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Blah, Blah, Blah, letters,
letters, letters p4-5



XIE FEI?
XIE JIN! p.8



Juicing it up
at UBC p. 15

MONDAY, NOVEMBER 19, 1990

VOLUME 25, ISSUE 28

excalibur

YORK UNIVERSITY'S COMMUNITY NEWSPAPER

80 turnout for anti-war teach-in

by Peter Stathis

With growing signs of an imminent military engagement in the Persian Gulf, student protesters have begun to consolidate an anti-war movement across Canadian campuses.

York's anti-war coalition staged its first teach-in last week, drawing about 80 interested students, faculty, and off-campus participants to the three-hour class.

The teach-in received faxed statements of solidarity from several cam-

puses across Canada and the United States, including student councils at Carleton, Trent, Queen's, and the University of Victoria. There was also a verbal message of support from a spokesperson for UofT's anti-war coalition.

A letter sent by an organization of New York students called for a "network of colleges in North America" to help build an education campaign against the U.S.-led intervention in the Middle East.

Political science professor David McNally, who was the first of 10 speakers, told York activists that they were part of a growing anti-war movement across the world.

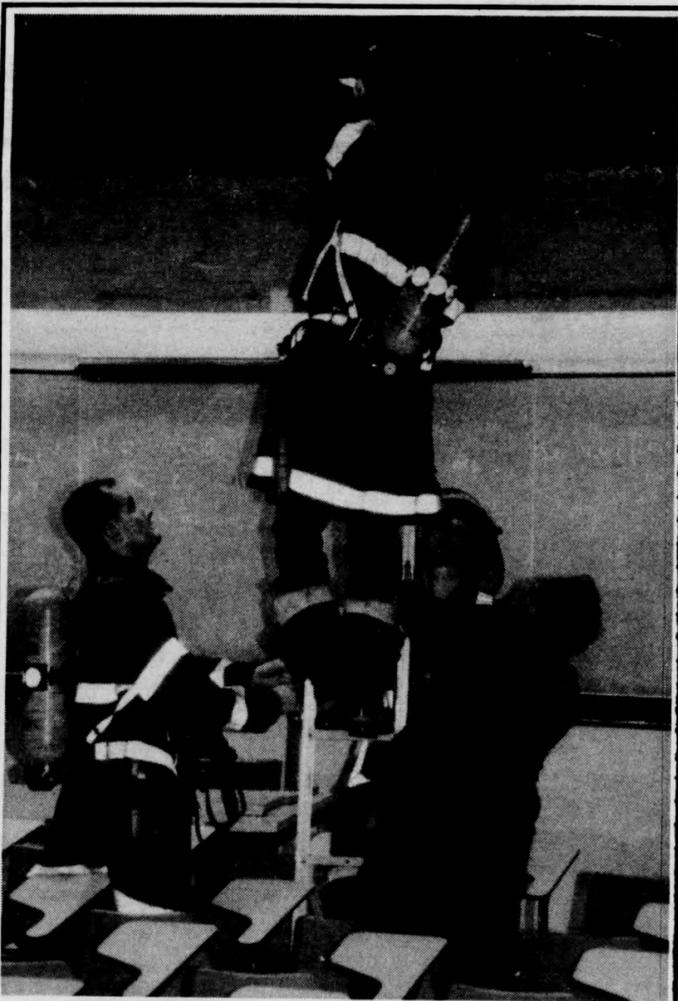
"You represent the beginnings of a large movement," said McNally. "Already there have been demonstrations of thousands of people in Tokyo, Athens, London, Paris, New York and the [San Francisco] bay area."

McNally, who was also an out-

spoken critic against Brian Mulroney's Nov. 5 visit to York campus, claimed that the U.S. intervention was based only on two rationale — having access to two-thirds of the world's known oil supplies and re-establishing U.S. imperial power and the role of the world policeman.

According to McNally, the U.S. administration selectively supports or rejects dictators according to their

con't on pg 3



The North York Fire Department was called on campus last Friday afternoon after fumes leaked from a heat exchanger at a nearby construction site. The fumes travelled through air-ducts and into room 205 south Ross. More than 50 students were in the class at the time of the leak. No one was injured.

York students tackling institutional racism

by Jeannine Amber

York will be participating in the National Day of Action Against Racism on Campus this Wednesday, along with dozens of other universities across Canada.

The focus of the day is to educate students about the nature and effects of institutionalized racism.

