

Steve Hain

Watching the tube make a spectacle of itself

The Americans have a certain knack for staging spectacles. Gerald 'President of the United States' Ford and Nelson Rockefeller have just finished their six month engagement with Congress, while the Pittsburgh Steelers have won the Ninth, count 'em, ninth superbowl. But both these interludes are anti-climactic after the blockbuster hit, Watergate part one.

Not to be outdone, the coverage of athletics and special events runs a

close second. Last year saw Evel Knievel pack enough people into closed circuit theatres to make his abortive Snake Canyon jump worthwhile. (It has been suggested that Evel might try the river Thames if enough people care to watch.)

It has also been most interesting to see the number of different ways the networks have come up with to televise championship games. It is here that the producer can turn the pre-game show into a work of art.

Take a look at the superbore two Sundays ago. There they were, all polished and proper — the Mardi Gras choir. Wasn't it so reassuring when they asked for the note twice before singing God only knows what? Those long gaps between numbers weren't breaths, were they?

Who will ever forget the final game of last year's Stanley Cup playoffs? There we were in the middle of May, with our emotions peak-

ing, while Kate Smith warbled through God Bless America. The game wasn't too bad either.

It is also noteworthy that the coverage of these games takes a back seat to no one. Flashback to the superbore. A mood setting pan of the playing field is blended into a long shot of the players.

Then, YOU ARE THERE. Right inside Fran Tarkenton's helmet before, during and after an assault by the Pittsburgh defence.

And when someone crosses the line to score, well, be prepared to see it from about four different angles, including the one from that crazy cameraman who is masquerading as the free safety.

Even hockey has its moments. Who will ever forget Hockey Night in Canada's answer to Howdy Doody, giving the between period analysis of

the recent Canada-Russia farce?

But the one element that has turned television coverage into a major success has been the instant replay. Here men become mice as their mistakes are viewed by millions or vice versa, depending on whom you play for.

The use of the instant replay reached its greatest heights this past New Year's Eve. There were Guy and his Royal Canookies ringing out the old and bringing in the new, and through the wonders of instant replay we were able to see the countdown two more times. I must admit my disappointment when Howard Cosell failed to give us the view from the Goodyear blimp.

But what can you expect from a nation whose citizens transport London Bridge into the Arizona desert, brick by brick?

Harbinger's column

Aspirin can be dangerous

We are now in the toils of winter. Along with the snow, sleet and freezing temperatures come the flu, the common cold and a host of other winter nasties.

Most of us, prompted by television, magazine and newspaper advertisements will reach for that familiar aspirin bottle. We will do so many times in the belief that we are helping ourselves. For most of us, this will be true. There is no denying the beneficial properties of aspirin — it successfully reduces fevers, alleviates rheumatic discomforts and arthritic and headache pain.

But let's have a look at the dark side, the one not mentioned on television. The following are quotes from Addictions (summer 1974), a periodical available to all, free of

charge, from the Addiction Research Foundation of Ontario.

"Available without prescription, the drug is commonly assumed to be safe. However, there is considerable evidence to the contrary. For example, at least 10 per cent of all the adverse drug reactions recorded in American hospitals are caused by aspirin. In fact, one out of every 500 people who take aspirin experience undesirable side effects, including skin rashes, asthma and gastrointestinal bleeding."

The study results and information to back up the above statements are quoted in the ARF publication; and the picture becomes even darker. Some people, it seems, develop aspirin intolerance.

"Persons with aspirin intolerance often develop asthma between 15 minutes and three hours after taking the drug." Aspirin intolerance appears to strike people during or after the teen years, and there is no known medical method to predict who will develop this disorder.

"Dr. Harvey Weiss of New York found, in 1967, that aspirin inhibited the normal blood-clotting mechanism and thus caused prolonged

bleeding time."

Aspirin is a potent drug. It is not to be considered a light medication. Not only that, but aspirin does not even significantly influence the course of colds.

Aspirin should be avoided at all costs by women in the first three months of pregnancy (a Welsh physician suggests that the use of aspirin during the first three months of pregnancy results in a small but statistically significant increase in the possibility of giving birth to a malformed baby); women in the last week of pregnancy (it has been shown that pregnant women who have taken aspirin during the week prior to delivery give birth to children with defective clotting mechanisms); and people with blood clotting diseases such as hemophilia.

