

# GRILLING THE PRESIDENTIAL CANDIDATES



LISA OLSEN

## MICHAEL LATCHANA

### Candidate stresses more accessibility

**EXCAL:** What do you think you can bring to the position of CYSF president and what are your proposals?

**LATCHANA:** I'm dedicated to student government and seeing improvements. I've got experience from years of being involved with clubs and (this year) in central government. The past year has been the most exciting, I'd say, being in CYSF, and I've learned a lot. I've learned how to go up against the administration; how to deal with them; how to address student concerns; and how to work with the issues as they come up.

As for proposals, I've got four main goals this year. The most important is to improve upon the present system of student government. The main complaint this year is that the reports weren't ready on time, so people didn't know what was going on in Council. That has come up so many times. I think there is an easy solution; because we can't afford a full-time administrative assistant, and our secretary is always too busy, the simple solution would be let everybody hand their stuff in 24 hours in advance, and we would hire someone for a few hours each Monday evening. So the first thing on Tuesday, the reports are there.

I'd like to stress accessibility too, in that people should be keeping office hours, they should be there when someone needs them.

**EXCAL:** Let's go to the Colleges first. CYSF represents under 50 percent of the undergraduate student population at York. How would you get the Colleges more involved and how does that relate to Gilmor?

**LATCHANA:** I think there is a need for restructur-

ing, whether Gilmor goes through or not. I think the opting out clause that exists right now, where people can pull out, is not good for the undergraduate voice as a whole. There isn't a single voice right now that speaks for students whenever there is an issue from strikes to intramural fees; we haven't been able to deal with those questions because of that split in the middle. I think I will try my best to get them back into the fold. We need stronger student government; we need better representation.

**EXCAL:** How would you get them back into the fold? What do you have to offer them?

**LATCHANA:** By truly negotiating with them. I think I'd stress the fact that students need a voice, and they need to part of that voice too. All the five Colleges right now who belong find that there's something worthwhile, and maybe we could point that out to the two that have opted out . . .

**EXCAL:** Given the structure of the Ontario Federation of Students (OFS), as a lobby group, can York really expect to get its proper share, or do we need a separate lobby group?

**LATCHANA:** The students expressed themselves in last year's OFS referendum and agreed to keep our OFS membership. Of course I think we can do our own lobbying. Joe (Baiardo, Director of Services and Communications) and Annita (Antoniani, Director of External Affairs) spent the day lobbying (at Queen's Park) during the "Stop the Gap" rally, but you'll always find the bigger universities there (at Queen's Park), who are going to have their clout, as we saw in the recent funding decision that left York a little better off than before.

I think the provincial government recognizes the importance of OFS. I think something like the "Stop the Gap" measure should take place more often, with students and the Administration getting together and working cohesively for the betterment of the University.

**EXCAL:** What do you see as the role of CYSF?

**LATCHANA:** CYSF should be the undergraduate voice at York. However that's achieved, or attempted depends on who's in office in that year. A lot of students are not aware of the CYSF out there in the (Central) Square, if you go to talk to them. We need to do some better PR on our part. We are not doing enough.

**EXCAL:** How will you get commuter students more involved in University life?

**LATCHANA:** I've been trying through the clubs this year in my portfolio to get them to work together. The club's intramurals, which was a big success, finished last week. We saw there commuter students who would stay after class and interact.

**EXCAL:** How would you avoid a situation like that which developed with the Chinese Student's Association?

**LATCHANA:** There was a breakdown in communication this year that should not have happened. This is one of the few years where only one group has been mad at CYSF. I have been

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LISA OLSEN

## DREW McCREADIE

### 'God is the reason I'm running for Prez'

**EXCAL:** Why are you running?

**McCREADIE:** It's a multi-fold reason; it has to do with direct contact with a deity. Has to do with the problems I've seen on campus that need to be corrected; and I believe there's a rather large salary with the position.

**EXCAL:** In what form did God come to you, and did you play any role in the Jim Bakker force-out on the weekend?

**McCREADIE:** No, I had nothing to do with Jim; I hear Tammy is in rehabilitation right now, it's really difficult to give up Max-Factor cold-turkey. I don't know about Tammy-Sue, if she's in as well, I believe. She should be—I think they're trying to get that colour out of her hair or something like that. I had nothing to do with them at all. I was contacted by the deity—which I'm going to leave nameless, so as not to offend anybody—through the Master of one of the Colleges here.

**EXCAL:** Which Master?

**McCREADIE:** Well, I'd best not say.

**EXCAL:** In your platform you also talked about bowling alleys through Central Square, but is it five-pin or ten-pin, and would there be video games?

**McCREADIE:** There would be video games in the outside section, but you see, it's a combination of ten and five: we put big sheets of rubber at the corners; you bowl down, hit pins, it bounces, travels down the other lane, bounces, travels down.

**EXCAL:** Aside from your campaign proposals you mentioned that you also would be giving away Ginsu knives. Would the Ginsu Knives also include the Bamboo Steamer?

**McCREADIE:** No, the Bamboo Steamer offer was only available if you called now. By the time that this comes out, it will be too late. The Ginsu knives actually are enough in themselves, because they do have the indestructible handles. You do get the power wheel, and I'll throw in the power driver too.

**EXCAL:** If the deity did speak to you, are you part of this religious right movement—Pat Robertson running for president in '88, and the Moral Majority?

**McCREADIE:** No, no, no. I think—when I was a very little boy, my mother used to come in to me when I was just falling asleep at night and set fire to my bed or something like that. And it's stayed with me ever since. And I think when something traumatic happens to you, you have to move. I mean, there are a lot of problems in this school. You see there's a lot of apathy, but no one cares. And I think that's the main reason why there has to be change in the school.

**EXCAL:** Regarding your mandatory deflowerization proposal, are you referring to removing all the flora, or deflowering those who have not yet tasted the bitter fruit?

**McCREADIE:** Well, I knew you were going to ask that question, and hence, deflowerization is not a real word. I think it's important to realize that—I don't mean to be racist or biased in any way, but we've got to get the virgins off campus. We could do it quickly, it would only hurt for a little while. You see there are two types of virgins: there are those who don't want it, and those who can't get it. And the reason I don't like those who can't get it is that they always try to pretend that they are those who don't want it.

**EXCAL:** So how do you distinguish?

**McCREADIE:** I think it's fairly obvious.

**EXCAL:** You say here "final grades based on need." What sort of need?

**McCREADIE:** Well I think that's in keeping with the basic philosophy of this whole school: If you can't go to university, go to York. And it's based on need: "I need a degree, I need it quick."

**EXCAL:** How would you go about making more dark and unsafe areas on campus?

**McCREADIE:** Well, actually, to tell you the truth, I don't think that's possible.

**EXCAL:** What about your plan to pave the entire campus?

**McCREADIE:** What good is the ground here? In the Winter, it's covered in snow, so you walk on the path; in the Spring and the Fall, it's muddy, mushy, and you can't walk on it. The only time it's any good is Summer, and you're not here. So pave it all over, pave the whole thing over.

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