?

Are the battle lines forming here at York? After year five of this campus, one wonders just how far we have gone. A year from now will the gap that is becoming apparent between the administration and student leaders be a reality? Will York still be able to boast that it is a 'liberal university' and has no student problems? And as for the present — are the lines of opposition forming? Are the barriers to communication going up? Are the people in power starting to fear new answers rather than find them?

If the answer is yes, then why? Perhaps 'the activists' at York are becoming more vocal and braver? Perhaps the end of the line has been reached for the soft, easily-accommodated solutions previously offered to students. Perhaps finally starting to get to the core problems like course unions, college courses, and social issues like who runs this university and are they doing a good enough job? Perhaps were becoming more aware, too aware for the reactionary element? Perhaps we are now offering some real challenge, demanding students decide on being relevant to society or products from a system? Perhaps the lines are forming.

Some cases in point: the faculty association has closed communication or understanding with their decision to exclude all non-members from their meetings. They appear to be frightened after students criticized them for their recent sell-out to the Board.

Similarly the strange reluctance to let students discuss moral issues and students' rights at the chapel forum offers little hope to

'activists'. Henry Best was at an all-time low with students at the forum for his dogmatic and scurrilous tactics.

Similarly too, how are the activists to see progress and understanding in the strange reluctance of the Board and the sell-out of the Senate in keeping students off the presidential search committee?

Why did it take a student council motion requesting (ordering) the Board to reconsider students in equality on the committee before the Board decided to reconsider students.

And why are we still denied student representation on the board?

And why the Board so strongly fought any consideration of a chapel referendum by students for such a long time, until it was finally forced on them?

These and other issues amount up to this: it appears activists are learning who is friend and who is not. The former vague rhetoric about the openness of the community is beginning to appear empty. Too many strong relevant demands are being thwarted.

Perhaps it is true that students are pushing harder for change now than six months ago or two years ago.

Perhaps it is true that students are pushing where students' demands relate to more serious subjects — we have exhausted all the frills, and basic work is yet to be done.

Perhaps the administration and power elite has decided that it has been liberal enough, and barring a few concessions up its sleeve, it will rule this campus as they believe, regardless of the people they are 'ruling'.

Perhaps. More students now are discontented than when the year began. More students will push harder next year.

Are the activists becoming more unreasonable, or are the power-holders becoming unmovable, frightened, and unwilling to carry out reasonable reform.

Without a doubt no major battles have been fought here.

But certainly major issues are rising — just how sincere is the administration's desire for relevant change — and confrontation appears possible.

What has changed? Why has confrontation become so much of a possibility now, when compromise was so popular earlier?

Are the battle lines forming?

## The best people

The last of this page has just been laid out: it's all finished for the year.

The crazy people who work here have completed their three hundred and sixty eighth page. A lot of them look as though they personally worked on every one of them.

Some people actually did. Most people tried.

Tonight will be the last 4 a.m. trip to the printers with 20 brown envelopes of copy. Thursday will be the last time we go through our mental hernia when the paper first comes onto the campus. No more self-conscious pride when that prof lectures to a hundred people reading the paper.

No more Monday meetings when we all yell and shout until something comes out as our feeling for the crazy rag.

No more licking stamps, no more fighting for more space to run articles. No more people storming in to tell us how we didn't give them enough coverage.

No more Excalibur for this year.

As journalists they did all and more than anyone could ask for. As people they made the greatest bunch of friends any person could hope to meet.

To the crazy people who did it, 26 times this year, and still want to come back for more — thanks.

Someone else said this before, but it still holds true: journalists are the best goddamn people in the world.

## letterslotsoflettersletshavelotsofletters

It would appear that most letters to the student newspapers are from people who are peeved about something that someone has or has not done. We would like to alter that format somewhat and praise a group at this University.

The production of Hamlet as staged by the Glendon College students last week in some respects ranks with the better known performances of Olivier and Burton. At times it lacked a certain professionalism (as when the styrofoam cup fell out of the goblet). However, it was well directed and acted; the members of the cast were well rehearsed and possessed of an abundance of talent.

Charles Northcote and Ron Holgeron as the dull witted and bumbling R & G (G & R) turned in sparkling performances which earned them shouts of bravo at the end of the play. Holgeron also filled in as the grave digger.

Len McHardy, as Polonius, was definitely miscast. However he made up in acting ability for the hindrance of his sheer physical stature. Hamlet accidentally knocking over the taller and heavier Polonius in Act 2 Scene 2 was well done but still just a little unbelievable.

Peter Stephen's portrayal of Cladius was well handled and Trish Nelligan as the lustful and not overly bright Gertrude earned herself a loyal following of fans.

John Taylor seemed a little slow in getting attuned to his receptive audience, but from the moment of his first encounter with Plonius (Act 2 Scene 2) he put forward an excellent and thor-

oughly credible portrayal of the central figure.

The Winters College Academy Award for the evening's top performer goes to Rita Davies in her role as Ophelia. The two separate 'madness' scenes in Act 4 Scene 5 were handled with a technique and a finesse that one does not expect to see in amateur theatre.

These last two individuals were by far the best on stage, however, the entire cast well deserved the standing ovation they received at the end of a superb performance. A more fitting tribute is perhaps the heated discussions of the play which ensued among those who had witnessed it.

J. Patterson  
B. Arthur  
B. Hammond  
J. Bulger

### Equal representation

Dr. Ross officially gave his notice of retirement a couple of weeks ago and advised that all members of the community be represented on the selection committee for the next president. The makeup of the selection committee was introduced in the February Senate meeting and it looked as if another token student representative (one student out of eight representatives) committee would develop.

The Council of the York Student Federation prepared a proposal to be presented to the Board of Governors and the Senate.

On March 10, I presented this proposal to the Board of Governors and received some degree of satisfaction that our ideas had been considered and would be implemented.

On March 12, Chairman Scott informed me that the selection committee would be composed of three members of the Board, three Senate members and three students.

What did this mean? This article is not being written to claim unqualified success for the Council but I do believe we helped in determining a committee that would be acceptable for the students. This is an example of how a response can be gained by going through the correct channels.

I don't believe the Board has considered leaving out the student voice, but the problem was how much of a voice would be given. This three way equality is what we shall seek on the future committee which are similar in nature.

Prior to the makeup of the committee being decided, I had the opportunity to speak to a couple of administrators and a couple of senate members. All seemed quite sympathetic to student demands. I am still looking forward with an optimistic view for student participation in the decision making bodies. This year the Council must be able to differentiate between tokenism and representation.

We shall boycott any committee in which students are simply the rubber stamp for some other interest group in the university.

Paul Koster, YSF President

## Excalibur

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this is my farewell staff ad ..... farewell