

1985/86: Of muckraking, thievery, and elitism

Continued from page 3

Sept. 26/85

OFS defended: The schism between the CYSF executive and council widens as members of council are outraged over the motion to pull out of OFS without holding a student referendum.

Excellence fever hits York: A debate called "Excellence in a Democratic Society," featuring the head honchos from Harvard, Oxford and Universite de Paris, fizzles out in a big way as the participants fail to disagree on anything.

Oct. 3/85

Strike looms: YUFA and Administration blathering takes on surrealistic characteristics as YUFA chair Hollis Rinehart makes his "people or buildings" proclamation: that the Administration should put more money into faculty salaries before upgrading York facilities.

Oct. 10/85

Strike strikes: YUFA hits the pickets. York's 1,100 full-time faculty and librarians go on strike for the first time in the University's history. The strike was settled after two days.



Images in Vogue: A cold and rainy orientation concert in September.

Oct. 17/85

The Myth of Sisyphus: CYSF President Reya Ali begins his futile attempt to restructure York student government by trying to bring non-member colleges into the CYSF fold.

Oct. 24/85

Provincial placebo: the year of 'excellence' grinds on: Minister of Colleges and Universities Gregory Sorbara announces a \$50 million "excellence fund" to be allocated to Ontario's universities. Meanwhile council of Ontario Universities say the universities need \$170 million a year.

Water polo outrage: Kim Schweitzer, a member of York's men's water polo team, is declared ineligible on the basis of sex by the Ontario Universities Athletics Association. York's Department of Men's Athletics allow her to play despite the ruling.

The infamous Glendon Zone: Martin Zarnett dares call Glendon part of York and angry letters to the editor, legitimate and otherwise, flood in.



Ring around the rosie: York faculty held a strike for the first time in the University's history. They were back after two days.

Nov. 7/85

GSA goes: The Graduate Students Association holds a successful referendum to pull out of CYSF, further hindering Reya Ali's attempts to centralize York student government.

Nov. 14/85

CYSF backtracks: CYSF knuckles under to council pressure and declares that it will hold a referendum on the OFS issue.

Club flub: A poorly administrated York Student Movement Against Apartheid (YSMAA) is refused funding because of a poorly defined CYSF bylaw, which does not permit funding to "political" groups.

Famine scam: A shadowy charity organization, The Ethiopian Famine Relief Fund of Toronto, sets up on campus

after being exposed by Toronto media for its outrageous business practices.

Nov. 28/85

Art theft #1b: Stong College offers a \$1,000 reward for information leading to the return of the stolen Sendry prints. They have yet to turn up.

Of Dodos and Edsel's: The Scott Library's catalogue became extinct only to be replaced by newfangled micro catalogues and hifalutin terminals.

Dec. 5/85

Art theft #2: William McElcheran's "The Race" is stolen from the Ross Building. It turned up the following week in parking lot F with minimal scratches to its heads.

Gus: Gusland Grumy makes a fly-by-night appearance in *Excalibur*, talking of Luella and Laura Secord chocolates. Gus had just defected from the Atkinsonian and has since disappeared into obscurity.

Jan. 9/86

Health hazard given heave-ho: Bales of asbestos were to be seen hauled down the walls of Osgoode in Phase I of asbestos removal. The Law School was closed for a week.

Meininger plays hardball: The Administration clamps down on Calumet College, withholding half of their funding grant until they comply with university regulations concerning financial accountability. Calumet complied.

More Task Force shennanigans: A secret task force investigating the possibilities of commercial/academic links in the field of basic research, initiated by research intensive universities is exposed and disappears ignominiously.

Jan. 16/86

Take a gander: The weather goose finally arrives to grace *Excalibur's* pages.

Hear ye, Hear ye: In a pressure induced moment of giddiness, *Excalibur's* editorial writers declare that apathy no longer exists at York. We realized our mistake in the morning.

Jan. 23/86

Divestment hopes: York seems on the verge of becoming the second university in Canada to divest from South Africa as the All-University Pension Committee votes to divest York's pension fund.

Pub flub: A December audit of the Orange Snail pub in Stong College reveals cash shortages totalling over \$12,000 for 1984/85. The culprit has still not felt the icy touch of the long arm of justice.

More booze news: A committee investigating alcohol abuse at York feels the problem is so serious that they recommend an Alcoholics Anonymous chapter be established at York.

Signage saga: Long recognizing the inadequate signage on campus the University sets up a committee to make amends. We wait with baited breath.



The man who was king: CYSF prez Reya Ali.

Jan. 30/86

Bearpit boredom #1: About 12 people, including spokespersons both for and against OFS at York attend the February 6 debate concerning membership in OFS. In order for CYSF to stay in OFS we had to vote "NO." Make sense?

Call in the Cavalry: Unable to make sense of itself York University decides to bring in the Guelph Provost to figure out student government. Paul Gilmour is scheduled to have a report ready by November. Good luck.

