

# 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 and those assigned are the responsibility of the editor. Excalibur attempts to be an agent of social change. Typography by Foto Set, printed at Delta Web, Excalibur is published by Excalibur Publications, a body incorporated under the laws of Ontario.

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## Never have so few done so much to so many

What with the arrival of spring, melting snow, returning robins and tantalizing glimpses of sunshine in the cloudy March skies, we had hoped we wouldn't be called upon to make further criticisms of this wierd little world or student politics.

Unfortunately we feel bound to mention that student democracy has once again been given short shrift by the decision of the student senate caucus not to hold elections for a vacant student seat on the University's Board of Governors.

Thirteen senators voted 7-6 to accept nominations for the post from all over the campus, but to decide who should be chosen themselves. Unfortunately, when the ballots were sent out by mail, a letter from CYSF president Paul Hayden was included which argued against a campus-wide BOG election. These elections have taken place for the last three years.

Hayden was entitled to make his point that since the student senators are well informed about York's financial situation, they are the most knowledgeable people to pick a student rep. He pointed out that the York Act officially gives the caucus this mandate.

However, before caucus chairman Bob Cash sent out Hayden's letter, he should have made sure that the other side of the issue was represented and his failure to do this was an abuse of his office.

The other side of this issue is, first of all, since the student senators do not have a popular base (11 candidates were acclaimed last October leaving several vacancies), they are not representative enough to choose a student rep by themselves.

Secondly, since the Board of Governors rules the university, which is now facing grave problems, students are entitled to hear a discussion of the issues before they're saddled with a representative.

Thirdly and perhaps most importantly, the fact is that last year an amazing 2,224 people voted for their BOG rep. This is nearly twice the number who voted in the CYSF presidential election this year. The fact is more people are interested in electing a BOG rep than in any other election in the university. And a vote of just seven people has torpedoed our franchise.

An election is the only way to do it. Furthermore, if the caucus had not wanted to organize the election, CYSF could have organized it, as it has done the last three years, at a moderate additional expense (to set up polls at Atkinson, Osgoode and Bethune) if it had been held on the same day as the general elections on March 15. But this year's council doesn't care about elections too much. Let's hope things improve in 78-79.

The fishy thing about this is that Bob Cash has said that he wants to be BOG rep himself. It will certainly be easier for him to get the job now that he doesn't have to traipse all over the campus asking students how they feel about it.

What a farce.



apologies to Buck Brown

## Staff pic & party

The staff meeting is at 2 today, with the annual staff portrait to be taken at 2:30. Sub-editors' honoraria will be discussed. Don't forget the editorial meeting Tuesday at 5.

The end of year staff bash is coming! Drop into the office for details.

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Sports editor  
Entertainment editor  
CUP editor  
Contributing editors

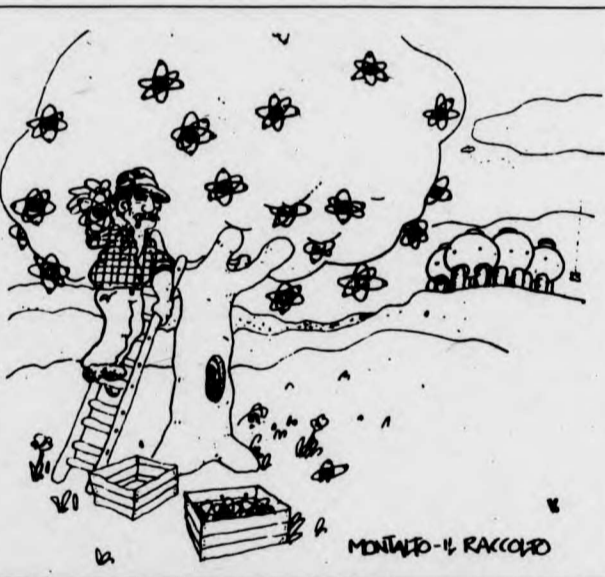
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