

# editorial

*They have a God-given right to suffer more; they will suffer, suffer, suffer.*  
 W.A.C. Bennet, 1973, meaning that the people of B.C. had not yet suffered enough for electing a socialist government in 1972 and defeating his Social Credit government.

## Two heads are better than one —if attached to same body

A new strain of political fever has infected even the most well-intentioned student politicians at York and there is only one cure.

They believe that CYSF is, if not a political failure, at the very least a limp, emasculated campus force to be discarded in favor of their new savior, the Constituents Council of York (CCOY).

By creating this new student council, composed of the leaders of all York's student governments (all fifteen of them), the campus politicians, egged on by their administrative overlords, have revived the 25-year-old dream of creating a united, unitary political voice for York students.

While they believe they are progressing by chasing their archetypal vision of divine unity, embodied in CCOY, these campus utopians are merely reinventing the wheel.

CYSF, and its forerunner the Student Representative Council, were formed in the late 1960s to establish a campus-wide student government with representatives from every college making collective decisions about their futures.

Gradually the campus tapestry began to unravel as college councils, one by one, withdrew their support from CYSF until today Bethune, Calumet, Glendon, Osgoode and Atkinson students' only communication with CYSF is their financial tug-of-war when their leaders try to wrestle more money from CYSF's treasury.

Tired of the stalemate between CYSF and its 'non-member' colleges, some politicians established CCOY's forerunner, which goes back as far as 1979, in an attempt to bring some coherence back to campus politics.

Now the body has become a more formal entity with a mandate to "put forward a united voice on important student issues."

But what makes CCOY supporters think their assembly can achieve a united voice where CYSF has failed? What assurances do we have that CCOY is not only CYSF with a new name, destined for the same fragmentation?

There is certainly no evidence that CCOY supporters have discovered the cause of CYSF's descent so they can steer their council away from the same political rocks. They seem to earnestly believe that by treating CYSF's symptoms of decay they can avoid its fate. But creating a new campus-wide council to replace the old one simply ignores the factors that led to CYSF's breakup, and therefore the factors that threaten to undermine CCOY.

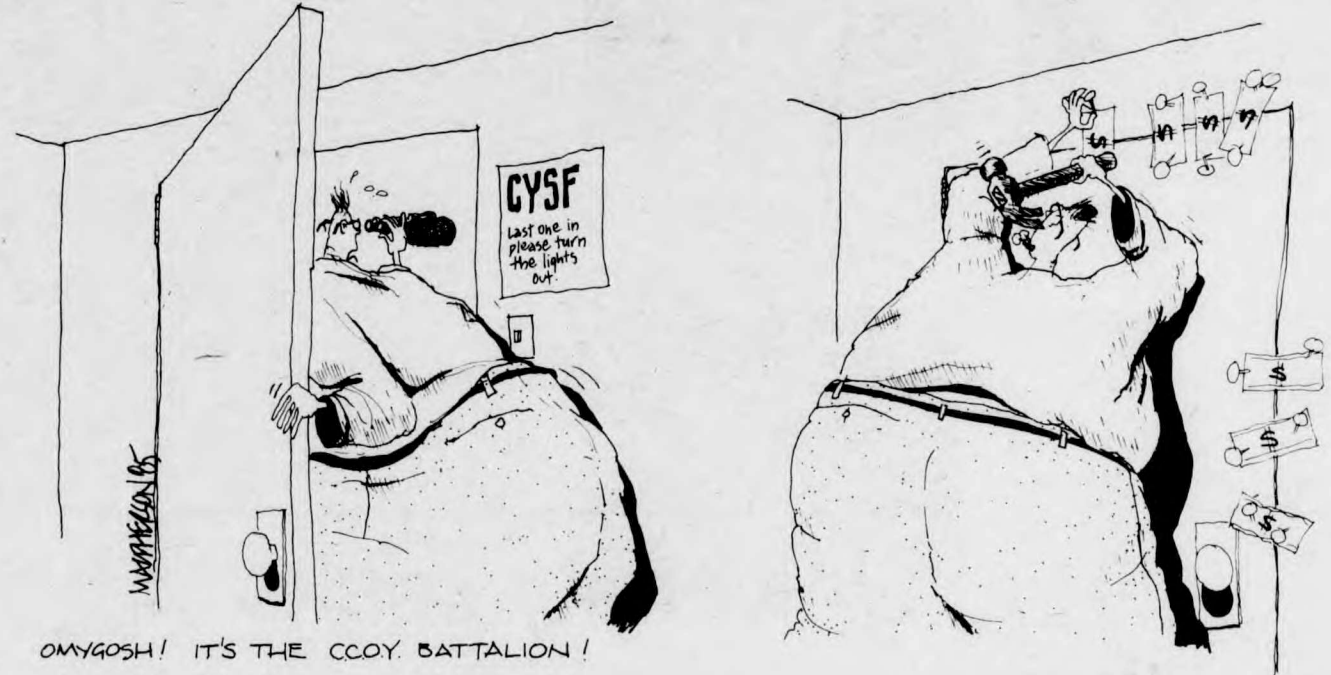
While CCOY has provided a forum for the discussion of York-wide issues they have not displayed any greater talent for reaching consensus than the old CYSF did. After discussing what to do with the \$3 per student levy for the now defunct York Student Fund, after a year has elapsed CCOY still hasn't been able to agree on how to spend it.

Last February Atkinson wanted the money for a new building, McLaughlin and GSA just wanted the money for themselves, Environmental Studies students wanted "something creatively done with the money," Glendon didn't want a student building, and Vanier and Founders had not made any decision. In December CCOY still hasn't decided. Is this CCOY's united voice in action?