"This is an essential issue especially for the most multi-racial campus in Canada," said Jean Ghomeshi, who helped organize the nation-wide event.

Ghomeshi feels that through increased student awareness of the issues, a clear message will be sent to administration.

"Something has to be done about Eurocentric curricula, about material that does not reflect the student body and the lack of women and marginalized groups represented in faculty and administration," said Ghomeshi.

The consensus among members of the anti-racism coalition is that many students are not aware of the extent of the problem.

Steve Bergson, a third year psychology major and a member of the coalition, says that, "my impression from my three years at York, is that too many people come here with racist beliefs... they need to be given an egalitarian perspective."

On Wednesday in the East Bear Pit, the anti-racism coalition will unveil a student declaration against racism, which all students are encouraged to sign.

In addition, information will be made available to students urging them to think about the issue of institutional racism on campus.

Nikki Gershain, a third year individualized studies student and a member of the coalition, said that she was a history major but wasn't interested in North American or European history.

"As a result, my options were extremely limited," said Gershain.

Rob Centa, president of McLaughlin College and member of the coalition said that he has also experienced problems as a history major.

"I was disappointed that York didn't have an entire course devoted to the experience of Native Canadians much less a

con't on pg 3

Lesbian and Gay Alliance apply for service status

by Susan Vanstone

The Lesbian and Gay Alliance at York (LGAY) will apply for service status from the YFS later this month.

"We're one of the least-funded groups on campus," said Tina Mongillo, a member of LGAY. "We want to prove that we're a service to faculty, staff, students and the community at large."

LGAY presently has club status, and therefore receives \$200 a year from the YFS.

Service status is given to clubs by a majority vote from the YFS. Groups must be deemed useful to the York community and must not depend on membership for existence, as would an ethnic group. It guarantees an organization money from the YFS.

Currently, groups such as the Women's Centre, Peer Support Centre, and the Volunteer Centre have service status. The Women's Centre received \$5,000 from the YFS this year after it was approved for service status in January.

Mongillo said additional money would allow LGAY to set up a

library, bring speakers to the campus, write a history of both homophobia and the 21-year-old LGAY, screen films, and provide pamphlets and other materials to the public.

"The big word is education," said Mongillo. "We want to tell people what this group is. We're not just for lesbians and gays. If you have friends or siblings, they can come to the group and talk, and we can express our own experiences."

"We would be able to educate the public, give students a place to go, and be a more visible group on campus."

She added that one of LGAY's most pressing needs is its own telephone line. Presently, LGAY members can only be reached by leaving a message at the YFS office.

"We would be able to form a network," said Mongillo. "People wouldn't have to travel downtown for lesbian and gay newspapers or referrals."

LGAY will present its case to the YFS at its council meeting on November 20.

Weather Swammy

Monday



mostly sunny,
windy
High 11
Low 2

Tuesday



partly cloudy,
windy, mild
High 12
Low 4



DIRECTIONS

Published by the Office of Student Affairs, 124 Central Square, York University

Preparing for Exams...

The real key to success in taking and preparing for exams is active studying. Below are some hints on how to study. These study hints will help you organize your thoughts. Read on:

Hints for Studying

Material is easier to recall if you have reviewed effectively. Effective reviewing entails:

* **Selecting** ideas, concepts, etc., to be reviewed in brief key phrases, as opposed to trying to memorize entire textbooks and all your notes;

* **Reducing** the significant information to key recall words that you associate with the related details (cf., "chunking");

* **Organizing** the material to be remembered into patterns, diagrams, grids, mind-maps, flow-charts; in addition to standard linear outlines. Material that is organized in these ways will be more memorable than material that is reviewed simply by re-reading everything you highlighted in your textbook. For instance, highlighting can help to make important ideas stand out on the page, but it doesn't give the ideas any real sense of organization.

* **Rehearsing** the information to be recalled in an active way. Simply memorizing can be passive and therefore less useful as a preparation for exams that require analysis, synthesis, evaluation, etc. **Practice remembering** the material on a regular basis. Several comparatively brief reviews are likely to be more effective than one marathon session the night before the test. Cramming is likely to overload you with information, increase anxiety, and lead in most cases to less than satisfactory results.

* **Try studying with a partner or in a small group.** By asking each other questions, you gain practice in formulating your thoughts, explaining terms and concepts, and anticipating possible questions.

