

editorial

The man who never looks into a newspaper is better informed than he who reads them; inasmuch as he who knows nothing is nearer to truth than he whose mind is filled with falsehoods and errors.
—Thomas Jefferson

Atkinson evils

Need a loan? Having trouble meeting those bothersome payments on your new car? Bank foreclosing on your mortgage, perhaps?

Well, the Atkinson College Students' Association would like to hear from you. At least, that's the message they sent when they quietly approved a \$4,000 loan of student money—your money, if you're an Atkinson student—to their own president.

ACSA president Rosamond Rogers approached treasurer Avi Cohen last spring with an appeal for \$9,000 to meet payments on her house. Cohen says he lent her \$5,000 of his own money, plus \$4,000 from the ACSA—presumably, she couldn't make it to the loan wicket at a bank. Either that or the banks didn't consider her a good credit risk.

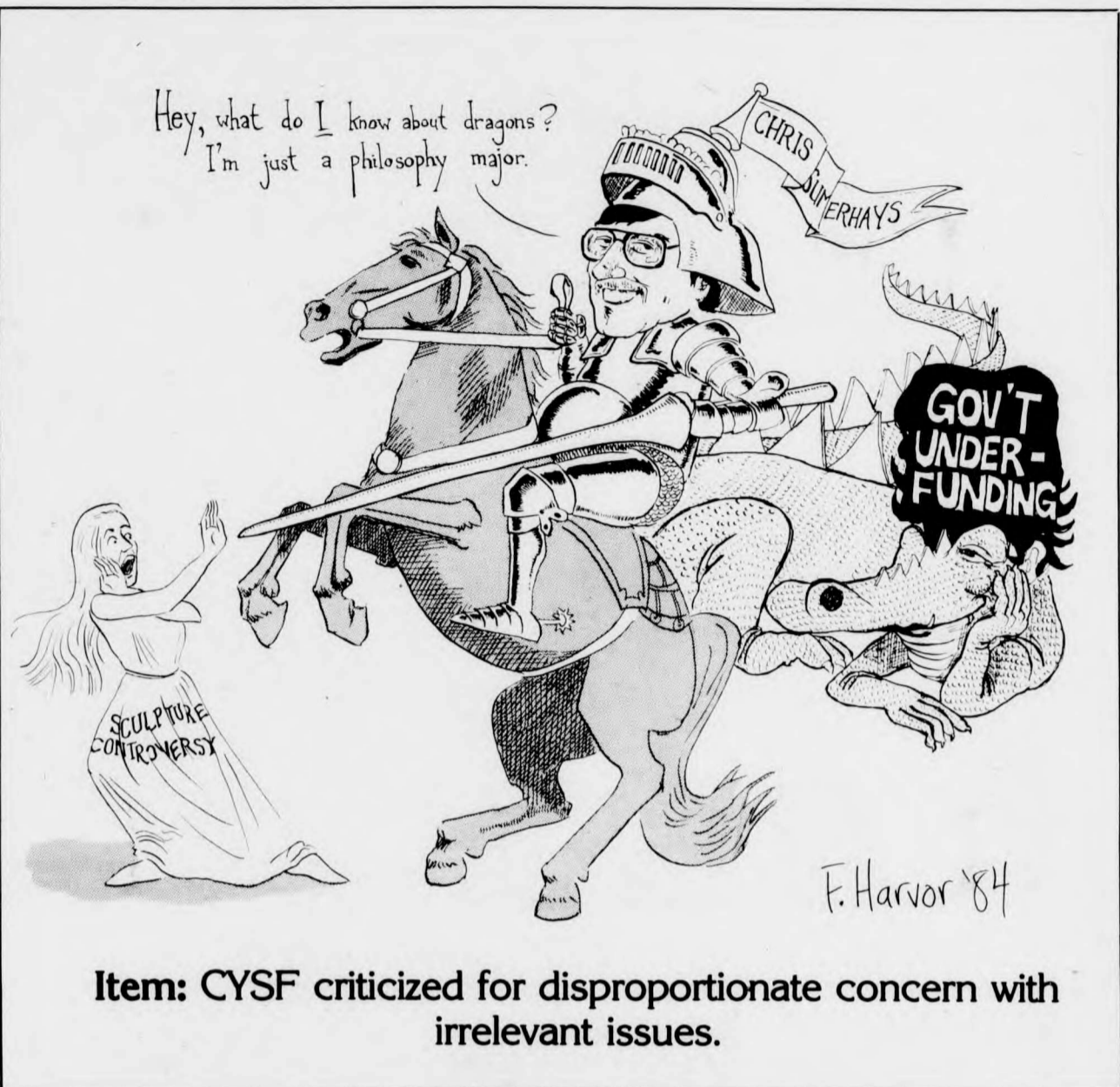
Although not expressly forbidden in the ACSA's constitution, the loan was nevertheless unprecedented, especially considering that it was made to the council's president. But what's more unnerving is the clandestine way the transaction was handled.

