

Clubs chair says poster anti-British

by John Montesano

Backlash against a poster encouraging Princess Di to "Fuck Chuck" and attend a campus club's Halloween dance has its designer angry.

The poster advertised a Portuguese Student Association dance on Oct. 30.

"I don't understand why this is such a big deal," said John Vieira, who designed the poster and is the club's social director.

"We were censored because some parents complained and the poster upset the chair of the club coalition," he said. "I can't believe this happened at York."

Judith Lewis [also known as Ayra], chair of the clubs coalition, a body of York club representatives, responded to a complaint by Ian Bell, Vanier College council president.

Bell said he happened to walk by the parents of a York student who were complaining about the poster.

"It's kind of serious if we have parents complaining as well as students," Lewis said, who added no one else complained to her about the poster.

The poster includes a photo of Princess Di and the quote, "I'm damn tired out of sitting on my ass and playing with my royal jewels! Fuck Chuck."

Bell also found eight of the posters in his mailbox the next day and decided to approach the Portuguese club and Lewis.

Bell said he asked the club to use a little more discretion when attacking people.

"You have to be especially careful when you are talking about an identifiable group," he said.

Bell last week, who had nothing but good things to say about the clubs' response to the complaints.

Lewis then asked Vieira to speak with the clubs review committee to discuss the complaint.

"It offended me personally, being part British, to include the British [royal] family," Lewis said. "But that had nothing to do with my talking to the club. I was just responding to a complaint."

"I think it's gotten totally out of control," said Portuguese club president Norberto Costa about the incident.

Costa said the club does not want to cause trouble

and settled the situation with Bell as soon as possible but added, "It was a shock to me. It's like we're being persecuted for nothing."

Lewis has since been told that Bell and the club resolved the situation but said she will approach Student Affairs about whether or not to pursue the complaint at their next meeting.

Lewis also said the clubs review process is new and being developed throughout the year.



Portuguese students Sandra Ferreira and poster designer John Vieira were surprised by reaction • photo by Wayne Todd

Marchers slam visiting Republican candidate

by Nina Kolunovsky

York students told right-wing American Pat Buchanan to go home last week.

Feminists, lesbians, gays, Jews and people of colour were among the 150 who protested at Buchanan's scheduled speech at a downtown hotel.

"He is a racist, sexist, homophobic jerk," said Jiles, a volunteer from the Toronto-based Anti-Racist Action who would not give his last name.

Carrying signs with slogans like, "Don't Mainstream Racism" and "Go Home Pat", the demonstrators spoke and marched in front of the Sheraton Center, peacefully dispersing before Buchanan's 12:45 scheduled appearance.

Buchanan, who ran strongly against George Bush for the Republican Party Nomination this year, "is considered a leading candidate for the Republican presidential nomination in 1996," according to the advertisement for the lecture.

Buchanan has been quoted as saying that AIDS is "nature's retribution" on homosexuals.

Ben Ramsay, male coordinator of Bisexual, Lesbian and Gay Alliance at York, said "obviously a lot of people agree with him [for him to get that far in the election process]. That's a frightening idea!"

This thought was echoed by many demonstrators.

"He represents a specific threat to me as a lesbian of color," said Michele Chai, internal vice-president at the York Federation of Students.

"There is too much hatred in our society, and too many people pushing it on the younger generation," said Jason Kamenz, a first-year York student.

In June of 1990, Buchanan characterized ethnic groups as a danger to the "Euro-Americans who founded the USA."

Buchanan has also brought on the wrath of the Jewish community over the years. He has called Washington's Capitol Hill an "Israeli-occupied territory". He has referred to a "so-called 'Holocaust Survivor Syndrome'," which he described as "group fantasies of martyrdom and heroics".

"We live in scary times, when a racist like Pat Buchanan is the keynote speaker at the Republican National Convention," said David Dancona from York's Jewish Student Federation.

The demonstration was organized by the Ontario Public Research

Group, a University of Toronto-based social justice group. It was supported by many other groups and organizations which oppose his stated views.

Buchanan's Tuesday speech dealt mostly with the recent U. S. presidential elections. He praised President-elect Bill Clinton, but had harsh words for his wife, Hillary. He said that he thinks that "Hillary's cookie baking is a cover-up [for her left-of-center political views]".

The *Globe and Mail* sponsored the lunch lecture, one of a \$720 per person series of six. Buchanan said during the event that most Americans view Canada as a "latent arthritis. We don't think about it unless it acts up on us."

After speaking to its club administrators, the posters were taken down and the situation appeared to be settled.

"I'm totally satisfied and am prepared to put the situation behind us," said

York refuses name for sexist calendar

by Sara Singer

A York entrepreneur says free enterprise is being censored at York because the university refused the use of its name for his calendar.

Kirk Exner, a York business student and president of the York Entrepreneurs club, released the calendar this month with "women of York" photographs.

He was told he couldn't use York's name because the photographs are considered degrading to women.

