

R4  
6/6  
MONDAY, OCTOBER 1, 1990

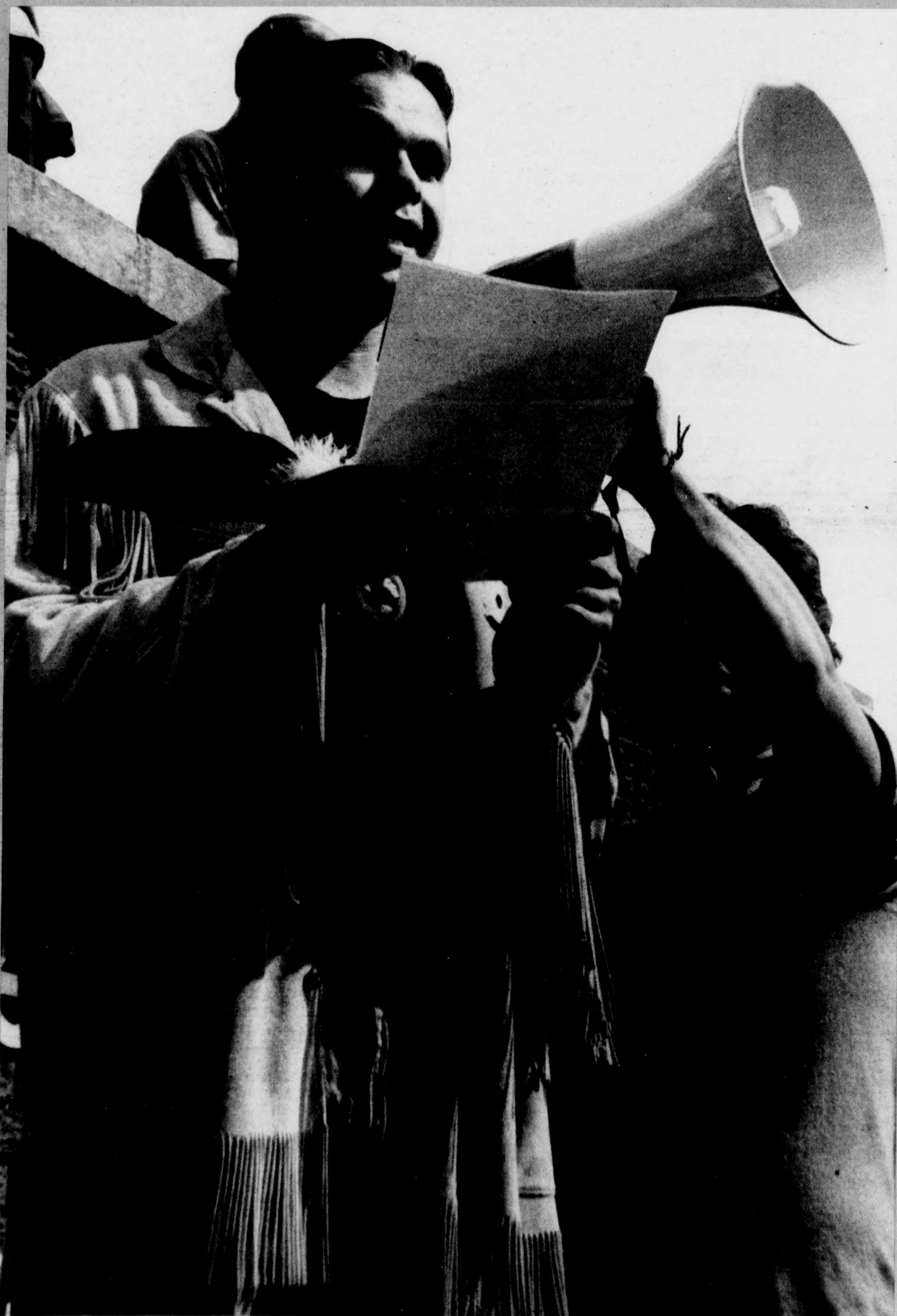
VOLUME 25 ISSUE 15

# excalibur

YORK UNIVERSITY'S COMMUNITY NEWSPAPER

ORDER FROM  
Get free Exca7 delivered  
and save \$2.00 OFF  
ON ANY FOOD ORDER  
over \$10.00  
ONE COUPON PER ORDER  
665-0062

## York leads march for Natives



by Alex Lam

Last Wednesday, York students took a public stand in favour of Native solidarity.

A group of Osgoode Hall law students, organized by the Native Law Student Association, held a peaceful demonstration at Downsview Military Base in support of Native self-determination. Approximately 100 protesters, including university students, Natives and children, gathered at the main entrance of Canadian Forces Base (CFB), located on Sheppard street just east of Keele.

After marching from corner to corner at the front gate, the group filed up to the guard house. The protesters eventually returned to the front gate to hear rally leaders deliver a prepared statement to the press.

Bernd Christmas, a third year Osgoode student and organizer for the rally, said he hoped the afternoon's march would promote a better understanding of Native issues among students.

"Aboriginal peoples have historically been subjected to oppressive and discriminatory practices by the Canadian governments and educational systems," said Christmas.

"We, as law students encourage all students to join in the struggle for First Nations sovereignty in the form of self government which would eventually lead to peace."

CFB commander Colonel D.B. Abbott came out to give an official response to the statement. However, he made his appearance while the protesters were listening to the speakers. Abbott waited at the front gates for 15 minutes and was then called back to his office.

Susan Hare, president of the Ontario Native Women's Association, said "an ongoing public awareness of Native issues must be continued once the media promotion dies out after the disengagement at Oka."

Many passing drivers showed their support for the protesters by blowing their horns. One ambulance driver provided verbal support through his P.A. system, while another gave a blast from his sirens.

The Metro Police arrived toward the end of the demonstration while protesters were disbanding. The police constables stated that they were there to ensure traffic safety. Two cruisers and a police mini-van remained until the crowd was taken away by the organizers' buses.

**RALLYING CRY:** Bernd Christmas, a third-year Osgoode student & protest organizer, delivers a prepared statement to the press. "We as law students encourage all students to join in the struggle for First Nations sovereignty in the form of self government & educational systems," Christmas said. The rally, which was held last Wednesday at Canadian Forces Base (Downsview) was attended by more than 100 demonstrators, including university students, Natives, & children.