

## LETTERS

O'Neil and the significance of his portfolio to York University, he appears to have surrendered to the misinformation and misconceptions regarding the Jane-Finch community.

Certainly the Jane-Finch community has its share of good and bad elements—so does York. Unfortunately the tone of Mr. O'Neil's response is degrading to the general citizenship residing at Jane-Finch.

As a campus/community radio station, CHRY Radio York is committed to developing a tolerance and understanding between groups and individuals at York and Jane-Finch. It is our sincere hope that in the near future, both communities will regard each other with mutual respect.

Yours very truly,  
Mel D. Broitman

Station Manager, CHRY-FM  
Kaan Yigit  
Program Director, CHRY-FM

### Vegetarian's hats prompt apology

Editor,  
I believe I need to make clear the fact that the World Vegetarian Day event was brought to York University by the York University Vegetarians which is an independent York club that I am associated with. The Jewish Student Federation, another campus group I am associated with was not a sponsor of the event. I regret any confusion which occurred as a result of me and my attempts to take off one hat and put on a different one. I apologize to all the JSFers and everyone else who may have had a problem with my actions.

M.T. Salsberg

### Reid naive about Reed, jingoists

Dear Editor:

Tracey Reid's report on the documentary film "Deceiving America" ("Film 'exposes' Soviet deception," October 1), is a study in irony and paradox. While discussing the deception and duplicity of the Soviet Union, she naively reports as fact the paranoid lies of "an internationally respected board of authorities on the Soviet Union, the KGB, Novosti and international affairs." These "experts" on the Soviet Union are respected only by right-wing American jingoists.

According to Reid, this "very educational and well put together" film was "a little depressing" because it made one feel "that there is nothing good about the Soviets . . ." She repeats as facts all of the old Cold War rhetoric which Soviet-haters have used to fuel the flames of superpower conflict. Now I am not trying to apologize for the Soviet Union or to claim that the United States is the only blameworthy empire. However, Reid's article, pretending to be "objective," does a disservice to anyone trying to understand the way both the US and the USSR are using propaganda and disinformation to further their own ends, i.e. world domination. And yet, Reid has the innocence (if I may be so polite) to cite as authorities such people as Reed Irvine, chairman of Accuracy in Media, without the slightest skepticism as to his credentials or integrity. The name Accuracy in Media (much like the National Citizens' Coalition and York's own Liberty Coalition) is an Orwellian euphemism. In truth, it is a right-wing group which believes that the media should be more in the thrall of US government propaganda than it already is. Its method of defending against "communist intervention" in the US press is to plant even more US propaganda.

The least Reid could have done was to investigate some of the alleged "facts" cited in the film. Reid is woefully lacking in critical ability.

This is what she concludes from the lies of the hysterical anti-communist "experts": "It appears that the Soviets are determined to subvert . . . the Americans, and destroy their culture at any cost." Yes, that is how "Deceiving America" would have it appear.

—Cosmo Vecchiarelli

### Capitalism and Racism related

Editor,

Re: "Capitalism is the Opposite of Racism," Sept. 24, 1987.

Mr. Hopper, president of the Liberty Coalition, while accusing Marxists of "cavernous ignorance," belies his own by declaring capitalism to be the opposite of racism. If he had any knowledge of African history he would surely know that racism, as it exists today, is a theory that grew out of European imperialism in Africa in the 19th century. European imperialism arose at this time because of a surplus of capital, and the belief that the "savages" of Africa needed European culture. There is no room for elaboration here, but perhaps Mr. Hopper would like to begin filling in his cavern on this subject by reading the following two excellent books: *The Wretched of the Earth*, by Frantz Fanon, a Marxist, and (to give a balanced perspective but no less scathing a critique) *The Origins of Totalitarianism*, by Hannah Arendt, who is not a Marxist.

As for the modern situation in South Africa, one once again finds capitalism and racism hand in hand. Apartheid is a racist social structure which also justifies the horrendous exploitation of black labour (they are not human so why should they be paid human wages, etc.). The only threat the ANC poses is to Western and white South African capital. To Mr. Hopper and the 30 other members of the Liberty Coalition, it seems as though human rights end where surplus value begins.

Sincerely,  
Jeff Noonan

### New Democrats defend Coalition

Letter-to-the-Editor:

Our University has been quite lucky. Socially and intellectually it has been able to accommodate a wide variety of (diverse) multi-lingual, -cultural and -ideological interest groups on campus. It would seem that this unique accommodation of interests, however, has been slowly eroded to the point where someone must speak up. During the recent and not so recent past, York students have witnessed the banings and even forced removals of a few religious and political groups or clubs, the latter having represented a different brand of ideology, far from the mainstream thinking most of us have been so used to. One could even go so far as to say that the recent controversy surrounding the removal of Liberty Coalition from Central Square, could be equated with the very same controversy raised over the allowance of the South African Ambassador to speak at U of T. Reaction among students was mixed over the matter and after much hell, Babb spoke to a closed audience under heavy guard.

