

# EDITORIAL

## Surprise! Marky's is back for a final shot

It's hard to believe that of 11 applicants reviewed by the Kosher Tendering Committee, Marky's Delicatessen was selected.

For the better part of 12 years, the Winters College deli has served York well. But in the past two years customers experienced what Director of Food Services Norman Crandles best described as "a noticeable decline in all aspects of their service," which he attributed primarily to "owner invisibility."

It doesn't seem appropriate that a university establishment which failed to properly serve its patrons has been reinstated. Ironically, this is the second time in two years that Marky's contract has been terminated and then renewed.

However, the Tendering Committee did undergo a painstaking selection process. Applications had been accepted for a kosher caterer since early summer. Eleven bids were received, three of which were short-listed. Members of the Tendering Committee ate at each establishment twice and after several meetings, the decision was made.

Finding a caterer for a university is difficult enough. Finding quality, inexpensive kosher service, even in a large city like Toronto, is even more difficult. So the Tendering Committee was faced with a limited selection, to say the least.

During the next eight months, the York community will decide whether Marky's has improved. But unlike last year, this time around Marky's has to improve. The new proprietors have been issued strong warnings from both Crandles and Vice-President of Finance and Administration W.D. Farr. Both stated that in order to win back confidence, Marky's must perform better during the eight month trial than any new contractor would be expected to. They added that failure to do so would result in the termination of the deli's services.

Even if Marky's performs well during the probation and is awarded a five year contract, the restaurant will face heavy competition from the soon-to-be-built Student Centre's food court and the retail Consolidation Building's food service, both of which will open in 1990.

Although York community members will no doubt be surprised by the Tendering Committee's recommendation, Marky's should be given one more fair chance. Signs of improvement were seen during an *Excalibur* visit on Tuesday. Management seemed eager to provide prompt service and quality food. Hopefully this trend will continue.



"I WANNA TAKE TWO NATURAL SCIENCES."

We will publish, space permitting, letters under 250 words. They must be typed, triple-spaced, accompanied by writer's name and phone number. We may edit for length. Libellous material will be rejected. Deliver to 111 Central Square during business hours.

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MAILING ADDRESS:  
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 York University  
 4700 Keele Street  
 Downsview M3J 1P3

### Ahem ... Attention:

Excalibur needs writers (especially sports), photographers, proofreaders, and production staff. Come to the Staff Meeting today at 3 p.m., 111 Central Square. Free Sombreros to the first 15 amigos (and if you believe that sombrero bit, we really want to meet you!).

## LETTERS

### Arts store closing unfair to students

Editor,

I am writing on behalf of YUSA to express our support for the Fine Arts students who are outraged by the closing of the Fine Arts Store (article by Adam Kardash, May 12). Professor Ted Bieler refers to the Art Store as a "retail operation" and defends its closing purely on financial grounds.

There is, indeed, no way for a strictly retail operation of this kind to succeed on campus. That is not the issue. The Art Store is in fact a service that we should, without question of financial recovery, be providing. It is a service that is as vital to Visual Arts students as lab specimens are to Science students, computers are to Computer Science students, and the libraries are to all students.

Johnny Rock, in his letter to *Excalibur* (June 16) is quite correct in pointing out that higher prices for art supplies is not the issue here. Those of us in YUSA positions who spend our workdays attempting to provide service to students without the proper tools are painfully aware of the frustration involved in having an assignment and lacking the means with which to complete it.

We all know that the Arts do not hold a prominent position in our society. Imagine the uproar had it

that was closed because it was no viable as a "retail operation". Here is a perfect opportunity for those

who profess to believe that York is a place to explore all disciplines, and who profess to believe that York does not exist solely to provide the business world with systems analysts and accountants, to put their money where their mouths are. What are we saying to our artists by denying them an essential service? That we are content to accept their tuition but not prepared to provide them with the tools they need to enhance their scholarship?

As one who believes that these young artists will contribute at least as much to the future of Canada as our young geographers and mathematicians, I consider it unacceptable that the University has chosen to disadvantage these students based on the argument that the provision of service "does not make financial sense". If universities had to make financial sense we'd all have become trade schools eons ago. I wonder how far the money that has been spent over the past while on that solution-of-the-month, Service Excellence, would have gone towards subsidizing a real service?

Yours truly,  
 Helen Thibodeau

### Student group not linked to shooting

Editor,

I hereby state that the Caribbean Students' Association of York University is a fully-registered student

organization with the University and is in no way affiliated with the Caribbean Cultural Association — the (alleged) association which sponsored the reggae event at Vanier College, York University, on Sunday, August 28, at which a young man was shot.

Whilst the Caribbean Students' Association holds no monopoly on the presentation of Caribbean culture at York University, it has, very successfully, done so for several years to the benefit of York University, the community, its members and their relatives and friends in the wider Caribbean community, in a climate of trust, respect and decency. I therefore, find it incumbent upon me in my capacity as President of the Caribbean Students' Association to publicly disassociate my organization from the Caribbean Cultural Association, so as to preserve the high expectations of conduct held by our constituency of us, and to register in the mind of the general public that there is no automatic correlation between "Caribbean" and "violence".

Thank you.

Charles Simon-Aaron.

### Ramp missing?!

Editor:

As an infrequent visitor to York, I was stunned to learn (belatedly) the ramp to Ross had been stolen. Why did no one tell me?

—Jim Smith  
 (author, *The Schwarzenegger Poems*)

letters cont'd on p. 7