We favor the CCOY proposal put forward by CYSF President Chris Summerhayes which would make the assembly a forum for informal discussions between CYSF member and non-member colleges. If CCOY supporters insist on setting up a formal campus-wide government, CYSF is the organization in which to do it. Discussions between CYSF, Osgoode and Calumet—attempts to bring them back into the fold, are an encouraging sign that CYSF can work if it's given the chance.

Other worrisome characteristics of CCOY include the fact that it has no direct student mandate and is thus not directly accountable to York students.

The bottom line is that if CYSF cannot work, CCOY can't either, because they are both designed to fulfill the same unifying function. By pouring more money and attention into CCOY we are only threatening to further fragment student politics campus, to one one's benefit.



OMYGOSH! IT'S THE CCOY BATTALION!

## letters

### Felice's final cut

To the York University Community:  
 For 18 wonderful years it has been a privilege to be part of this special University and to be of service to the thousands of students, staff and faculty who have passed through our doors. I'm grateful for their friendship and their trust. The shop has been for me more than a job, it has been an opportunity to grow and develop in an exciting environment.

I have now decided to change my career and I will be joining the Security Staff. I hope I will be able to continue to be of assistance to you. I will be turning over the Haircut Place to a competent, highly skilled staff who, I know, will retain the standards and the compatible atmosphere that presently exists.

Again, many thanks for your patronage, your trust and your friendship.

Sincerely,  
 Felice Bizzarro  
 The Haircut Place

### Conlin sets the record straight

Editor:  
 (re: "Sigmond Freud endangers band, asserts reader," *Excalibur* Jan. 31/85)

J.P. Arcuthey's diatribe concerning his "truly innovative and musical entertainment" is, despite the timely juxtaposition of Freud and Orwell, both factually incorrect and totally misleading. In addition, it casts an unwarranted slur on both myself and the Graduate Students Association.

- For the record:
- No one censored the performance of the band in question. They played, as scheduled, at the Grad Lounge.
  - Neither myself, nor anyone else connected with the GSA ordered the removal of the posters advertising their performance in the Lounge.
  - The GSA does not now, nor has it ever, engaged in "petty power-tripping, quasi-political censorship." The charge is insulting and without substance.
  - I have not, nor has any Grad student involved with the GSA, barred the band in question from future engagements in the Lounge.
  - The band did not bring in "more busi-

ness than the pub ever gets on a Thursday night."

- Despite the unintended compliment, I did not "mastermind the TA walkout in November" (October?), nor have I ever protested against "oppressive capitalist bureaucracy."

- The name is Terry, not Teri. (Big Brother is not amused!)

The only truth I can discern in Arcuthey's letter is the statement that the Grad Lounge "boycotts South African products," although not, strictly speaking, for the reason given (a decision, by the way, made democratically by the GSA for which I make no apologies).

I suppose the fact that I have three younger sisters makes me a "big brother," however, the label is offensive and incorrect in the context of Arcuthey's meanderings. J.P. Arcuthey owes the Grad Lounge, the GSA and this writer an apology. Whether or not one is forthcoming, however, has absolutely no bearing on any future relationship (or lack thereof) between the Grad Lounge and the band in question.

Finally, for the record, in the context of the posters used to promote the band's appearance in the Lounge, I (that is, me, personally speaking) find the name of the band in question both sexist and offensive (since the former dictates, for me, the latter.)

—Terry Conlin  
 President, G.S.A.

### Trust charity to distribute funds urges reader

Editor:  
 I have realized for a long, long time that we are in a whole lot of trouble. I guess I just didn't realize how much until a friend of mine confided she was a little afraid of contributing to the aid in Ethiopia, because she didn't feel she could be sure that somewhere along the line someone wouldn't rip most of it off.

I told her if she felt that way she should go to a priest or a minister or sent it along to one of the television evangelists she felt she could trust and enclose a note saying that she wanted to help the less fortunate than herself. That's when how much trouble we were in really hit home. She told me flat out that they were all rip-off artists. I asked her if she really believed that they all were and she said yes. I asked her if she could just forget about sending the cheque, she said no.

She felt that in her heart she knew God wanted her to help. I told her, if she felt that strongly she had better send something, somewhere.

"Lloyd," she said, "I don't know who to trust." Finally we had gotten right down to what I knew had been bugging me for that long, long time. Nobody trusts anybody anymore! No matter how hard I looked at the problem, I realized how foolish I would look and sound telling this lady to simply trust at least one someone without revealing my big secret. Since it is being revealed, I thought I'd write and share it with you readers. Even this letter is part of it. You see, I can't waste my time worrying about whether or not it will be published... either it will or it won't. It's as simple as that.

Listen. There are a lot of kids starving out there—and that's not the half of it... there are the blind, the deaf, the paralyzed; there are the aged, the diseased, the starving. The old charity begins at home doesn't cut it anymore. If you feel you want to contribute something somewhere—do it. Don't worry about where it will end up. That's not your problem. Fulfilling a commitment in your heart and setting your mind at ease, that's your problem and the faster you send what you can somewhere, the faster you'll relieve that problem.

You probably knew it was coming, so here it comes... Try to be a little gentler with yourselves! Just do your best... God takes care of the rest. Send your money. It's needed in thousands of places, thousands of ways. You can't keep worrying about the skimmers, that's their problem... and they will answer for it. All I can tell you is that if it will make you feel better you have got to give. You won't be happy if you don't and a whole lot of people are going to keep suffering and dying 'till you do.

—Lloyd Davidson

### Grave situation merits change

Editor:  
 Last week I took a political stance confronting the grave situation at York University. This political commitment called for the democratic unification of the student body. Many *Excalibur* readers may have doubts as to how this unification process applies to our fatally decayed

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