Hints for Taking Exams

* **Arrive early** and practice deep breathing to reduce physical stress and anxiety you may be experiencing;

* **Before beginning** to write answers to questions, first survey the entire test. See how many questions there are, what kinds of questions are being asked and, how much they are worth, etc. Circle key words in the questions as you read them, so you will be sure you are answering the questions as it has been asked;

* **Set some goals** for yourself in terms of time. If a question is worth 30% of the total grade, it probably deserves 30% of the total time. Don't get caught short, with only 5 minutes at the end of the exam to write an answer for a question worth half of the total mark;

* **Do the questions** you know best first. This helps to relieve some anxiety and saves some time for other questions you are less sure of. Then recycle and try the ones you weren't sure of;

* **Plan your answers** to essay questions. The following are key words often used in examination questions or essay/paper topics. Keep these definitions in mind, as a guide to organizing your thoughts;

COMPARE. Look for qualities and/or characteristics that resemble each other. Emphasize similarities, but look for differences.

CONTRAST. Stress dissimilarities and differences of things, qualities, events and problems.

DEFINE. Give clear, concise, authoritative meanings.

DISCUSS. Consider various points of view, analyse carefully and offer pro and con reasons.

EVALUATE. Appraise. Offer your opinions. Cite both limitations and advantages and include the opinions of authorities.

REVIEW. Examine a subject critically, analyzing and commenting on it or statements made about it.

This information was adapted from a hand out developed by James Fitchette of the Counselling and Development Centre. If you want further information, check with the Learning Skills and Self Help Areas in the C.D.C., 148 B.S.B. 736-5297

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Study Room Hours - 9 p.m. to Midnight

Saturdays: December 1, 8, 15
Regular Service Hours - 10 a.m. to 6 p.m.
Study Room Hours - 6 p.m. to 10 p.m.

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Building

CULTS CULTS

The following questions are designed to help you assess a group that seeks your commitment. The questions could apply not only when you are being recruited, but also after you have been involved for some time.

After you have answered these questions, you may decide to continue being involved with the group. However, if you decide that the group is not for you, you have the right to disassociate yourself from the group and to be free from all forms of persuasion and coercion by the group.

If you are having difficulty deciding if a certain group is right for you, discuss the matter with someone whose judgment you trust. Friends, relatives, professors, counselors, campus chaplains could offer advice. . .

QUESTIONS TO ASK ABOUT THE GROUP

- What national groups, if any, is the group affiliated with?
- What has this group accomplished during the last six months?
- What values does the group advocate?
- How is the group funded?
- What commitments of time, money, and other resources does the group expect of its members?
- Are members expected to solicit money, recruit new members, or engage in other promotional activities?

- Are members assigned fixed quotas?
- Does the group respect a member's commitments to family and friends?
- Does the group encourage members to continue their studies, to succeed academically, and to graduate?
- How difficult is it to leave the group?
- Why was I selected by the group?

QUESTIONS TO ASK YOURSELF

- Did members satisfactorily answer the questions I asked?
- Does the group use many names for itself? If so, why?
- Does the group seem to have simplistic answers to complex world issues?
- Does the group encourage questions and discussion about its beliefs and practices?
- Does the group want its members to give up their traditions and beliefs?
- Does the group require absolute obedience and devotion to its leader?
- Does the group allow members to have quiet times alone, or time with other friends outside the group?
- What will I gain from being a member of this group? How does that fit with my own goals and ideas?

Excerpts from "Friends' are Everywhere: A Guide to Making Judgments about Groups"

NEWS

Psych support group started

by Jennifer Lim

A psychological support group has started at York.

At the beginning of this term, the counselling and developmental centre (CDC) started a Supported Learning Program headed by professor Harold Minden.

"It is an on-going support group for students with psychological disabilities that may have required previous hospitalization," said Enid Weiner, case manager for the program. This includes students with schizophrenia, manic depression and other psychological deficiencies.

According to Weiner, the program enables students, who might have experienced interruptions in their educational career but still wish to complete their university deg-

rees, to attain help and support on campus.

The individual and group programs offered through the CDC reach out to a population of students that have been neglected in the past. The CDC wants to provide the encouragement that these students need to succeed in their university endeavors.

Weiner emphasized that they do not provide therapy, but rather monitor the student's university life. This includes helping with course selections, getting them with campus life in general.

According to Weiner, most students suffering from a psychological disability feels socially isolated. This program acts as a tool and at the same time identify the needs so that proper assistance can be made available to them.

