

Excalibur

Everything secret degenerates; nothing is safe that does not show it can bear discussion and publicity
—Lord Acton

Excalibur is the York University weekly and is independent politically. Opinions expressed are the writer's. Unsigned editorials on this page are decided upon by staff vote and do not necessarily reflect the views of individual editors. Excalibur attempts to be an agent of social change and a forum of democratic debate. Typography by Fotoset, printed at Delta Web. Excalibur is published by Excalibur publications, a body incorporated under the laws of Ontario.

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Acres of snow make intellects grow

During the last few months at York large numbers of students have been seen scurrying from building to building, scarves over their mouths, heads bent down to avoid the ubiquitous wind. Herds of these biped academics have been seen leaping over snow banks, performing unanticipated pirouettes on the icy sidewalks and tiptoeing through the shallower puddles.

Their scarves, barely effective at keeping out the cold, have done little to smother their complaints. Some, we've been told, have been heard cursing Downsview, York, even Canadian winters. Others have been heard making totally illogical and laughable suggestions such as the ridiculous one that York should build more tunnels.

Pointing their frozen fingers at Carleton, and clutching your arm

with shaking hands, they describe a campus in which tunnels connect every building and even run out to the indoor parking lot.

What's this?! Indoor parking lots? A comprehensive tunnel network? Are we students today such weak-kneed pansies that we can't stand a little cold, a few feet of snow (a foot or so of water when it periodically melts)?

Have our minds, undernourished by the non-compulsory pap fed us in secondary school, become so soft that we are blind to the advantages of a brisk jaunt in our wintry air?

What could be better to clear away those cobwebs of obfuscated thought than a leisurely stroll through the Stong-Bethune wind tunnel?

How could we properly contemplate Wordsworth or the theory of black holes if we were in a

tunnel? How could we be inspired by the skyline of Downsview, the words of Murray G. Ross, if we were underground?

Being temporarily lost in a white-out, fingers freeze and our feet feel like needles are being pushed into them when they defrost— as Dostoyevsky wrote: "suffering is the origin of consciousness."

It is surely obvious to the intelligent amongst us that York produces such sterling minds, not only because of what goes on in the buildings, but because of the distances between them.

The staff of Excalibur wish to extend our heartfelt condolences to Laura Brown and Paul Stuart, who both lost members of their immediate families this week.



Harbinger's Column



The other day I was walking through the tunnel, reflecting over the good old days when the tunnel was almost a museum, its art characterized by the original graffiti which manifested the evolution of ideas and attitudes over the period of a decade.

These fine thoughts were interrupted when I met Tom. He asked where I was off to and I told him "Harbinger." His reaction was rather strange. He asked: "Your old lady in trouble or something?" I replied that no such thing had happened because I

had been a very good boy lately, and besides, whenever I indulge in the "bad boy" activity I use a condom and she uses a spermicidal jelly and diaphragm. This was only risked on the condition that she was on the pill and not in the middle of a menstrual cycle. I mumbled that the temperature would have to be right too, otherwise I just might be forced to use the infamous withdrawal method. Tom obviously did not think my uncalculated sermon was very funny.

I asked him why he would think I

was going to Harbinger to inquire about abortions. His reply — "Isn't Harbinger an abortion centre?" — appalled me. I felt the real sermon was called for now and I told him (resisting the impulse to scream) that Harbinger was a peer-counselling centre and that as far as the abortion issue went, when a "peer-Counselor" came in for information we just brought to her awareness the different choices she had. Should she then decide that she wanted an abortion, we would try and arrange it for her. I further asserted that Harbinger dealt with a lot more than that. He gathered that I worked there. I threw in a cliché (which I do sporadically) and said: "Not for money, buddy, but for a good cause." (Being a closet poet, I really got off on the "money-buddy" rhyme.)

But that's beside the point. I wished him good day and walked on through

the tunnel and met Dick. He asked where I was off to and I told him. He said: "But you're not gay!" At an impulse I was tempted to say, "They don't discriminate against straights", but I held my tongue in cheek and nearly said, "want a date tonight?" What I did finally tell him, however, was that I was a part of the collective and out of the thirty-odd members we had, four happened to be gay. I also informed him that this was a normal representation in any sample of people. Having enlightened him with this piece of information, I walked on through the stuffy bare claustrophobic kennel....oops! I meant tunnel (I'm not a poet after all.) When I met Harry, I said, "Hi, Harry! What do you think of Harbinger?" Somewhat puzzled, he asked, "What? The drug crisis centre?" I asked him to meet me behind the church the next morning at 10 am

with his own sword.

A lot of people have various misconceptions about Harbinger. Not only are these people doing a lot of injustice to Harbinger, which in my opinion is serving a great cause, but are depriving themselves of a service which may be of tremendous use to them. I used to think it was a leftist place, till I was better informed. One does not have to have a problem to drop in. We have stacks of useful information and literature on a very wide variety of topics.

I usually walk into Harbinger eating a carrot (just so happens, believe me!) and I walk out reading a pamphlet on something. It's mentally nourishing (not the carrot) and I am sure, with the accessibility of Harbinger, a lot of Yorkites can also enrich themselves by using this centre.

by Karim Ladak

Our Town

Atkinson

Atkinson College Department of Political Science will be holding a lecture on *China Since Mao*, Wednesday, February 7 in the Fellows Lounge, Atkinson College. Professor Stephen Endicott is the scheduled guest speaker. Refreshments will be served at 7:30 pm and the talk will begin at 8:30 pm.