Most of us realize that we have limited freedoms in our micro and macro community. The freedom to act in distributing and uttering falsehoods, racist or otherwise, should not be confused with the freedom of opinion and expression. According to the University Declaration of Human Rights, this latter right "includes freedom to hold opinions without interference and to seek, receive and impart information and ideas through any media regardless

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# STUDENT CENTRE UPDATE

## 5 October 1987

**AGREEMENT REACHED!!** The Student Centre Committee and the University have in principle reached an agreement which will govern the future management and operational control of the Student Centre. This agreement is the result of an intensive period of negotiations over the summer between representatives of the Student Centre Committee and the Administration. The Committee is fully confident that by endorsing this agreement we have won a secure future for construction of the Centre and, most importantly, for student control of the facility.

## HIGHLIGHTS OF THE AGREEMENT

- 1. INCORPORATION**—The Student Centre Management Board will be incorporated as a non-share capital corporation. This will effectively create an "arms-distance" relationship between the University and the Student Centre which will ensure the independence of the Student Centre.
- 2. MANAGEMENT BOARD (COMPOSITION)**—The Management Board will be composed of 11 students—8 appointed by the various student governments and 3 elected at large—1 alumnus and 2 representatives of the Administration. With 85% of the Board being students, we are guaranteed student control of the Centre.
- 3. MANAGEMENT BOARD (AUTHORITY)**—The Management Board will have authority over space allocation, the employment of staff, the annual operating budget, contracts and leases for services and facilities in the Centre, and, generally, to make regulations governing the use of the Student Centre.
- 4. MANAGEMENT BOARD (FISCAL RESPONSIBILITY)**—The Management Board must ensure that the Centre is run in a fiscally sound manner. Failure on this point would allow the University to assume managerial control of the Centre. However, should such an extreme be necessary, the University would seek to strike a comparable agreement with a body empowered by student government to act on the behalf of students.
- 5. MANAGEMENT BOARD (FINANCING)**—Since the Management Board is responsible under the referendum question for the "financial viability (of the Centre) through the levy," the Management Board may adjust the levy annually subject to the approval of the Board of Governors of the University. The levy and any annual adjustment will be declared separately on all fees materials published by the University. Also, the University will not withhold from the Management Board, for any reason, the money raised by the levy.
- 6. COMMERCIAL FREEDOM**—The University has agreed that the Student Centre will enjoy general commercial freedom. This means that we will be allowed to bring in our own commercial outlets and that we will be exempt from all University taxes and surcharges that apply to such operations, including the Pub. In the future the University will avoid entering into monopolistic leases which threaten this freedom.
- 7. LIQUOR LICENCE**—The Student Centre will be supported by the University in its application for an independent liquor licence. This ensures that we will be masters in our own commercial house.
- 8. MAINTENANCE AND REPAIR**—The University's Department of Physical Plant will maintain and repair the Student Centre. The Management Board will be responsible for all costs incurred.
- 9. DESIGN (PROJECT COMMITTEE)**—A Project Committee of 2 students and 3 administrators will be created to advise the University on the architectural design of the Centre and on the selection of an architect. The Student Centre Committee has final veto on all aspects of the interior design of the Centre.
- 10. DISPUTE RESOLUTION**—Should disputes arise between the University and the Management Board over the agreement, a Joint Committee will hear the disputes and render binding decisions. The Joint Committee will be composed of one representative from each party and an impartial third person selected jointly by the Management Board and the University. Either party may opt to avoid the Joint Committee and refer disputes to binding arbitration or to seek legal recourse.
- 11. TERM OF THE AGREEMENT**—The agreement will last 50 years and renewal will be subject to negotiations at the time.
- 12. TIMETABLE**—An architect should be hired within the next 6 weeks. If all goes according to schedule, construction will begin this summer and the project will be completed by February 1990.

## PUBLIC FORUM

In order to address any concerns you may have over this agreement and the proposed facilities for the Centre, the Student Centre Committee will be holding a public forum in the SENATE CHAMBER, S915 ROSS on TUESDAY, OCTOBER 9 from 12:00 to 2:00 p.m. We encourage you to attend and ask questions.

For the Student Centre Committee,

Robert Castle,  
Chairperson.

Advertisement

Tammy Hasselfeldt,  
Vice-Chairperson