

editorial

"blessed are they who never read a newspaper, for they shall see Nature, and through her, God."
—Henry David Thoreau

Shelve football

Thirteen years in a row.

York's Football Yeomen have embarrassed themselves once again in the eight team OUA league by failing to make the playoffs—the story of their thirteen-year history.

And, with head coach Dave Pickett's resignation this past Tuesday, the entire football program seems destined for a dusty shelf.

A merciful ending?

There are plenty of bodies to point fingers at, from the players right through to the coaching staff.

After last Thursday's annihilation at Varsity Stadium, where the U of T Blues buried the Yeomen 49-7 in the "Bud Grudge" game, Pickett was quoted as having said that his players came totally unprepared for the contest, mentally and physically, and that he as a coach was fully responsible.

But Pickett probably has better things to do with his time than being embarrassed in front of the Metro football public.

Tino Iacono, York's third-year quarterback and former CIAU Rookie of the Year, said after the U of T game that "maybe it's the system," and that the players would take a few seasons getting familiar with it.

Double indemnity.

A coach is as responsible for working out and implementing a system to get the most out of his players as are the players for learning that system, back to front.

After last weekend's homecoming loss to McMaster, nose-guard Dirk Leers said that the club just had no incentive to win.

It was apparent after that homecoming afternoon that the only things left to cheer for were the parade patrons and their floats, many of which took over a week of "hard work" to complete.

A traditional "winning football team," however, may take some time longer to emerge. After three years of promises—and thirteen losing seasons—the question is, is it worth the wait?

SICK AND TIRED OF HEARING ABOUT THE CRUISE?



excalibur

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letters

Scrap Football

The time has come to seriously question whether York U should be wasting precious resources on keeping a football program. The Yeomen again have finished out of the playoffs again and there is little evidence of future success. The coaching staff and players are giving their best, but that is not good enough. The reason is coach Pickett's inability to attract the best student football players. And he never will as long as there is no stadium at York.

The chance for a stadium will be determined next week when the Macaulay Commission decides on the location of the new domed stadium. If York is not the choice, then the university should put its money to better use than supporting a football club.

Berel Wetstein

Outraged

Editor:

Moore's decision to close the only general assembly forum used by the students at York is outrageous. I feel that the students' use of the bearpits as a locality for the general exchange of ideas is vital to our communication with the world which exists outside of Downsview and our courses (in other words, reality).

The bearpits are the only place where students of any department or living quarter, on or off the campus, can debate the issues at hand. By closing the bearpits, we not only lose the issues which presently concern other people at York, but we also forfeit our voice as a united student body.

It may be that in the future the turbulent concerns of the world may demand that we understand the opinions of our peers.

I also question the reason for closing the bearpits. Sure there is a fair amount of congestion when there are activities held in the bearpits. There is also a large amount of congestion in the two-hour line-ups at the bookstore and the registration offices at the beginning of the year. The only difference between the organized line-up and the unorganized congestion at the bearpit is that in the latter case students are perhaps thinking about other issues besides line-ups and courses.

If we choose to let the bearpits fall to silence, we may as well be prepared to lose the already diminishing ability of the individual to contribute to the student voice at York. The bearpits are all we have to function as a public forum and their existence is worth defending, just as our right to assemble is worth defending.

Kelly McCray

Bearpits Sink

Editor:

I was very distressed to read that the Bearpits of Central Square will cease to function as a facility for open forum (Excalibur 13 October 1983). I see this move as being the antithesis of the purpose of the university and one that will deprive students of York of far more than it will allegedly benefit them.

In my four years at York, Bearpit discussions educated me as to the Israelis and the Palestinians, the pro- and anti-abortion arguments and many other issues, some political, some not. Eliminating this aspect of the university reduces Central Square to a purely social

thoroughfare and deprives students of an exciting aspect of university life—the unexpected initiation.

Perhaps when Jack Moore took "a consensus of the people involved," he should have approached a broader range of people than just the administration—such as the students who pay to come here.

Perhaps Murray Ross, York's founder and the first president, said it best in his opening day speech more than 20 years ago: "We at York must give special emphasis to the raising of awareness of the human spirit and all its possibilities." The administration of York must give some weight to these words as they have seen fit to engrave them in the stone of the building which bears Mr. Ross' name—the very building where this "raising of awareness" is now being curtailed.

Look closer Mr. Moore: this is the ideal location for this important forum. Congestion is a small price to pay for informed and stimulated minds.

Marshall Golden
Student Senator

Good Food

Editor:

With reference to your excellent review of the Ainger Coffee House: I wish to state that although I agree with your interviewer about the excellence of the food, I find at lunchtime that it is extremely understaffed causing long line-ups resulting in delays of 20 minutes or more. This is no reflection on the cheerful services that it gives once one reaches the cashier but it is a situation that can be remedied by employing more staff.

Graham Upcraft
Room 240, Fine Arts