

Security in dire straits, CYSF states

The following open letter to York President Harry Arthurs, regarding campus security, has been endorsed by the Council of the York Student Federation (CYSF). It was drafted by Catherine Lake, Director of Women's Affairs for CYSF, M.E. Kelly, Katie Brock, and Elise Mackay, and has been signed by concerned members of the York Community.

All members interested in signing the letter and/or delivering it, are asked to visit the CYSF office (105 Central Square) for more details.

AN OPEN LETTER TO PRESIDENT HARRY ARTHURS

It has come to our attention that we as members of the York University community have been lied to by the Administration and the past Director of Security and Safety for York University concerning the *real* status of our security on campus.

We have been misled not merely through the damaging silence on true security statistics but also in blatant lies told to us regarding the department of Safety and Security.

Do the students know that over 800 reported incidents pertaining to security matters occurred in 1986? We have also happened to attain the confidential security file breaking down these incidents and under the category of reported ASSAULT—not fighting but assault—there were 29 incidents for 1986.

In addition to this we have information that:

- security squads working the afternoon and evening shifts following the sniper incident on Friday, March 13, 1987 at 1:35 p.m., were not warned of the occurrence.

- an occurrence report of a man committing indecent acts in the computer room February 19, 1987 was *not* forwarded to 31 Division of Metro Police.

- the suspect of the McLaughlin College gun incident last October has been identified on campus, yet no further action has been taken on this matter.

- 31 Division has *no* theft reports from the York campus since January 1, 1987, yet the Security Alert states that 46 incidents of theft have been reported.

In review of the York University job description for a "Security Officer," the primary duties outlined fail to indicate the following: identifying suspicious individuals and arresting same. The primary duties in fact are parking control. We, as students are forced to question our personal security and ask: Why is there no protection policy within the security officer's job description and why is there no mandate to actually protect students and other individuals of the York community?

According to York's security job description, your officers are not

required to know or to be trained in the Trespass to Property Act and Arrest Procedures.

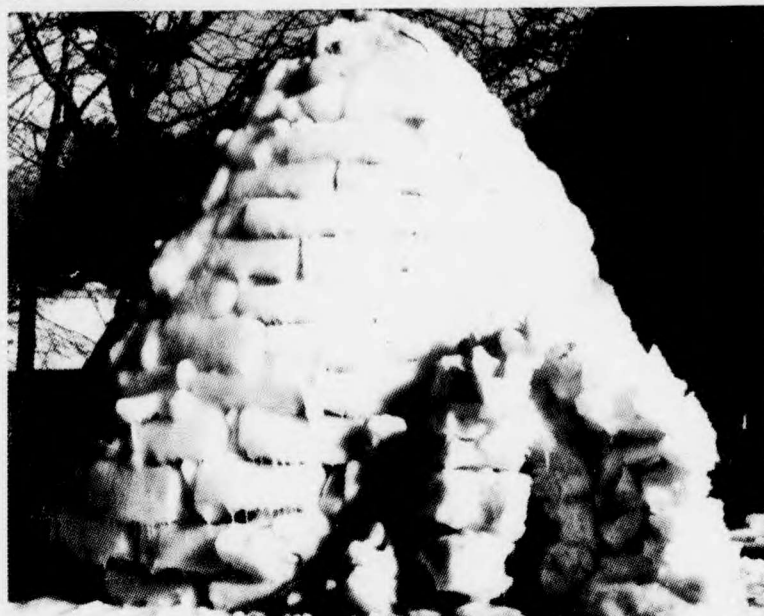
In the job description, it is stated "Minimum two years related experience in a security, police or military environment." What does military training have to do with Ontario laws? Also, "environment experience" does *not* mean that they receive the proper training necessary to protect the York campus.

A reasonable solution to the vague job description are the qualifications of having a minimum of two years job experience as a Security Officer in Ontario or as a Police Officer—civilian or military.

Within the present appalling security situation, if officers happen to come upon an incident in progress which warrants actions of arrest, the security staff are firstly given the *option* to detain the individual and secondly, even if they choose to act on arrest, the security officers are not given adequate equipment to properly detain the individual.

The fact that remains disturbing is that the security officers are *not* responsible to act on, for example, an assault but that it becomes a mat-

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BABAK AMIRFEIZ

THE LAST VESTIGES OF WINTER: Alas, this igloo is slowly melting as spring approaches.

Blink caught with bottle in hand

By DAVID DOLLARD

Gerard Blink, President of the Council of the York Student Federation (CYSF), and two friends were caught drinking in the CYSF office on March 9 at 1:15 a.m. by a member of York Security. Drinking in an unlicensed area runs contrary to the University's liquor permit.

A security guard patrolling Central Square discovered the threesome after becoming suspicious of the brown paper that he found covering

the door to the CYSF office. Normally, the door is protected from prying eyes by \$216 venetian blinds. In the light of the recent CYSF break-in, the guard decided to investigate. "The area they (Blink and company) were in was not licensed," said Pond. "They were asked to stop and leave, and they did."

