

Presidential Candidates

Collins Cont'd

can't have people resigning or punching each other on an annual basis. If it got to be divisive, if it got to be that I was the only non-fraternity member and everyone else was, I would have to leave. I would only have one vote and I can't be part of that system.

Having a fraternity member on council is a conflict of interest but it is the responsibility of the voter to decide whether that person should be in power. Once that person is in power, that's democracy. I don't like the fact that they are fraternity members but I can't do anything about it. I might say to the person, "Let's talk about the hidden agenda here, you are trying to protect your fraternity brothers, let's discuss this openly and have it on record," but I can't say, "Sorry, you are not allowed to vote because I suspect you of some undermining tactic."

My third issue is the relationship between the student government and the administration. My style this year has been pretty confrontational with issues that really bothered me, like the Residence Budget Committee (RBC) and the lack of proper space in Central Square and the inadequacy of student services provided by the office of student affairs occasionally. But I see some progress with the RBC stuff when vice-president (finance and administration) Bill Farr and his whole department showed up to talk to 50 students, and director of housing and food services Norm Crandles has said he would stay in residence for a week; that is progress and I would like to continue that.

From President Harry Arthurs down, with the exception of provost Beth Hopkins and director of student affairs Cora Dusk, the administration tends to condescend to students. They always assume they are more intelligent than students are, they are going to be around longer than students are and, if they want to, they can say some nice, little, rhetorical thing and go off and do what they want.

The CYSF has to get a full-time researcher following the results, or the lack of results, of university committees.

cont'd on p. 7

DeMatteis Cont'd

and the GST. Then, maybe, we will make a difference. I think we will make a difference. If we stick together we can do it.

EXCAL: Should fraternities and sororities be recognized on campus?

DEMATTEIS: I don't see anything wrong with sororities or fraternities. They bring people together; they serve their purpose which is to give a sense of belonging together while sharing the same goals and ideals. They create a sense of understanding one another. Fraternity members relate to one another.

I realize that many groups on campus are against fraternities, but as I understand it, President Harry Arthurs is a member of a fraternity. I don't think it is a bad thing. I think they should be recognized.

On the other hand, if anyone feels there is anything in fraternities or sororities that is sexist or offensive, it should be brought up and looked at. I don't think you should say no to fraternities or sororities because that's not fair. I think they should be investigated and maybe there is a misperception of the actual thing involved in fraternities or sororities.

I really don't think frats will detract from the colleges at all because the colleges have their events and the people in residence usually stick together anyway. If anything, frats will help. It's just another organization that won't do any harm to colleges at all.

EXCAL: How will you fix the rift that has developed between the clubs and the CYSF this year?

DEMATTEIS: I'm presently the president of the Italian club, one of CYSF's many organizations. I really don't think there is a problem. Funding is not a problem with clubs. I realize some clubs have been arguing that they don't have enough funds from to work with but, from a personal point of view as far as the Italian club is con-

cont'd on p. 7

Ghomeshi Cont'd

dents, socialist students, biology students: the only people that can represent all those students are the clubs."

With the coalition, there would be a medium for clubs to make decisions that directly affect them; especially with the new Student Centre. The coalition also ties in with club funding. I don't understand why clubs can't have a say in what kind of funding system they get. This year, the CYSF decided that clubs would get \$200, and it has usually worked out that no one gets anymore than that. Sometimes, clubs are given more under the guise that if they have an event the CYSF cares about, then it will give them additional funding.

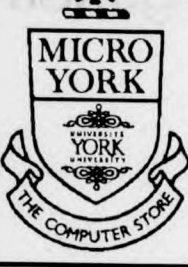
I would see that coalition as having some say in funding. Obviously, I support strong funding for clubs because that's where I come from.

EXCAL: Do you think the CYSF should be involved in broader political issues that aren't specifically related to students or universities, for example, abortion?

GHOMESHI: I believe the CYSF does have a role in political issues. The CYSF is a political body. Throughout the past year, people went to the CYSF and talked about racism and the executive members would say that's a political issue and has nothing to do with student government. That has everything to do with student government because, for example, racism far outweighs, to a lot of students on this campus, where their \$27.50 is going or *The White Paper*.

With the pro-choice issue, I align myself with the Canadian Federation of Students (CFS) and the B.C. universities that say universities have a place in talking about abortion. Why? Sexism; you can't divorce a woman's right to choose from employment equity or from accessibility. And to say the CYSF has nothing to do with that is ludicrous. Because, once again it effects accessibility, it affects low and middle income women. Rich women are always going to be able to get abortions. A law that restricts abortion is going to effect those low and middle income women who are already

cont'd on p. 7








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