

Excalibur

Everything secret degenerates; nothing is safe that does not show it can bear discussion and publicity — Lord Acton

editorial

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Hayden's pipe dream should go up in smoke

Look up on the page. Under the word *Excalibur* are words of Lord Acton's which identify our student council's greatest shortcoming to date.

Virtually every entity financed by our central student council (including Harbinger, the course unions, *Excalibur*, *Breakthrough*, political clubs and the Women's Centre) are being cut back - or in Harbinger's case, sacrificed - to support a pipedream. Others, such as CKRY, have seen no slash in their budget but are as under-financed as ever.

CYSF has secreted away \$10,000 that should rightfully go to all the legitimate groups who need a slice of its budgetary pie large enough to survive on.

Last January the seven-member executive committee of CYSF decided to bank away \$10,000. It was never discussed, let alone approved by the council of the whole (25 members) either last year or this year. As part of the approximately \$19,000 surplus remaining from last year, it did not even appear in this year's budget.

The only member of the executive committee of 76-77 still on council is president Paul Hayden. Besides him the only two holdovers on council from last year - Mary Marrone and Abie Weisfeld - have opposed Hayden's council cutbacks from the start.

Many of the remaining members have shown their naïveté by blithely voting for a regressive budget while being totally unaware of the sum's existence. Some members of the executive are ignorant enough to confuse funded groups with one another, or (for some reason) to believe that two separate groups are one.

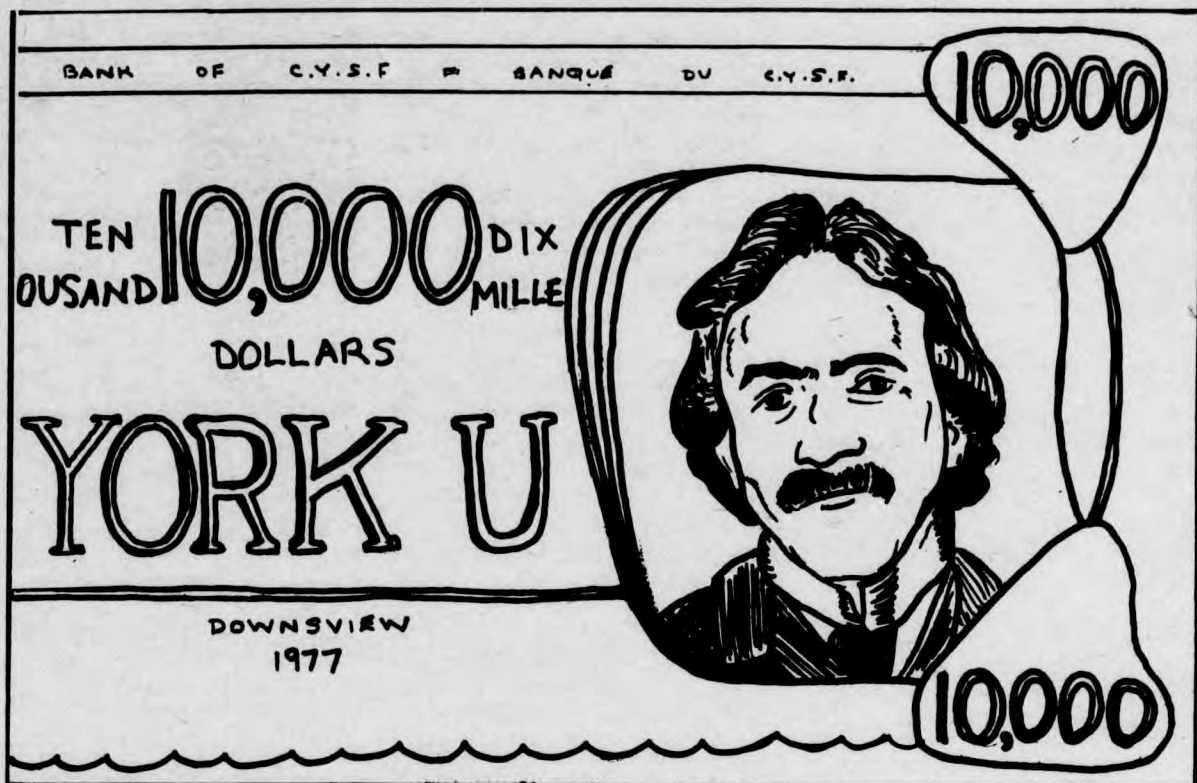
Why were many council members never informed of this investment? Why weren't the students? Why did it have to be "uncovered"?