York's licensing board, whose powers went into effect March 1990, did not approve Exner's product this

summer. The board based the decision on a set of guidelines which are used to determine whether the association of York's name with a product is appropriate.

"The licensing board were already hostile before I approached them with the idea," said Exner, who calls his company Way Beyond Cool Productions.

"I don't think they made a discerning decision."

Nikki Gershbnain, a member of the licensing board and York's student federation president said the reasons for not approving it were clear.

"It seemed inappropriate for the

university to support that kind of crap," said Gershbnain. "It's the typical scenario of women being valued for their beauty and appearance and not their qualities and achievements".

The black and white photographs feature twelve women, one for each month, posed in various outdoor locations around the greater Toronto area.

Exner also said free enterprise is being denied as a result of what he called the leftist stance that prevails at York.

"I was really offended by their reaction. The right-wing faction at York has completely been stifled by the left, and the left is being promoted at York at the expense of the right," said Exner.

But Gershbnain disagrees.

"You don't have to be a feminist to see it was really offensive," she said.

Exner said he didn't understand why his project received so much flack when his intention was to exercise his business skills while in school.

"I decided to go ahead with the project, even though I will lose money, because free enterprise is being jilted," said Exner.

Louise Batch, coordinator of the Women's Centre, was concerned that the calendar reinforces the idea that women are to be looked at as objects for men who often don't take women seriously, she said.

Batch was also concerned with the way the calendar could affect women coming to York with these images of women as role models.

But Exner argues his calendar is not degrading to women.

"I don't have a problem with using women in advertising if it's done in a tasteful way and doesn't make them feel inferior, and I don't think I used them in that way," said Exner.

One of the calendar models, who didn't want to be identified, said she doesn't see the calendar as degrading to women.

"I made a conscious decision to be photographed in the way I was. No one pushed me to feel uncomfortable."

Union resolves Centre dispute

by Joe Sant' Arcangelo

A year-long dispute over the Student Centre's right to hire non-union cleaners has ended in a settlement.

After four hours of negotiations, an arrangement was reached which will allow Canadian Union of Public

Employee workers to clean club and office space on the top two floors of the centre, excluding the common areas.

The deal goes into effect Jan. 1, and allows union workers to clean these areas three evenings a week, with a reduction in services during

summer months.

"I think we're all looking for some form of resolution. It was mainly a question of working out the details," said Student Centre general manager Rob Castle.

Union president Ilpo Lehto, who filed a grievance with the Ontario Labour Board last year, had mixed feelings about the agreement.

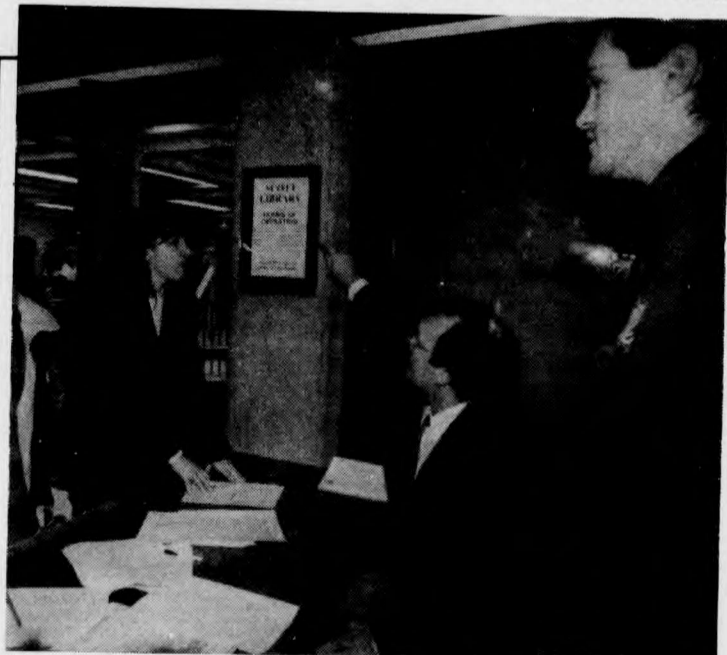
"Of course I'm not [totally happy], but I'm sure neither is the Student Centre, nor is the university," said Lehto. "But it's the medium we could agree on. It's better than a knock 'em down and drag 'em out battle."

Crystal Cleaning Services, a private company, started working in the Student Centre Oct. 17 after signing a contract to clean the whole building, which saved the centre about \$100,000 over last year's private cleaning budget.

Castle expects the contract will be adjusted through a credit system with Crystal. This credit will either be used towards other areas of the centre, or to improve building maintenance.

"We would like to boost up how things look in the food court. We're still saving a tremendous amount of money," he said.

Lehto predicted any "minor irritants" between the two cleaning staffs could be worked out.



Pointing out a problem

Student members of York's Senate are encouraging people to sign a petition this week for longer hours at Scott Library • photo by Wayne Todd