Peace movement at York

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compliance with U.S. policy. Therefore, Saddam Hussein whom the U.S. supported during his eight-year war with Iran (\$3 billion of aid) and until earlier this year, was labelled an official dictator when he invaded Kuwait.

"The new Hitler [Saddam] was quite welcome as long as he was playing the role the United States wanted," McNally said.

Bashar Abdul Qader, president of YASA (York Arab Students Association) and a native of Saudi Arabia, stated that YASA condemns any form of occupation in the Middle East, whether in Kuwait or Gaza and the West Bank, and also condemns any U.S. intervention in the region.

Qader said that any disagreements that Arabs have between themselves would be quickly refocused against American soldiers in the case of war.

"Arabs will not fight against Arabs on the side of foreigners," Qader said.

Qader, who has been in telephone contact with people living

in Jordan, the West Bank, Egypt and Saudi Arabia, speculated there is a consensus that the Arab world is willing to lose 20-30 million people in a war to ensure that the U.S. does not dominate the region anymore.

"If there is one enemy that we [Arabs] want to denounce and get out of our business, it's the U.S. government," Qader said, "because they have represented imperialism and the divide-and-conquer attitude in the Middle East."

Although the Bush administration has claimed its intervention is in defence of international law, McNally believes the U.S. is being selective because it has repeatedly ignored calls to enforce these same international laws.

The United States has vetoed over 80 resolutions in the United Nations during the 1980s, including resolutions for sanctions against South Africa, the Israeli occupation of Gaza and the West Bank, and the Americans' own invasion of Panama, McNally said.

According to McNally, because the Bush and Mulroney administrations are unpopular, disliked and disbelieved, it will be easier to reach people with anti-war messages and mobilize them against these politicians.

Carolyn Egan, a former activist from the Anti-Vietnam War Movement, maintained that Canada's military ties with the U.S. have changed. Canada is no longer merely an apologist for the United States; it has become a direct participant in the impending conflict.

"Canada has directly lent its support every step of the way, including being prepared to see an offensive launched against the Iraqi forces," McNally added.

According to Egan, politicians will find it more difficult to persuade people of the necessity for war since the anti-communist rhetoric that fueled the Vietnam war in the 1960s is now lacking. She added that keeping companies profitable is not a convincing argument to go into battle.

"Young Canadians are being asked to put their lives on the line to kill for an oil company," Egan said.

York's anti-war coalition has to date received a broad base of support from various university students, staff and faculty, trade unions, women's groups, club associations and diverse politically-affiliated groups.

There will be an anti-war demonstration in full effect at the U.S. Consulate on Saturday, Nov. 24 at 12:00 noon.

National day of action

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Native studies program," said Centa.

Marina Deluca, a fourth year political science and english student, mentioned that in one of her courses, "the professor stated that Canada didn't really have a culture or playwrights before 1950."

"He was wiping out the culture of the Metis, the French Canadian, the Acadians and the Inuit in just one breath — his definition of culture was very Eurocentric and American," said Deluca.

Officials from the history and english departments were unavailable for comment.

Gershbnain says some of the students on the coalition were concerned that the slogan "fight institutional racism" would be construed as antagonistic by the administration.

According to Gershbnain, "anyone who feels threatened by our concerns clearly does not recognize the immensity of the problem and is therefore, a part of that problem."

In fact, many members of the

faculty and administration do recognize the problem of institutional racism and have been encouraged by the involvement of the students in the issue.

David Trotman, the former co-ordinator for York's centre for Race and Ethnic Relations, said that although York is progressive in terms of moving away from an Eurocentric-based curricula, "there is still a long way to go."

The first step, says Trotman is to "get the issue on the agenda." Carole Yawney, co-ordinator of the certificate in race relations program at Atkinson, is particularly encouraged by the interest of the students.

"It is a good sign that it is not coming from the top down," said Yawney.

According to Centa, the National Day of Action Against Racism on Campus "has to be only the beginning of a major program to raise awareness of institutional racism at York."

"Hopefully, from this day on, we can begin to take action to eradicate the racism problem," Centa said.



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665-0062

EDITORIAL

By Christmas, there will be over one million troops in the Persian Gulf ready to go to war over control of the oil fields.

George Bush will have sent more American soldiers to the Gulf than the U.S. had previously sent to Vietnam at the height of its involvement in southeast Asia.

But this time, there is no evil spectre of communism, no "red horde" that must be vanquished: the Soviets in fact have indicated they will back a U.N. sponsored request for a military offensive.

Technically, the West is already on the offensive. The U.S.-led naval blockade that has been imposed on Iraq is an act of war.