February 5 marks the first night of a continuing series of lectures on environmental issues. On this night, Dr. Wayne Moodie, from the University of Manitoba, will be speaking on *Alternative Images of the Natural Environment: Maps by Aborigines in Canada* at 7:20 pm in Room S201 Ross... This series is co-sponsored by the Department of Geography, the Office of the Master and the Students' Association, Atkinson College.

Bethune

The next Bethune Seminar in Social Analysis will discuss *Problems of Human Resource Development in Relation to Planning for Economic Development: The Case of Guyana*, with guest speaker Professor Percy Anderson, on February 7 at 4 pm in Room 122, Bethune College. Free admission and everyone is welcome.

Attention all Bethune members — If you have any artwork you would like others to see, you can now exhibit it at the newly opened Bethune Gallery. Just leave your name and number at the Bethune Gallery Mailbox c/o Room 205 Bethune College.

Calumet

The upcoming Calumet lunch-time series features *The Nihilist Spasm Band*, on Wednesday, February 7 at 1 pm in the Calumet Common Room

Eckankar

Learn about the worlds beyond at the lecture *Eckankar and Out-of-Body Consciousness*, Tuesday, February 6 at 8 pm, Room S312 Ross.

Founders

Nominations for the annual Founders College awards are open February 1-8. The Alice Turner award and college rings are given to graduate students (other years in special circumstances) who excel in academic and extra-curricular activities around the college. Submit nominations to the College secretary in Room 221.

Nominations for upcoming Founders council election will be accepted until February 7 (the election-date is February 14.)

Founders Winter Athletic Day is being held Saturday February 3, 1-6 pm. Events will include road hockey, snow football and socializing in the JCR (with food, beverages and entertainment).

Glendon Psychology Department

The Glendon Psychology Department presents Roslyn Moore, M.S.W. (Provincial Family Court Clinic, Clarke Institute of Psychiatry) who will be speaking on *Assessment and Formulation: A Case Study* on Wednesday, February 7 at 8 pm in the Glendon Seminar Room

Osgoode Christian Fellowship

The Osgoode Christian Fellowship is hosting a conference entitled *Power, Wealth and Influence*, February 2-4 at Osgoode. For further information contact Julie Jai at 663-4849.

Stong

The opening exhibition of drawings and

watercolours by Faculty of Fine Arts student Paula Lacham is scheduled for February 7 at 7:30 pm. The gallery is open from 12 noon - 6 pm, Monday - Thursday and from 2-5 pm on Sunday. This show will run from February 7 - 15 inclusive.

Stong and Bethune Colleges proudly present one of their joint Multicultural Arts Series in the Stong J.C.R., 2-4 pm, Friday February 2. Tim Rice and K. Varimezov will present Bulgarian Ritual Calendar in music and dance. For further information, contact Steve Otto, Music Department (-3654) or Olga Cirak (-3061).

Toronto Chilean Association

The Toronto Chilean Association and the All-Student Union Movement present Alejandro Rojas (President of the Chilean Student Federation and Former M.P. of the Chilean Congress) and the Chilean Folk Group (performing Latin American music) today in Stedman Lecture Hall 'D', 4:30-7:30 p.m. This event is co-sponsored by the Third World Student Union, Y.U.S.A., N.D.P., Hellenic Student Federation, York Christian Movement and Graduate Assistant's Association.

Winters

Thursday, February 1, Winters features Bob Segarini at 8 pm. Admission is \$2 for Winters students and \$3 for others.... Friday is fun and games in the JCR, starting at 4 pm, and at 6 pm a Bar - B-Q will be held in the JCR (Free). Also Friday night a Variety Night featuring the best of Winters local talent will be held. Following is one of the famous Inferno Discos. This event runs from 8 pm - 1 am.

Start Saturday morning with a pancake

breakfast, followed by a backgammon tournament, and a pinball tournament at 1 pm. And that evening at 8 pm a series of movies will be shown: *Return of the Pink Panther*, *The Pink Panther Strikes Again*, *Reefer Madness*, *Sex Madness*, and *Cocaine Fiends*. This day's events will be held in the JCR....

Winters College Decade Books are now on sale for only \$4 (cash and scrip). You can obtain the books from the Residence Porters Office or Room 269 Winters College.

Until February 9, Winters Art Gallery will be exhibiting works by third year visual arts students.

"Canada in the 40's" is a conference in Winters dining hall next week from Wednesday to Friday featuring topics like politics, labour relations and speakers such as Journalist Heather Robinson and former cabinet minister, Jack Pickersgill. The final event is a dinner with a talk by Don Herron, (Charlie Farquharson).

Tickets can be obtained at room 269 in Winters college.

York Dance Department

CBC producer Norman Campbell will screen and discuss his television dance productions in the Moot Court, Osgoode Wednesday, February 7 at 7:30 pm.... Sponsored by York's Dance Department, this event is free and open to everyone.

York Women's Centre

Professor Patricia Stamp will discuss the *Kikuyu Women of Kenya* on February 1, noon - 1 pm and 1-2 pm (Room 102 B.S.B.)

Laura Brown