Fuck Poetry: York Provost Tom Meininger places an injunction against further distribution of poetry rag, but it's too late, they've all been distributed. Apparently the rag had already found its way to Vancouver, California and Hawaii. Aloha.

Feb. 6/86

The shocking truth about retention: A study leaked to us from the usual source indicates that York has the highest number of drop-outs and transfers of any Ontario university. So much for 'excellence.'

The walls came tumbling down: York's grad residences need major repairs although no one is supposed to know about it. In particular the building at 6 Assiniboine Rd. has major structural defects that may "cause some sort of failure." (Like fall down perhaps) But Norman Crandles, Director of Housing and Food Services says not to worry.

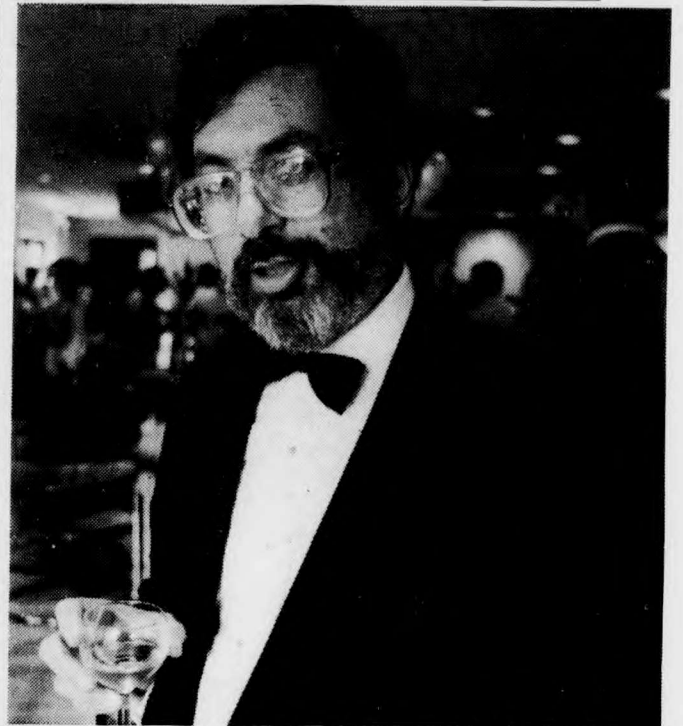
Feb. 13/86

No, we want OFS: York students vote NO to stay in OFS.

Return to sender: Rambo van Belkom sets an *Excalibur* record for letters to the editor for 85/86 after characterizing intramural athletes as drunkards. The letters are still coming. Burp.

Feb. 27/86

Special muckrakers' collection issue: Glendon VP Jas Ahmad is determined by ace *Excalibur* muckraker Gary Symons to have forged phony letter praising his own council with special attention paid to himself in letter to *Excalibur*.



Our hero: The University's finest hour attracted the rich and famous, among them champagne-toting York President Harry Arthurs. The hoi polloi were admitted to the opening of the Faculty Club, only to be banned some months later.

Steinem at York: Noted feminist Gloria Steinem wows 'em at Osgoode, packing Moot Court. 2,000 were turned away.

March 6/86

March comes in like a lamb newswise.

March 13/86

Divestment disappointment: A committee of York's Board of Governors say they need more time to think about divesting the Pension Fund. Anti-apartheid activists cry foul. A decision is still pending.

March 20/86

The dollars dribble in: The Ontario Liberal government announces its 85/86 funding grants to Ontario universities. York's administration heaves a great sigh, saying York is still chronically underfunded.

Another leaked report: Somehow a report arrives at *Excalibur* detailing research into the possibility of York establishing a school of architecture following U of T's announcement that they will be closing theirs.

Centre court convocation: Osgoode Law School students are up in arms over the Administration's decision to combine their precious rites of convocation with the Business School types. The combined convocation is to be held at the Tennis Centre.

March 27/86

Maybe they're not so bad: The Liberal government acts swiftly in response to last week's editorial in *Excalibur*, which lambasted them for not being any kinder to the universities than the previous government. Gregory Sorbara announces his government will grant York \$4.3 million for the construction of a new Fine Arts facility.

Apathy's greatest hour: CYSF sets a record by having four out of seven directorships acclaimed as election fever hits York.

Caste system established at York: Student undesirables are banned forever from the Faculty Club, the only place where you can get a half decent meal on campus.

April 3/86

Bearpit boredom #2: As students pass by obliviously on their business, CYSF's two presidential candidates and a handful of supporters announce their intentions to the wind.

2+2=5: Presidential candidate Gerard Blink is the victim of a smear campaign which calls into question his academic record. Everyone knows who did it but no one can say.

The decline and fall of the West: *Excalibur* editorial writers lament the loss of the Faculty Club to their ken. A heroic call to arms is sounded, but falls on deaf ears.

April 4/86

Hail to the Chief: Gerard Blink wins. Ticker tape parades and huge parties transform the campus . . . well, not exactly.

The dark side: No election is complete without its dark side. This year one man almost singlehandedly invalidated the entire CYSF elections. Enough said.