No mandate was ever received to put away funds for a rainy day and simultaneously cut back on services. Such a program was never mentioned in any campaign. While the students opposing the cutbacks number in the hundreds, (they've signed petitions) no public support for the council's policies is visible.

As already noted, the turnover rate at CYSF from year to year is appalling - exceeded only by the percentage of acclamations and resignations. How can supporters of Hayden's pipe dreams - a dental plan and the conversion of the Oasis into a food co-op in 1979 - be counted on to be around in two or three year's time? Can they count on their successors having the same priorities?

The Oasis plan itself is absurd for other reasons as well.

The basic rent on central square enterprises is between \$5 and \$10 per square foot per annum. For Oasis that's somewhere between \$14,500 and \$29,000 a year.



Larger tenants pay a percentage-of-profits tax if it turns out to be greater than the basic tax.

Central Square merchants also pay the university for the following: heating, cooling, water, electricity, insurance, cleaning, building maintenance and garbage removal.

How will CYSF stock the shelves, given \$10,000 and such a massive overhead?

Furthermore, the university rents out Central Square space to make money. And they're sure to stick with United Cigar Stores (which runs the lucrative Oasis) rather than someone with a track record like CYSF's.

The university has also shown time and time again that it wants the caterers to do well - because it also makes money off them - and a co-op would make for more competition on top of all the student-run pubs and coffeshops. The administration has already blocked the Black Creek Food Co-op from starting up.

Incidentally, the Black Creek Co-op would be instantly in action if the administration (and Oasis) yielded. CYSF's co-op aspirations would be better put behind Black Creek, whose planners have the know-how to bring it off.

The bond must be sold and the funds split as equitably as possible among the groups that need them. This is not the time for CYSF to invest.

Everything secret degenerates. So does everything as irresponsible as CYSF. Unfortunately, it already has.

Glad tidings

As the campus' perennial bearer of bad tidings, we were plenty glad to report some good news this issue. Some very good news indeed.

The York Soccer Yeomen have won the Canadian Championship. York's athletes are widely unappreciated. They work hard at something they find meaningful, make a lot of sacrifices and we don't think they get the recognition they deserve. But at least that's changed for the soccer team who have won a really inspiring victory.

They played the opening game of the championship in a snowstorm; they won their second game in overtime, after coming from behind; and by the time the third and final game rolled around they had played three complete soccer games in two.

So congratulations to Coach Willis; to Magic Mac Musaby, voted Most Valuable Player in the Championship Series; and to the real star; the team effort.

The winning effort of the 1977 Canadian University Soccer Champions — The York Yeomen.

Staff meets today 1 pm

Agenda will include ratification of new sub-editors, assignments, review of the issue. Don't forget editorial meetings Tuesdays at 5 and the first-term review, probably next Thursday.



Waterbeds unwelcome in Bethune

Hats off to the Bethune students who will withhold their rent, if physical plant doesn't see to the recaulking of their leaky window frames.

While the situation at Bethune is far removed from the aquatic chaos depicted in the *Toronto Star*, it is clearly intolerable. Twice in a month, two dozen Bethune residents have endured sopping carpets and a musty stench, when rain water seeped into the building during heavy storms.

The Bethune "water committee" decided not to wait until physical plant got around to repairing their leaks. They notified *the Star*, contacted the North York Health Department and hit on the idea of a rent strike.

Maybe now some action will result.

An interesting fact has emerged from all this. The reason Bethune is soaking while the Ross Building is dry, is that York's residences are cheaper constructions than its academic and administrative buildings. When companies bid for the contract to construct a residence, they were judged by a "cost design" criteria.

We're no architects but we're willing to risk the assertion that the cheapness of a bid decided its fate.

As usual students bear the brunt of cost-cutting. And York administrators are not to blame in this case. They didn't have the same source of funding to build the residences which they possessed for the financing of the university's other buildings.

Rather than the Ministry of Colleges and Universities, the administration built the residences with the money from the Ontario Student Housing Corporation, which provided a small bank roll.

This callous policy of cutting expenses by providing people with second rate shelter, is yet another example of the Tory government's screwed-up priorities, when it comes to saving money.

The Tories save money on municipal aid by closing down hospitals. They cut the costs of higher education by reducing student assistance, hiring fewer prof's and paying workers low wages (God forbid they should save money by cutting flab from the education bureaucracy). And they saved money building York

University by enforcing inferior construction standards when student housing was erected.

When will it end?

Never. Unless the people of Ontario — including students — behave in a way similar to the Bethune water committee; by taking their problems into their own hands and telling Davis:

No more.



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