To sum up, don't take aspirin indiscriminately; be careful. According to ARF "as far as we know, only one person in 500 has had effects from aspirin, and many arthritics derive a great deal of relief from the drug. On the other hand, it makes sense not to take this one-in-500 gamble unless there is good reason to do so.

A letter

Alienated slob

I found the comments of psychology professor Irwin Silverman in your last issue very enlightening. He said that the people who vandalize campus art do so because of "the bureaucracy of grades and requirements" which restricts "joyful and playful thinking".

Imagine that! And all this time I'd thought it was because they were slob.

Eric Chodak
Osgoode III

Laughing matter

PORTLAND, Oregon (CUP/ENS) — The computer must have had a good chuckle out of it, but Peter Schultz didn't think it was a laughing matter when his high school principal suspended him for three days.

Schultz is a straight A student, and the only one the administration thought was capable of re-programming their county computer hook-up.

The computer was found to have been tampered with when routine questions from all over the county were answered with a printed giggle. Schultz maintains that he was discriminated against because he's bright.

Meanwhile, the computer is still replying . . . ha-ha-ha-ha-ha."

On Campus

SPECIAL LECTURES

Thursday, 12 noon - Lunch-Hour Critic (English Department) Professor Robert White will speak on "Poems by Herman Melville and Allen Tate: the Civil War and Personal Pronouns" - Faculty Lounge (S872), Ross.

7:30 p.m. - 10:30 p.m. - E.G.O. - Communications & Interpersonal Relationships (Centre for Continuing Education) "Fundamentals of Communication I" by Harvey Silver - general admission \$6; \$4 for students - 107, Stedman

8 p.m. - Lecture - on Eckankar, the ancient science of soul travel - S128, Ross

Friday, 8 p.m. - Special Lecture (Atkinson Philosophy Club) Professor K.T. Fann will talk about "Mao Versus Confucianism" - Common Room, Atkinson

Tuesday, 8 p.m. - 10 p.m. - E.G.O. - Parapsychology and Frontiers of the Mind (Centre for Continuing Education) General Introduction, by Dr. Howard Eisenberg - general admission \$5; \$3.50 for students - 107, Stedman.

Wednesday, 4:30 p.m. - Seminar (Chemistry Department) Dr. Diethard K. Bohme will deliver a paper entitled "Are Gas-phase Measurements of Ion-Molecule Reactions Relevant to Solution Chemistry?" - 320, Farquharson.

8:30 p.m. - Special Lecture (Humanities Division Atkinson) the third in the Atkinson Humanities Lecture Series, with Professor Johanna Stuckey talking about "Ideology, Literature and Women" - a reception will follow in the Atkinson Common Room - Moot Court, Osgoode

FILMS, ENTERTAINMENT

Thursday, 4 p.m. - Film (Natural Science Division) "World within World" (part of the Ascent of Man series) - L, Curtis

7 p.m. - Film (Sociology Department, Atkinson) "The Battle of Algiers" - A, Stedman

Friday, 9 p.m. & 11 p.m. - Cabaret - "The Threepenny Cabaret: A Musical Manual for Survival", featuring nineteen songs by Bertolt Brecht and Kurt Weill - free admission and licensed - Open End Coffee Shop, Vanier

Saturday, 8 p.m. - Films (Bethune) Double feature, with "Jeremiah Johnson" starring Robert Redford and "Rio Bravo" starring John Wayne and Dean Martin - admission \$1.25 for Bethune students; \$1.50 for others with university identification - L, Curtis.

8:30 p.m. - Entertainment - the Jewish Student Federation presents Raffi on folk guitar - admission \$1 - licensed - The Deli, College Complex I

Sunday, 8:30 p.m. - Film (Bethune) Ingmar Bergman's "Cries and Whispers" - admission \$1.25 for Bethune students; \$1.50 for others with university identification - L, Curtis.

Monday, 2 p.m. - 3:07 p.m. - Film (Humanities 281) "The Fall of the Romanovs" - E, Stedman

3 p.m. - Film (Natural Science Division) "Generation upon Generation" - L, Curtis

Tuesday, 2 p.m. - 4 p.m. - Japanese Films (Humanities, Social Science 390) "Double Suicide" - L, Curtis

7 p.m. - Film and Guest Appearance (Film Department) a personal visit by Stan Brakhage, with "Retrospective Shots and Star Garden" - I, Curtis

Wednesday, 9 a.m. - 6 p.m. - Concert (Interdisciplinary Studies, Faculty of Fine Arts) a continuous performance of video playback, sound synthesis, inter-media theatre and live works by Jerry Hunt and David Dowe, co-founder of the Video Research Centre in Dallas, Texas - Phase II Gallery, Fine Arts.

