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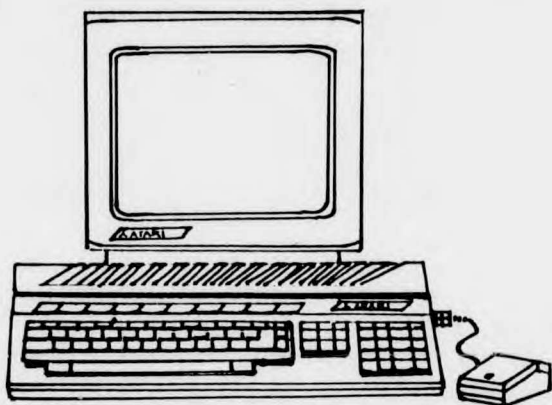
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CYSF NEWSBEAT



David Dollard, in the cheap seats under the "Big Top," on the *CYSF Newsbeat*, for September 17, 1987.

Phew! Has the Council of the York Student Federation (CYSF) ever kept busy so far this year. First we travelled to a baseball game, then to the zoo, followed by a "concert," and finally with last Thursday's *CYSF* General Meeting, the circus—the Circus of the York Student Federation. The ringmaster for the festivities was, of course, *CYSF* President Drew McCreddie.

The meeting was not as well attended as would be hoped, for the first in-school Council meeting. McLaughlin and Vanier colleges were without representation. And only one of Winters' three representatives, Paul Downes, was present.

The hostile tone of the meeting was set by Mr. Reya Ali, Board of Governors (BOG) representative, who, from the commencement of the proceedings, questioned McCreddie's leadership style and initiative. Mr. Ali questioned McCreddie's decision to run in the last provincial election as the Progressive Conservative (PC) candidate for Downsview, given (according to Ali) the PC's underfunding of post-secondary education, and the fact that they did not endorse a bilingual Ontario, when York's administration has adopted bilingualism as a policy and practice. As well, Ali felt McCreddie confused *CYSF*'s position as a non-partisan political body, giving it "the view of being Conservative."

McCreddie responded to these charges adamantly, indicating that many current *CYSF* members have different political affiliations, but they do not reflect on the *CYSF*. "I won't give up my right to vote, nor my right to run," McCreddie continued, "just because I'm a student (council) president." McCreddie failed to respond to the problem of PC post-secondary underfunding, and addressed the bilingualism issue poorly, even after being reminded of Ali's question.

In his President's Report, McCreddie issued a two-page explanation of his decision to seek provincial office (see this page), in addition to his present responsibilities. McCreddie has also initiated the Presidential Committee on Constitutional Reform (PCCR). The PCCR will review sections and terminology of the *CYSF* constitution, with the President as chairperson, and five of the remaining eight positions to be appointed by McCreddie.

McCreddie also encouraged private members to submit "a report from each college ONCE A MONTH." The focus of these

reports should be college activities, positions on issues important to the *CYSF*, as well as "Really juicy gossip."

Unsatisfied again, Ali focussed on the Council's attention on *MANUS* (the York Student Handbook for 1987-88), and McCreddie's explanation of his introduction, "How to Avoid People and Have a Rotten Time." After some questioning McCreddie explained the introduction as "reverse-psychology" to which Ali responded by asking if McCreddie was a psychology major. McCreddie affirmed that he was not.

Ali failed to relent in his attack, questioning the "reasoning" behind the slogan on the orientation pens circulated by *CYSF*. Holding a pen aloft, to Council titters and snickers, Ali read, "*CYSF* Surgeon General warns that danger to health increases when pen is shoved up the nose: avoid inhaling." McCreddie explained that Council has approved this, and said, "I think it's fun, something that has been lacking in the *CYSF* in the past." Ali called the slogan "juvenile, and a little less than high school."

Ali continually questioned McCreddie's manner of leadership. He presented McCreddie's instructions for those helping with the Glendon Day assembly, with one set of "Worker's Instructions" advising helpers: "And don't fuckin' argue with them (the instructions)." The other set were labelled "Further Fucking Instructions." McCreddie meekly responded by saying, "I agree it's not appropriate language . . . I will make sure that you won't ever get your hand on any such documents with that language again." So which will it be: no more similarly worded documents or no more access to any further documentation by the *CYSF*?

Dave Hawkins, Founder's College Representative, defended McCreddie, saying "Some may not like the style, or sense of humour, but *CYSF* is being discussed." Do these discussions have *CYSF* as the focus, or Drew McCreddie? Discussed in favourable, or unfavourable terms?