The loan was made before other members on the Association were notified. But even when they found out, members of the ACSA asked the editor of *The Atkinsonian*, Mary Ellen Kelly, to not mention the loan in print. Kelly replied that she had independently made the same decision. Meanwhile, no one questioned Rogers's ability to repay the loan, or the morality of such a free-handed transaction, perhaps fearing political reprisals.

Rogers failed, in fact, to repay her loan by November, when it became due, although she managed to repay the personal loan Cohen made to her.

Now, the ACSA has a lot of money at its disposal—its bank account would make a CYSF president salivate. Perhaps Rogers, Cohen, Kelly, and others on the ACSA have lost sight that perhaps all those dollars they have to play with don't really belong to them, but rather to the students. And if the ACSA doesn't know what to do with the cash at its disposal, perhaps it should start issuing refund cheques to those students.

If Cohen and Rogers have any respect for the students they represent, if they feel any responsibility for the money they have been entrusted with, if they have any self-respect, they will resign as members of the ACSA.



Item: CYSF criticized for disproportionate concern with irrelevant issues.

letters

Excalibur attempts to print as many letters as space allows. Please be brief—letters over 250 words are subject to editing for length. All letters must include the author's name, address, and phone number for verification purposes. Pseudonyms may be used upon request.

Get with it

Editor:

I would like to respond to your article "Vandalism at York Rising" in the Jan. 12 issue. This occurrence shows the lack in security control York presently receives. With total damage estimates reaching \$6,000, I demand a reasonable explanation from the security department. This incident occurred during the late night hours, when Security should be at its prime.

The \$700 loss of a stereo from the barbershop, once again, emphasizes the security problem at York. No one could understand how the suspect entered the building during the late night hours. Obviously, an entrance door had been left insecure.

Our tuition fees indirectly pay the Security staff wages. In turn, we ask the internal control department to hold up their end of the deal.

Come on Security—get your act together!

—Ripped-Off

Backward policy

Editor:

I (although most certainly not alone) am outraged at the backwardly bureaucratic admission system at this university. I speak mainly on behalf and out of concern for a friend who was declined acceptance into this institution of such obvious prestige. His grade 13 average was admittedly just below 60% but this 59% was from one of, if not the finest, private schools in Canada (St. Andrew's College). He again petitioned for acceptance as a mature student this year after successfully gaining employment in the white collar business world (already obtaining more career success than many of the people that complete degrees here).

It is beyond belief that this, coupled

with several letters of recommendation from both high school and university faculty members still failed to impress the admittance élite.

The number of waste-away students nurtured through this university simply because they obtained 60% from some "\$4.00" Public High School (when over 46 percent of all the high power executives in Canada come through the private school system) is grotesque when some of those who truly desire the chance to succeed are denied the right by others who flagrantly abuse this privilege.

—Keith C. Boulter

Club identity

Editor:

We would like to express our concern over recent actions taken by the Council of the York Student Federation president Chris Summerhayes.

Several weeks ago we were informed that the York El Salvador and Central America Support Committee (YESC) was having difficulty in being recognized as a student club by the CYSF. In order to express our concerns over these difficulties we sent a letter to the *Excalibur*. At that time we were happy to be informed by Summerhayes that previous delays had been due to a misunderstanding and that he foresaw little difficulty in YESC's membership application. Much to our surprise at the following CYSF council meeting not only did President Summerhayes oppose YESC's application but he accused the group of supporting "terrorism."

Aside from illustrating the grievous need for education on Central American issues, Mr. Summerhayes' statement represented a surprising shift of position from the week before when he spoke to us. If we are to assume the best—that Mr. Summerhayes was not being duplicitous, but rather was confused—this only further underlines the need for effective

debate and discussion on the issues concerning Central America.

—J. Douglas Allan
Andrew Murray

Quebec question

Editor:

Re: Jake Brook's letter in last week's *Excalibur* 8 February 1984.

Perhaps Mr. Brooks has already forgotten about the French language Charter (26 August 1977). This law decreed that French must be used by law in all social relationships involving business, commerce and the educational system. Mr. Levesque's primary goal was the francization of all social institutions that conducted business in Quebec. By francization of the social institutions, Mr. Levesque was in a better position to redefine the institution social roles. Prime Minister Trudeau does not publicly support this idea, but he is in no way trying to stop it either.

The intention of Bill 101 and the Quebec referendum was to create the needed groundwork to negotiate association to Canada. "But if we negotiate association by definition we will achieve sovereignty," R. Levesque *My Quebec*.

Association must concern the market, the currency, and the repatriation of power. The province of Quebec would receive the power of legitimate use of force. Bill 101 was declared unconstitutional by the Supreme Court of Canada.

Some more progressive schools of sociology (Potter, Clement) believe that the result of multiculturalism is the isolation of cultural minorities. It is my opinion that Canada should stop enforcing multiculturalism and support a melting pot policy. This I believe would create a stronger and more descriptive national patriotism, that all Canadians would benefit from.

—John Vanderbrug
Vice-President, York PC Club

excalibur

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