Pond added that he notified Provost Tom Meininger of the incident, but when questioned by *Excalibur*, Meininger offered "No comment."

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CYSF NEWSBEAT

By DAVID DOLLARD

David Dollard, with smiling Irish eyes, on the CYSF Newsbeat for March 17, 1987.

□ Well, it was close, and it took nearly a half-hour, but quorum was finally achieved, maintaining the record streak of continued quorum for CYSF Council meetings this year.

Despite the 30 minute lag before the meeting convened, this CYSF Council session was quite eventful. The most lengthy and relevant motion considered in Council was brought forth by Women's Affairs Director Catherine Lake. Lake claimed that "basically, the information the Administration has been giving (regarding Security's performance) is dishonest." Lake's comments spring from her acquiring certain documents from Security which indicate that contrary to the views of Jack Santarelli, former head of Security, York is not a safe place. There were over 800 reported

'events' (assaults, break-ins and the like) last year at York, but at the Security forum initiated by Lake in October none of this was brought forth.

As well Lake also explained that she has been in contact with 31 Division Police and they have received no reports this calendar year from Security, although there have been 46 thefts recorded at York since January. Lake also received a document through undisclosed channels indicating that despite reports of a man masturbating in the Ross computer room Security did not follow the incident up by notifying police, something they are required to do so.

Lake also said that Security's handling of a sniper shooting at the Office of Student Programs last Friday was handled very poorly. None of the Security staff coming on shift after the shooting was informed of the presence of the sniper. Lake also stated that, contrary to Security claims that the weapon used was a

"BB" gun, the police involved indicated that the weapon was a .22 calibre rifle.

With the unanimous support of Council, Lake has drafted an "Open letter to President Harry Arthurs," (published in the issue of *Excalibur*) indicating the failings of the Security system and suggested revisions to it.

□ Another exciting event concerned the motion tabled by Stong representative Jill Shibou calling for the forced resignation of fellow Stonger Glen Wells. Wells was identified as being responsible for removing "NO" posters ("NO" to the Student Centre) from a wall in Bethune College and as such, an election tribunal ruled that Wells be barred from participation in central student government elections and referenda for a one year period.

Despite this penalty Shibou still requested that Council vote to remove Wells. Board of Governor's (BOG) Representative Reya Ali pro-

tested on the grounds that since Wells has been disciplined by the election tribunal it would be unfair for Council to levy a further penalty. Ali said that if this matter was such a high priority with Shibou she could initiate a motion to remove Wells from Stong's General Assembly, removing Wells from CYSF Council in the process.

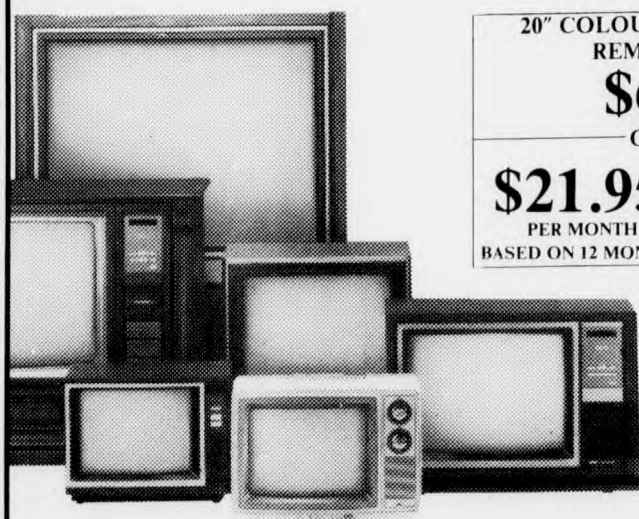
After the meeting's conclusion Wells contacted this reporter and has tendered his resignation, which is as follows: "After much consideration, and sober thought, I (Glen Wells) formally offer my resignation as representative on the Council of the York Student Federation for Stong College. I apologize to the York community for taking down a few "NO" posters off a wall in Bethune (College). It was in my great zeal and belief in a Student Centre, and the posters' misinformation, that I committed the act. This however does not excuse me from the fact that I was wrong."

□ On a less political side, CYSF President Gerard Blink said that the Student Centre referendum victory party was a success, and he jokingly added, "We ruined Founders (common room). They'll be taking champagne out of the carpet for 10 years." Blink chaired this meeting as Speaker Marshall Golden has resigned for personal reasons.

□ Allan Armstrong, Academic Affairs Director, is wished a speedy recovery from his recent bout with mononucleosis.

□ And finally, the leading candidate for the "Don Cherry-Sharp Dressed Man Award" is Student Centre Executive Assistant Rob Castle who was sartorially resplendent in his "red tie David Peterson" look. Rumour has it that Castle spent so much time getting spiffed up for the 'Woman from Hell', he was not able to write his promised and eagerly awaited *Excalibur* column. The wrath of a steamed Editor awaits.

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