After the verbal combat with Ali, McCreddie retired to his seat as

Speaker, visibly shaken. The next order of business was Finance Director Julie Marchant's report. Marchant explained that from her "end," and from the analysis done by *CYSF* Business Manager Alex Gebbie, *CYSF* will have a surplus of between \$10-15,000. Also, she said that this year's audit will be late because it is more detailed than last year. The budget will also be late, as it, similarly, "will be a little more detailed."

Internal Affairs Director Dean Furzercott, when questioned by Council about whether the Executive had any contingency plan should the York University Staff Association (YUSA) vote to strike on September 30th, explained that he was not aware of the YUSA-Administration conflict.

Almost hunted to extinction during the 1800s in the North American West, the buffalo, and its relative "The Water Buffalo" (the alleged *CYSF* newsletter), still have yet to reappear around York campus. Rumour has it "The Buffalo" will appear on September 30. If so it is 29 days late, for those of us who are counting.

In non-directorial goings-on, the *CYSF* voted to end recovery of legal fees from Jill Shibou. Congratulations to Dave Hawkins and the guys from Founder's College for breaking new ground for college representatives by asking Council to clarify its position on the Shibou case. Again, however, it would appear that none of the assembled college representatives gathered the director's reports, and associated documents, to read prior to the Council meeting.

CYSF is still without a permanent speaker and a permanent secretary. At present, *CYSF* President McCreddie is filling the job as speaker, but applications can be delivered to 105 Central Square (please!). Also the Council is 14 days late in appointing a Chief Returning Officer, as declared by Article IV, By-law 2, of the *CYSF* Charter. President McCreddie and the executive have also failed to appoint a manager for the Liquor Management Agency, for 1987-88. As a result the *CYSF* is unable to organize licensed gatherings.

The *CYSF* "yet-to-be complete" calendar for 1987-88

- *The Water Buffalo*—as of September 30, 1987 this un-published, soon-to-be, hope-to-be newsletter is 29 days late.
- *Liquor Management Agency (LMA)*—the executive still has not appointed a manager for the LMA. Previous executives had already undertaken this responsibility by now.
- *Chief Returning Officer (CRO)*—as of September 30, 1987 the *CYSF* is 15 days late in appointing its CRO.
- *Speaker/Secretary*—the *CYSF* is still without a permanent speaker or secretary. This is an on-going vacancy from last year's *CYSF*.

Why I ran as a PC candidate

*After being persistently criticized for running in the recent provincial election, *CYSF* President Drew McCreddie presented this document at a recent *CYSF* meeting.*

The calling of a provincial election for September 10th could not have been at a worse time for York University students. Early September is the time of transition for students as they get ready for the upcoming academic year.

For those students who live away from York during the summer, the timing of the election caught them in the middle of their transition back to university. These students were either forced to vote in their "summer riding" with almost two weeks of the campaigning incomplete, or they could vote in the "York school year riding" where they have missed all but two weeks of the riding's campaign. Either way, it was obvious that students' concerns were not taken into consideration when the date of the election was chosen.

With that in mind, and the fact that education is an incredibly

important provincial issue, I felt it was important to express my concerns that students were not being considered in the timing of the election. After calling the press to express their concerns as President of the second largest university in the province, and after having the press hang up on me, I realized that I had to do something dramatic to insure that student issues were to be addressed in the election.

Coincidentally, the Progressive Conservative candidate position was still vacant for the riding of Downsview. I live in Downsview, and go to school in Downsview, and so I entered my name for nomination.

I won the nomination and became the PC candidate for the provincial riding of Downsview. The effect was that I was able to force educational issues onto the political agenda within the riding. This was my goal.

Another effect was that York University received a certificate issuing office on campus. When I received my list of enumerated voters I was shocked to see how few students had

been enumerated. Many students were out of town and others had simply been missed by the enumerators.

As a candidate I was able to convince the returning office to place a certificate issuing office on campus. This office was very successful, and a great many students were able to vote who otherwise may not have taken the time to travel to the election office to receive a certificate. Would I have been able to get a certificate office on campus without running? We shall never know. What I do know is that many students benefitted from having a certificate office on campus.

I feel I need to write this because so many people have asked me the same question and because my "side" of the story has not been covered properly in any campus press.

My intention was to highlight student issues to make Downsview and the three major parties aware that York University exists and that we are important. I feel I did that. I feel students benefitted.