

Proposed film series means alternative films may find a new home at York

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Film will flourish at York this term with the opening of a new screening room on campus.

CYSF is now studying a proposal, already approved in principle by Bethune Council, which outlines plans to unite the two governing bodies as co-sponsors of a new film series. Funding will be attained trust fund upon submission of a budget. If approved, the series will be operated jointly by Bethune Council, CYSF, and the York Film Students' Association (YFSA).

The proposal to screen alternative cinema arrived in the wake of disgruntlement concerning commercial film through the Bethune/CYSF screenings on campus.

Members of the York community can now view CYSF's

Reel and Screen movies on a thrice-weekly basis, or Bethune showings on weekends. In addition, Bethune college still operates its *Bijou* series of free films.

Lisa McCabe, Bethune Council president, adamantly supports the past and present operation of the college screenings. "Our (Bethune Council's) feeling is that we took the original risks of establishing the program nine years ago, and that a college council has as much right to facilities as any other student government."

Surprisingly, both Bethune and CYSF have demonstrated a mutual enthusiasm for working together to establish a film program in the film department's new screening room. The 120-seat facility in N102 Ross will provide a forum for

experimental and more esoteric cinema. Above all, notes YFSA president Bob Levine, "There is a mandate to give exposure to York student films."

The screening room is being designed by a movie theatre architect and will have 35 millimetre projector facilities. Admission charged, if any, will be a nominal fee. It is hoped that the new series will get underway sometime in October.

The film department series will provide an alternative, rather than competition, to the commercial film showings.

There has been considerable debate between Bethune Council and CYSF over the territorial rights of Curtis Lecture Hall 'L' for screening purposes. The committee responsible for space allocation recently assigned the cherished Friday night spot to CYSF for the duration of the first term.

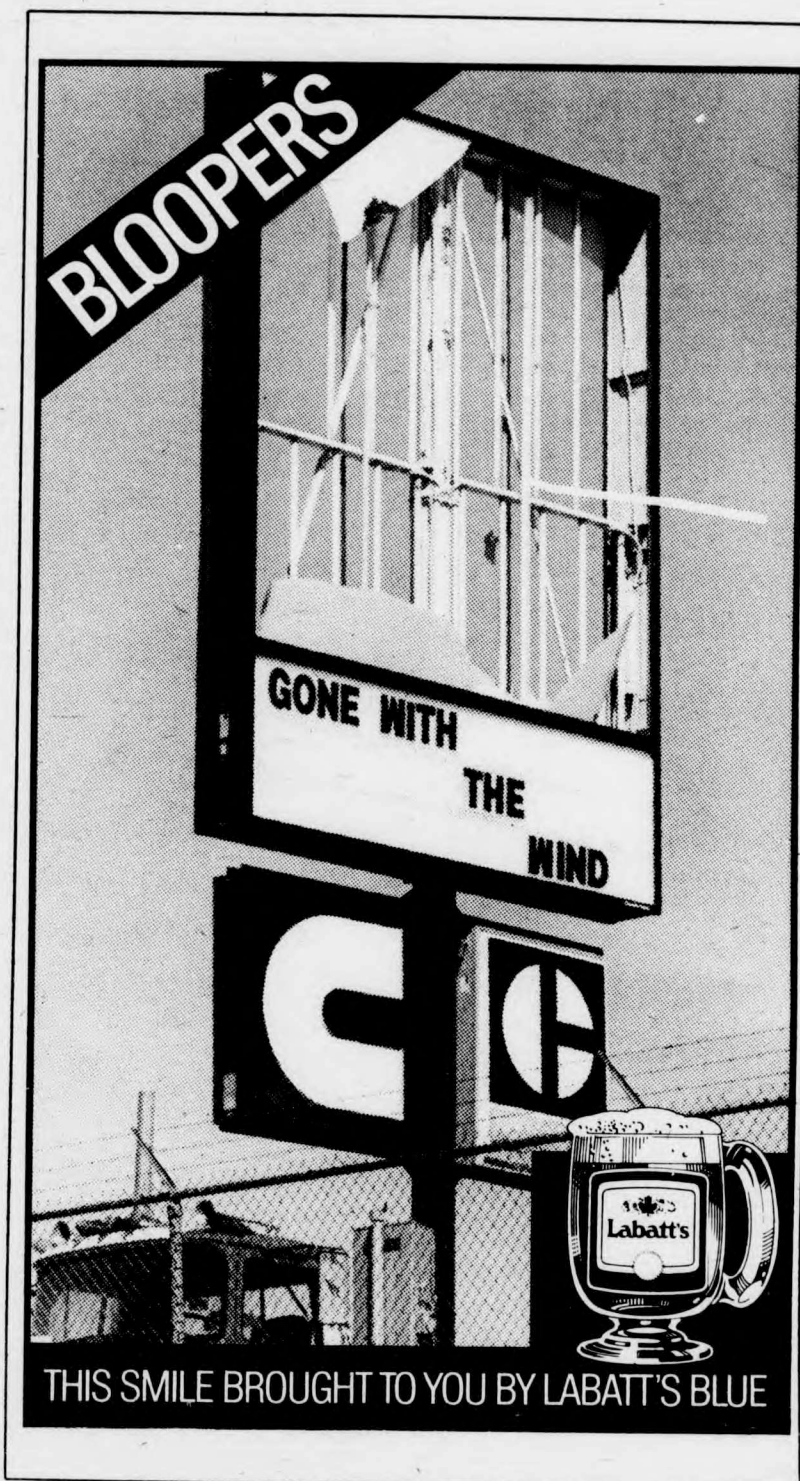
Reel and Screen co-manager Howard Hacker feels that a central location such as Curtis may not be suitable for a college series, which, last year, operated at a loss. "Bethune, as the only college with regular activity in a central facility, is an exception to the rule," he said.

Whether Bethune can stay out of the cutting room remains to be seen. Plans for its second term series are pending upon a financial review in November.

In the meantime, Bethune Council and the CYSF might be commended for attempting to take a definite, if initial, step towards a rational, mutual program. Final credits go to the film department for establishing a welcome exhibit of its own talent.



Alternative cinema, such as Fantastica could arrive at York series



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