

Green makes Dean

Can alien foster and stimulate Canadian culture

By MICHAEL FORMAN

The question of non-Canadian faculty dominance at York was again raised last week with the ratification of Joseph Green as new dean of Fine Arts.

Green, an American teaching at York for the last four and a half years replaces retiring dean Jules Heller July 1. Though Green's choice as candidate received an unprecedented amount of support from his faculty colleagues, some questioned Green's ability as a non-Canadian to foster and stimulate a distinct Canadian culture.

In an interview with Excalibur, Green scoffed at any suggestion that being an American should prevent

him from becoming dean.

"I don't think that my citizenship has that much bearing on the deanship," he declared. "I would have preferred becoming a citizen before I became dean in order to actively participate in the political system but as dean I'll be buried up here."

Green, now associate dean of the faculty, said when appointed that he intends to apply for Canadian citizenship within the next six months, when he is eligible.

Replying to a suggestion by associate dean Ian Silcox in a letter in last week's Excalibur that his choice could not be reconciled with

"our major goals", Green said that heritage means more than merely Canadian heritage.

His goals are essentially to ensure that students "are given an opportunity to broaden themselves in an awareness of their past, their heritage . . . and at the same time to begin some strong disciplinary training."

He refuted Canadian nationalism, stating, "We share a heritage of western tradition . . . within that one's national heritage is a significant part of that, but that's no different in the States than it is here."

Green's experience in Canadian theatre has included criticizing Canadian plays, serving as both treasurer and board member of the Canadian Theatre Centre and being Canadian representative to the International Directors Symposium. He admitted that he had not been able to study as much Canadian culture as he would have wished to, but felt "very positive towards the whole Canadian scene."

Green is also considered as one of the major forces behind establishing York's graduate fine arts department, which has since been held up by the government.

"We've made from the beginning diligent attempts to find Canadians to work on the faculty," Green noted.

Silcox, who was rumoured to be himself a candidate for the deanship, claimed that among those considered for the job, there were some "uncontestably better qualified, more accomplished and of



Joseph Green

greater stature" than Green. The eventual winner, he suggested, while announcing he intended to resign his own position because of the appointment, lacks "shrewdness and imagination".

Green says he favours a balance between the old and the new, and will encourage students and faculty

to work together.

"What we have is pretty damn good, and I'm not here to turn things over, but to stabilize what we have."

Green, who indicated that his close working relationship with Silcox was coming to an end, said he was pleased with support received from the rest of the faculty.

York student cuts his first single

By LEE GOODCHILD

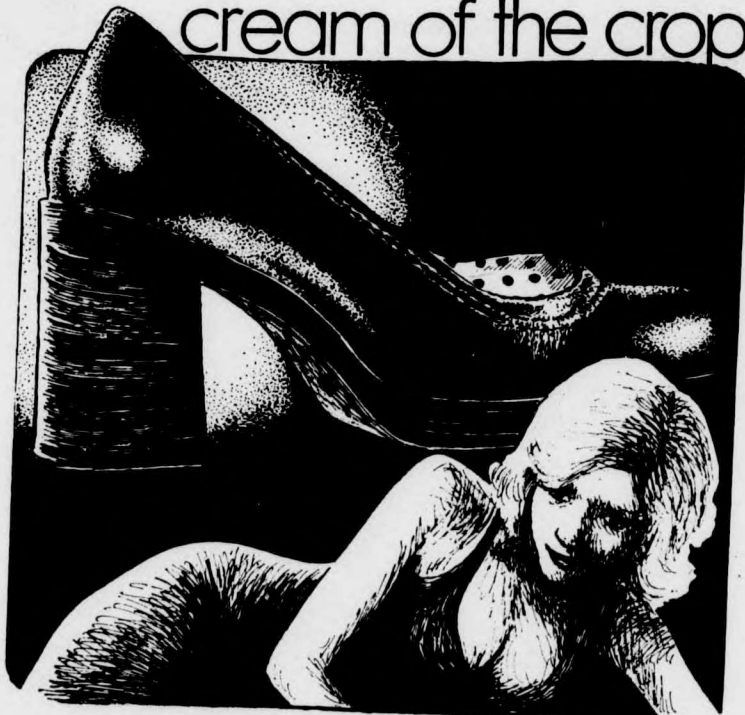
Bondi Junction is the name of a shopping area in Sydney Australia — but it's also the name of a recently released 45 rpm single by York fine arts student Peter Foldy. Foldy was signed last November to a one year recording contract with renewal options by Kanata records.

Foldy, an Australian who came to Canada five years ago, is a third year fine arts student majoring in film. His involvement in music has included playing with a group at "topless" bars in Toronto and he has been writing his own material since he started playing guitar seven years ago.

"I was quite nervous the first day in the studio," Foldy said about his recording. "There I was with these top session people at a studio that was costing Kanata \$100 per hour. I felt I had heavy responsibilities on my shoulders. Fortunately, it all worked out for the best and I was very pleased with the end result."

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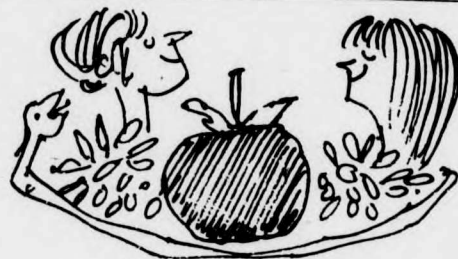
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