7:30 p.m. - Film and Guest Appearance (Film Department) Quebec film-maker Jean-Claude Lord, with his film "Bingo" - L, Curtis

8:30 p.m. - Performing Arts Series (Faculty of Fine Arts) featuring Chhau - the Masked Dance of Bengal - tickets \$7; \$5.50; \$3.50 - Burton

CLUBS, MEETINGS

Thursday, 1 p.m. - Ontology Club - "The Inner Game" by Harvey O'Higgins - a lecture which will consider man's inner nature - S174, Ross

Hits from the past

What happened on January 23 (give or take a couple of days) during the last few years at York? Excalibur takes a look through the files in the first of a projected series.

1967: The advisory committee on student affairs bans drugs from the campus.

A wave of violence sweeps the campus, resulting in damage to several Versafood vending machines. Chief Security Officer C.M. Becksted stresses "the need for further co-operation between students and authorities in maintaining a watchful and helpful attitude towards campus installations".

1968: Councils of Founders, Winters, and Vanier colleges, and the graduate business and graduate student associations, decide that "students need one voice to speak for them", and bring into being the York Student Council.

After a York Ski Club "wild weekend on the slopes", York student Paula Ingham is named 'Miss Hidden Valley' (Seriously).

1969: McLaughlin student Tim Delaney engineers a referendum to keep the college out of the York Student Council, on the grounds that "students should not try to affect the administration".

1970: A group of six York students replace the Canadian flag in front of the Ross Building with an American flag to protest "the true nature of education at York — the Americanization".

1971: The York computer dating service opens. Under the category "sex", the questionnaire rates such items as "experience", "taste" and "fortitude". The organizers express the hope that the service "will attract those on staff and faculty as well as students."

1972: CYSF asks for an administrative ban on tempaper company operations on campus, including a prohibition of posters and the use of library facilities. Mike Fletcher, CYSF president, brands the companies "a symptom of academic malaise".

1973: York president David Slater resigns amid controversy over his handling of the (original) budget crisis. History professor Richard Storr is appointed Acting President. Storr resigns on grounds of ill health. Philosophy professor John Yolton is asked to take over.

1974: John Becker, assistant vice president, tells Excalibur that a campus liquor licence will be granted to York by the end of February, 1974. (The licence was received January 1, 1975).

Events for On Campus should be sent to Department of Information and Publications, S802 Ross. Deadline is Monday, 12 noon.

Monday, 7:30 p.m. - York Bridge Club - Vanier Dining Hall
Wednesday, 4 p.m. - Christian Science Organization - S501, Ross.

SPORTS, RECREATION

Tuesday, 7:30 p.m. - 9 p.m. - British Sub Aqua - 110, Curtis.

MISCELLANEOUS

Friday, 12 noon - COSMICON begins - a three day symposium dealing with science fiction, the supernatural and the world of comics, with feature films and guest speakers - for a complete schedule, contact the C.Y.S.F. Office.

Sunday, 7:30 p.m. - Roman Catholic Mass - 107, Stedman

Tuesday, 9 a.m. - 12 noon - Representative from the School of Business, Queen's University - 104 McLaughlin

9 a.m. - 5 p.m. - Christian Counselling & Religious Consultation - for appointment call Chaplain Judt at 661-5157 or 633-2158.

5:30 p.m. - Student Served Dinners - each Tuesday, Wednesday and Thursday, Winters Dining Hall

Thursday, 5 p.m. - Roman Catholic Mass - Room 104, 8 Assiniboine Road.

COFFEE HOUSES, PUBS

For days and hours open, please call the individual coffee houses:

Absinthe Coffee House - 013, Winters (2439)
Ainger Coffee Shop - Atkinson College (3344)
Argh Coffee Shop - 051, McLaughlin (3506)
Comeback Inn - 2nd floor, Phase II, Atkinson (2489)
Cock & Bull Coffee Shop - 023, Founders (3667)
Just Another Coffee Shop - 112, Bethune (6420)
Open End Coffee Shop - 004, Vanier (6386)
Orange Snail Coffee Shop - 107, Stong (3587)
Osgoode Pub - JCR, Osgoode (3019)
Normans - 206, Bethune.