

EXAM SCHEDULE INSIDE

Mario Scattoloni



York professor of Mathematics, Donald Solitar, presented Excalibur staff members with their first dollar. The newspaper is seeking a contribution of \$1.00 from each student in a

referendum to be held April 5th, 6th and 7th. (L-R): Donald Solitar, Michael Monastyrskij, Bill Hurst, Paula Todd and Mark Zwolinski. See Solitar's letter page 20.

EXCALIBUR

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Editorial

If you pay tuition, read this

Bevilacqua: The failure of a President

Maurizio Bevilacqua is running scared. "Morris" has been President of CYSF this year in name only. Now his job is up for grabs, and Morris knows better than anyone how little he deserves to be re-elected.

Well, Morris, you've done your best in the last two weeks to woo the support of *Excalibur*: I acknowledge your offer of a summer job, your very recent promise that you'll give the newspaper more money this year, and your suggestions that staff hiring for the Student Handbook isn't finished (despite Council news releases to the contrary).

But I'm afraid this is one newspaper and one organization you can't buy. We're going to tell the voters, Morris, because you've made fools of them long enough.

Morris wasn't planning to present himself as a candidate again this year. But his plans for graduate school haven't panned out and the cosy nest he's built himself from the apathy and indifference of those politically irresponsible students who surround him seems like a safe place to waste another year at the expense of the York community. You paid him approximately \$9,000 this year. It wasn't hard-earned money.

I remember when Morris began his term as CYSF President. He was confident the experience would provide a stepping stone into what he called 'real politics'. He talked about getting noticed by the larger community and even running for School Trustee while still in office. I've been watching Morris all year and honestly, the most enthusiasm I've seen him muster was when he campaigned in the Fall for Liberal candidate, Sergio Marchi.

But that's because it 'mattered'. Morris never considered CYSF as important as provincial and federal politics and he never respected you as a constituent.

His council has been plagued with scandals, resignations, and apathy. He is the master of unfinished business.

And while Morris will have you believe his poor record should be blamed on his council's unwillingness to 'give him a chance', it is apparent Morris never asked for a chance. His leadership has been characterized by double-dealing, irresponsibility and disdain for the student government.

He offered little or no guidance to his council

members, blaming the "Jewish connection" (those Jewish council members who challenged his position) for his inability to pass motions that caught his fancy.

But Morris didn't let the protests of council members prevent him from 'running his own ship'. He stopped asking council for permission. Blaming the inability of council to maintain *quorum*--the minimum number of members who must be present at a meeting to transact business--he conveniently ignored the fact that, as President, it was his responsibility to motivate his staff and communicate with the college councils. Instead, he approved deals such as the opening of the CYSF Typing Service, and the hiring and firing of personnel without asking council. He called these 'special situations', a catch-all term that served him as well as the various scapegoats he created to shoulder the blame for his ineptitude. His few allies--like Director of Finance Marcello diFrancesco and Business Manager Tony Finn--learned quickly. They ordered anti-U of T buttons without Council's knowledge or permission and money continues to pour from the CYSF office, but only into select troughs for prescribed reasons.

Morris' council began to disintegrate from the moment he took office. Constantly questioned by then-Finance Director Ellen Liebman, Bevilacqua took to insulting and antagonizing her. She left and returned to her home college council. He lost his Internal Affairs Director, John Chang, when council's slow progress and infrequent meetings frustrated the organizer of the Food Boycott. Chang claimed Morris wasn't really interested in making policy.

Then it was discovered that Jorge Garreton, Director of External Affairs, had spent at least 1,000 of your tuition dollars to telephone people all over Canada. He charged his long distance calls to CYSF and he still hasn't paid for them. A reliable source swore Morris promised Jorge protection. He got it. I doubt you'll ever see your money again.

With so many vacant portfolios, you'd think Morris would call a by-election. "With only about three months left," he said, "what's the point?" Exactly. The council didn't do anything anyway and it was hardly worth the effort to elect some figureheads, or worse, risk adding to the dissenters on his Council.

But don't misunderstand. There were and are people in CYSF this year who worked and cared. Some of them

left in exasperation. Some of them were threatened. Some are still there fighting what seems a losing battle.

They counted on Morris. He didn't just fail to succeed. He didn't even try. Consider the now-infamous 'Bipin Lakhani Affair'. Morris' Director of Social and Cultural Affairs admitted to using CYSF facilities to produce anti-Menachem Begin propaganda. The community was enraged. The largest council meetings of the year saw fuming constituents squeeze into the CYSF emergency hearings to protest the retention of a council member who openly declared his dislike for part of the York community. Lakhani's portfolio as cultural liaison required a sensitivity his actions indicated he was without. Morris remained silent.

But his council fought for Lakhani's impeachment. They fought long and hard and when they were unable to gather together a sufficient number of council members to hold legal impeachment proceedings, they waited for Morris to take a stand. They wanted their President to ask for the resignation of a Director who Morris has since admitted "is limited in his ability to perform in his job because of the incident."

They're still waiting.

And now he wants to be re-elected. He says he's had 'practise'. Certainly. Practise at avoiding the issues, ignoring the administration (he attended only a few Senate meetings; never submitted a written report on his all-expense-paid trip to the CFS conference in Victoria, B.C.--a week-long meeting from which it took him two weeks to return) and ignoring the constitution and mandate of the CYSF.

But he has an opponent in this race. And that man deserves a chance. Chris Summerhayes is a third-year Philosophy student. He's the Speaker of the Winters College Council, the Chairperson of the University Food and Beverage Service Committee, a Winters Residence don, and is employed part-time on the university campus. Involved for three years in student politics, Summerhayes is your alternative.

Maurizio Bevilacqua has taken advantage of you. He doesn't give a damn about you. And you shouldn't give a damn about him. Make an effort to vote on April 5th, 6th or 7th. And give Chris Summerhayes your support.

PAULA TODD

This editorial is being run on the front page, not in an effort to sensationalize, but to stress the issue's importance.