

Editorial

Introducing . . .

I am Peter Stathis. I am Editor-in-chief of *Excalibur*.

I have what is commonly called a Bachelor's Degree — if it means anything to you. I also have several biases — which should mean something to you.

I advocate free speech. I prefer equality among humans. I criticize stupidity. I enjoy a good game of squash.

My concept of a student newspaper has two eyes: independence and integrity.

Because of its autonomy, *Excalibur* does not belong to the right hand of Administration or to the left hand of CYSF. It is a third entity empowered by the student body to monitor the York community and speak on their behalf.

With responsibility comes respect. With practice comes a good back hand.

Stay tuned.

My name is Ira Nayman. I am not affiliated with the Irish Republican Army, Investment Retirement Annuities or the Intramural Recreation Association. Assume I've heard it before and please try and make your jokes original.

I will be this year's Assistant Editor.

In previous years, I was a volunteer at *Imprint* at the University of Waterloo (long before Peter, who is just a pup) and the *Varsity* at the University of Toronto, among other student publications. I've had extensive experience at both writing and production, and can even make a nifty cup of coffee if need be.

Last year I started off writing *Writer's Block*, a column on my experiences as a writer, which I hope to continue in September. In the second term, I became more involved in *Excalibur*, writing reviews, doing production and generally getting in everybody's way.

I recommend this method for anybody considering taking a position of authority at a student newspaper.

Journalism is not my main goal in life; in fact, it's more a hobby. I prefer fiction, and always have a play or television script I'm trying to sell. (This year, I'll be taking courses in screenwriting and playwrighting; if I smile very nicely, they may let me into the Creative Writing Programme next year.)

I believe a student newspaper should be fun and informative, a place where students can enjoy learning the fundamentals of journalism. I particularly look forward to working with people new to *Excalibur*.

The Chinese say, "May you live in interesting times." I hope this year proves to be.

Oh, in case anybody has any trouble telling us apart: Peter is the tall one, I'm the one with the candy jar on his desk.

**NEWS!
ARTS!
WRITERS!
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SAUCERS!**

Excalibur is looking for a few good people. Come to Room 111 Central Square (aka — The Garden of Earthly Delights).

