

BATTLE O' WORDS OVER BASEBALL MANAGER'S HONOURARY DEGREE

BY VINCE COLEMAN

The university's decision to give an honorary degree to St. Louis Cardinals manager Whitey Herzog has many members of the York community crying foul.

The decision was announced by York president Harry Arthurs' office Monday, ending days of speculation surrounding the decision. "Mr. Herzog is the best possible candidate we could find for an honorary doctorate of letters," said Arthurs' assistant Swell Lynn. "Besides, York's aim is to give every damn Herzog we can find a degree."

Over the summer, York granted an honorary degree to Israeli president Chaim Herzog. Both decisions have aroused a great deal of controversy.

A group of professors who periodically sound off about human rights abuses, headed by Eric Conehead, have expressed their disgust with the decision to grant the degree.

"We are disgusted by the granting of this degree to a man from the deep south," Conehead said. "If anyone should have been honoured, it should have been someone Canadian, like Wendel Clark or at least a member of the Jays."

He said the move may have exposed the racist underbelly of the administration.

"Why in the world would they grant a degree to a guy named Whitey?" he asked of the Alabama native.

The group of professors wrote letters to all the Toronto newspapers to express their concern. In addition, they sent letters to the *Financial Post*, *Maclean's*, *Stern*, and *Owl* magazine.

In the letter they tried to distance themselves from the administration, and said that if it were up to them they would abolish honorary degrees and give out free SPAM instead.

The group said, however, that it had nothing to do with the tar and feather treatment given to Arthurs by an "anonymous group of thugs," as Lynn called them.

"Not a bad idea but we didn't do it," Conehead said. "We try to confine ourselves to more civilized measures, like bake sales for the Sandinistas."

CYSF vice-president (external) P.D. Geek wrote a letter countering the professors' charge against the administration and sent it to every single tabloid he could think of. Only the *Midnight Star* published the letter. *The Toronto Sun* refused to publish it, saying, "Hey, we've got standards you know."

In the letter, Geeks said the professors should not have aired York's dirty laundry in public, and that they should have respected the administration's decision to grant the degree to a man who has never finished high school and couldn't put together a coherent sentence if his life depended on it.

"These profs should not have aired York's dirty laundry in public," he said. "Look, [Herzog] may not be a Philip Rushton, but that's no reason not to give him a degree. He's a great guy."

"Furthermore, if those profs ever do that again, I'm going to air my dirty laundry in public and then everyone will be really sorry," he added.

Meanwhile, a second group of professors, headed by Smasher Crasher Basher Masher Thrasher Hasher Dasher Levine (Ax for short) has emerged to defend the granting of a degree to Herzog.

"We're emerging to defend the granting of a degree to Herzog," Ax said. "He calls the hit and run better than anybody in the business."

The dispute has been creating headaches for secretarial and administrative staff all over the university, since many people have been protesting university offices and calling to register complaints.

Said one anonymous angry secretary after a horde of people stormed her office, "Fuck, you'd think they'd just given a degree to Stalin or something."

ARTHURS SHOT DEAD IN SUCCESSFUL COUP BY VP FINANCE FARR



The dead, wet body of Prez. Harry Arthurs.

BODY FOUND IN FIELD

BY VLADIMIR LENIN

President Harry Arthurs was shot dead by hit men yesterday in a coup staged by vice-president (finance and administration) Bill Farr.

Arthurs' lifeless body was found in a field south of Osgoode as Farr's Bureaucratic Liberation Army Henchmen (BLAH) captured the president's office and took control of the security forces.

Immediately after the coup, Farr sealed off all entrances to the campus saying it was something that he had wanted to do for a long time, but would not say why.

"This is something that I have wanted to do for a long time, but I won't tell you why," Farr said. "Nyah, nyah, nyah, nyah, nyah, nyah."

Farr then declared himself the supreme ruler of York University and an all around great guy.

Metro Police have been unable to penetrate the campus all night as the BLAHs have been situated all over the outer rim of the campus.

"The law will never get me because I am the law now," Farr said. "I was running the campus anyway, so what the hell is the difference."

"No one will miss that

son of a bitch," he added referring to Arthurs. "He spends too much time out of the country anyway."

In a prepared statement, Farr said from now on, everyone will refer to him as the Almighty Farr. In addition, he said that starting February 30, students will be replaced with potted plants and Tim Horton's will become the new emblem of York. As well, he declared that as far as he was concerned, the Earth is as of now officially flat and the moon is made of green cheese.

Swell Lyn, Arthurs' assistant who was at his side when he was killed, said Farr's hitmen were brutal in their execution of Arthurs.

"The hitmen were brutal," she said. "They shot him, tore out his lungs and dumped him in a field. And that field was really wet."

She vowed to avenge Arthurs' death in any way she could, starting by issuing as many press releases and reports as she could.

"I'm a bureaucrat, alright, leave me alone," she said.

Reaction to the coup from administration, staff, faculty and students was mixed.

"I never really liked Arthurs but a wet field is just too much," said one bureaucrat who refused to be identified.

"Fuck," said another.

CYSF president Peter Donut called the killing senseless and brutal.

"This killing was senseless and brutal," Donut said. "At least if they were going to stage a coup, they could have done it right. What's wrong with Farr? You'd think he worked for *Excelsior* or something."

"But I would like to be the first to pledge allegiance to the Almighty Farr and say that my door is always a door," he added.

Provost Queen Elizabeth said she hoped the coup would have a beneficial effect for students but added that she was "worried about this potted plant thing."

"I'm pretty worried about this potted plant thing," she said. "If it were up to me I would have planted spring bulbs, but at least he's trying to beautify the campus, so I really can't complain."

"What we really need more than anything else is a beautiful campus," she added. "Everything else is like icing on the back of a pig."