

# Editorial

## York's stand on eligibility ruling a welcome sign

The debate over the right of female athletes to play on male teams has landed in the lap of York University.

This year a female York student tried out for and made the men's water polo team. She proved, like the other athletes able to earn positions on the team, that she has what it takes. However, the Ontario University Athletic Association (OUAA), which governs male intercollegiate athletics, has ruled her ineligible for the team on the basis of her sex. According to the OUAA rulebook, an eligible water polo player is none other than 'a full time, registered male athlete.'

York is appealing the OUAA's decision. In the meantime, the water polo team has decided to let Kim Schweitzer play despite the ruling, as well as protests from McMaster and U of T. With York President Harry Arthurs and Provost Tom Meininger also lending their full support, York is taking a sober step forward in helping to redress the outdated values that the field of sports still harbors.

By November York's stand on the issue should have legal grounds, as the human rights code is expected to be amended with the removal of a provision that allows for discrimination on the basis of sex in competitive sport.

Until then, York's stand is the only sensible one in a society that has recognized and is committed to changing the problem of discrimination against women.

"What do we, as a nation, care about books? How much do you think we spend altogether on our libraries, public or private, as compared with what we spend on our horses?"

—John Ruskin



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## Letters

### Professors should set example

Editor:

In my youth we had shared the knowledge that schoolteachers or professors or tutors had a precious, sacred duty in their chosen vocation.

That they would perform it come hell or high water.

Not today, it seems, even though the strike, pardon! work stoppage at York was the first for them.

I wonder who let or allowed such a course of action be consummated in such a tactic used only by the hoi poloi. Professor, tutor, you are the ones to set an example to your students. What kind of

example was that for pecuniary award? We realize you reside in the tower of learning and are not aware of the financial hardships suffered even by your students. Bah. Humbug.

—Joseph William Lea

### Animal-retriever outraged with 'Bag

Bumpkinheads:

Even an ignorant citified Bumpkin like Monsieur D. Bundas cannot pull the woolly socks over my ice. Retrieving large animals from wells (*Excalibur* "Grab Bag," Sept. 26, 1985) is something very new under the sun. I personally do

this for a living and my secret involves not pulleys or braces but an intricate network of plumbers' helpers, crazy glue, old nylon stockings and appropriate fishing tackle! (I cannot reveal all my secrets.)

Mr. Bundas should find a job washing kiwi fruit in the local barbershop . . . his reporting is, if anything, too demure.

I dare the scoundrel (who, I assert, knows nothing at all about animals in deep (or otherwise) wells, to print this letter—and I will send you a few choice stories of my own—collected in and around Grassroots Groundhog Guppies farm. (I make my home in the shed.)

Bah! I slap his face with my unwashed latrine glove!

—Tim Blackmore