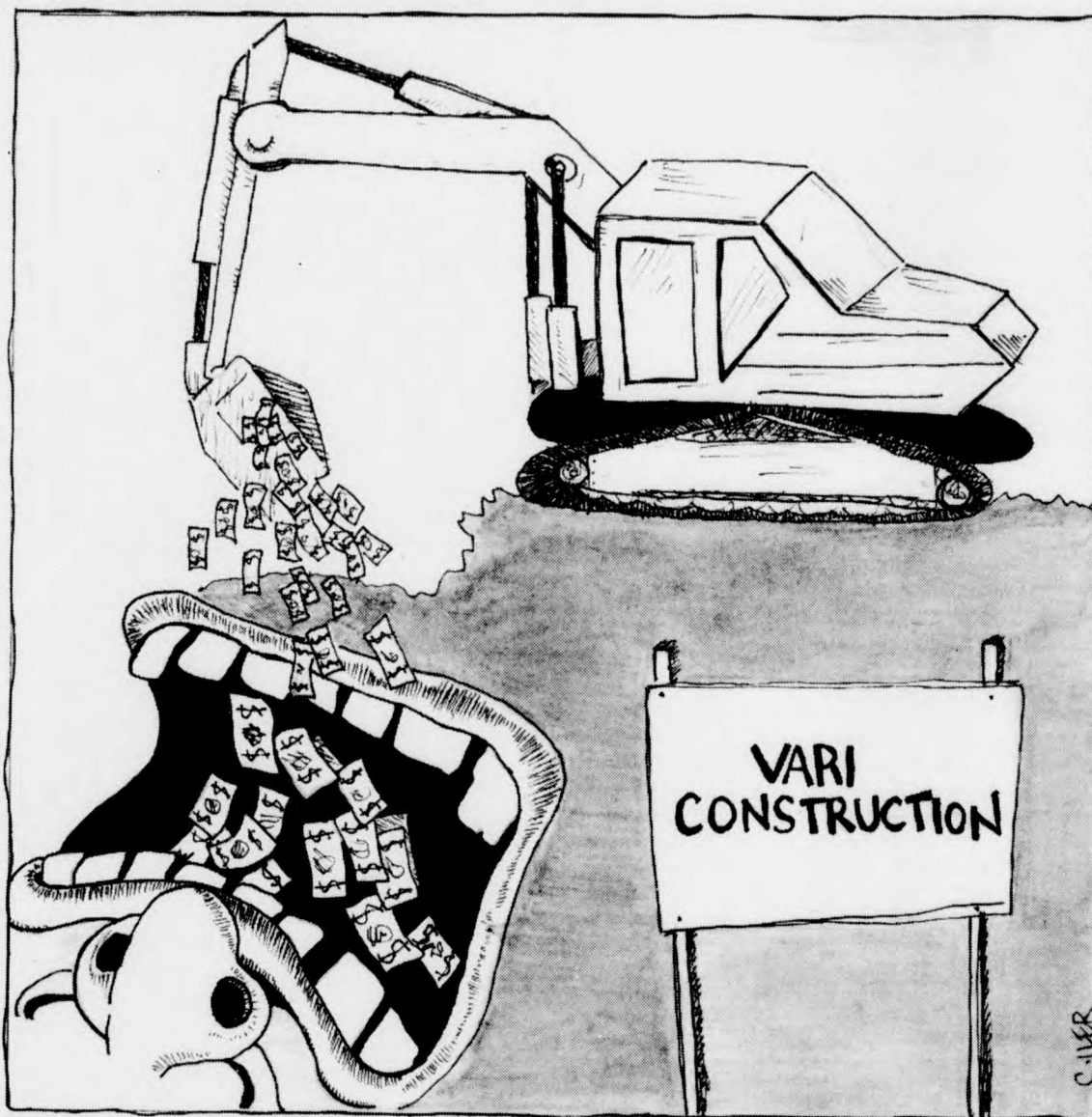
EXCALIBUR

Editor-in-Chief Peter Stathis
Assistant Editor Ira Nayman
Production Manager Stephen Perry
Cover Photo Peter Stathis
Staff Frank Cameron, Paul Gazzola, Michele Greene, Chris Iler, Michael Nachoff, Ricardo Sala

Advertising Manager Merle Menzies
Advertising Assistant Jeff Kippel
Advertising Rep Meiyin Yap
Typesetters Mary Jankulak, Shaun Lacob
Board of Publications Chairperson Kevin Connolly

EDITORIAL 736-5239
TYPESETTING 736-5240
ADVERTISING 736-5238

MAILING ADDRESS:
Room 111 Central Square
York University
4700 Keele Street
Downsview M3J 1P3



LETTERS

The opinions expressed are those of the writers and do not necessarily reflect those of *Excalibur* staff or directors. However, letters judged to be racist, sexist or libellous by the editor will be refused. All material is subject to editing.

All submissions must be addressed to the Editor-in-Chief, Room 111, Central Square.

Congrats to Excal

To the editor,

Congratulations! You have successfully managed the adjustment to a twice-weekly format. I hope your regular readers appreciate the time and effort you have no doubt put in to make this happen.

The results are impressive.

And another thing: kudos to Melissa DiMarco, who reviewed the recent film, *Bad Influence*, in your March 22 edition. Her consideration of the film was well-thought out, well-worded, and in my estimation, an excellent sample of the best of Canadian student arts journalism. Keep up the good work.

Graham Rawlinson
University of Western Ontario

PLO and JDL

To the editor,

I write to you this letter in response to an article in your newspaper (volume 24, issue), dated April 3, 1990, by Josh Rubin, to clarify certain misunderstanding, correct false accusations and demand an apology from Rubin.

Excalibur welcomes letters to the editor on all topics. We will publish, space permitting, letters up to 500 words in length. They must be typed, double spaced, and accompanied by the writer's name, signature and telephone number.

First, Rubin claims that I accused Neuer of being a member of the "Jewish Defence League." Now, I completely renounce such an accusation. I never knew the name of Neuer until I read it for the first time in your newspaper. Furthermore, I never mentioned any "militant" organization that exists in Toronto.

Second, Rubin states that a member of the Jewish Student Federation was distributing literature (against the Palestinian people) outside the bearpit. Let me tell you there were at least ten members trying, by distributing literature, to distort, and provoke intolerance to what was a peaceful commemoration of the "Day of the Land" in Palestine, a day on March 30th, 1976 when the Israeli government ordered the expropriation of Palestinian land.

Third, I did say that our association does not have direct connection with the Palestinian Liberation Organization, however, we do believe that the PLO, just like any other Arab government, is the sole, legitimate representative of an Arab people, called the Palestinians. Furthermore, I did say that the PLO has a very strong hand in the Palestinian Intifada (Uprising), and not "is" (just) interested in the Intifada.

Fourth, I did strike a "conciliatory pose" when I agreed to a negotiated and peaceful end to the complete conflict, but not to the Intifada, which I believe will bring all of us to the negotiation table.

Finally, it's not that we don't believe in "using weapons" to achieve peace, rather, as Palestinians we believe that there are more effective means to achieve

peace.

By this letter, I think I make my stand more clear and I sincerely hope that such miswording and false representation of our association will not happen again.

Sa'ed Katkhuda

Donato shut up!

To the editor,

Okay, that's it, I have to say something. I kept my mouth shut when Peter Donato pulled copies of off-campus newspapers out of Central Square. I remained silent but not unmoved when I read about his altercation with Franco LoFranco, but now that I hear he's up for sexual harassment charges, I have to say something: I have to say all those things I've been saving up for the past weeks.

First, the newspapers. None of the newspapers Donato pulled are competition with *Excalibur*. *Excalibur* discusses campus news, campus interests. The papers he was pulling discussed news from places outside of York's sphere. I pick up *Now* magazine and *Excalibur*, not one at the exclusion of the other.

Second, the altercation with LoFranco. Why does Donato want to publicize the fact that someone injured him on his right buttock? Does he think, at this point, that anyone really cares?

Third, the sexual harassment thing. Did Donato think he could make such derogatory comments about a female student without someone noticing? "The comments have been blown out of all