Make no mistake, there will be war. The time for negotiations is rapidly waning. Besides, the Bush administration has repeatedly rejected any compromises offered by Saddam Hussein.

The U.S. has never really wanted to allow Hussein and Baghdad to maintain any kind of dominance in the region. Even if the war was concluded quickly, U.S. troops would remain in the Gulf to protect what they had gained and to ensure no country becomes too powerful.

And where does Canada stand on this whole crisis? Firmly in the American battle camp, of course, waiting for instructions from Washington.

This is a war effort being led by corporations and their apologists, the politicians. Mulroney and his right-hand man, Joe Clark, are rattling sabres about "our boys in the Gulf" and the defence of freedom. But the real defence being conducted is that of corporate profits: the oil money of Esso, Petro Canada et al.

But who exactly will follow Mulroney and Clark in their headlong rush to war? Very few people right now, but if the official propaganda continues throughout the mainstream media, it could turn to thousands of people — most of them young people our own age.

Mulroney and friends will continue to dress in their finest while "our boys in the Gulf" will be donning fatigues and strapping on rifles. It's about time this was changed back to the ancient model.

Politicians would be far more cautious about rallying around war if they were on the front line leading an assault. Mind you, it would be nice to see our glorious leader in his tilly hat leading Tory troops into a hail of enemy gunfire. Perhaps, that would do what macaroni and paper cannot do: remove them from office.

Canada's army currently numbers 85,000. We only have a standing reserve of 35,000 and after that it's time for mandatory conscription.

After speaking to an officer at the Department of National Defense, we were assured there was no plan for mandatory conscription because there was no conflict yet.

However, the insinuation is that when the conflict becomes official, conscription will soon follow suit.

The officer also mentioned that the draft can be instated by Parliament at any time during a war to sustain Canadian forces depending on the depth of the military's involvement.

In other words, in a protracted conflict, we would be drafted to provide more "depth" to the army and to relieve the first wave of soldiers.

Currently, Canada does not have any legislation for conscientious objection.

If Mulroney's Tory cabinet calls for compulsory military service, it will be challenged immediately under the Charter of Rights, which has yet to be tested in a war scenario.



LETTERS

Excalibur welcomes letters to the editor on all topics. We will publish, space permitting, letters up to 500 words in length. They must be typed, double spaced, and accompanied by the writer's name, signature and telephone number. The opinions expressed belong to the writers and do not necessarily reflect those of Excalibur staff or directors. However, we will refuse letters that are racist, sexist, libellous or those which attempt to incite hatred toward an individual or an identifiable group. All material is subject to editing. All submissions must be addressed to the Editor-in-chief, Room 111, Central Square.

Director of Comm. says keep in touch

To the editor,

Re: Your editorial of November 5 regarding the visit to York University of the Prime Minister.

In the case of this particular visit, the responsibility of media liaison rested with external consultants working directly with the Faculty of Administrative Studies. For ease of communications, our department agreed to forward all enquiries about the visit to Dean Horvath's office. To suggest the university "had no comment on the affairs" is simply not true.

As you know, Excalibur, as a matter of course, receives all news releases from the Department of Communications. (I was pleased to note that two of the three stories in your news section of November 5 corresponded to two of our recent releases.)

I would also note that I have in the past suggested a weekly meeting (if only by telephone) with you or members of your staff to help keep you current on events and issues we were aware of. To date, you have not taken us up on this. I urge you again to do so.

You have had for some time both my office and home telephone numbers, if at any time you or your staff needed to reach me on an urgent matter.

I look forward to hearing from

you soon (and often). If not, rest assured we'll be in touch.

Sincerely,
Jessie-May Rowntree
Director
Department of Communications

Mulroney protesters disgusting

To the editor,

This letter is not meant to defend or support Brian Mulroney. However, the behaviour of many York protesters last Monday was simply embarrassing and disgusting.

Need I remind the students who protested that Brian Mulroney is a grown man. Throwing macaroni and paper at him (and his wife no less!) is a thoroughly degrading experience, not for him, but for the people doing it. You looked like large children throwing a tantrum. The fact that he is the prime minister makes it even worse.

Do you think that Brian Mulroney went home that night and said to his wife, "Gosh, those university kids really straightened me out. I'm going to go back to York and tell them all that I'm going to kick in mega-millions for higher education."?

Get real. If you want to prove your point, then write letters to him, call your MP or hold up signs of protest as he passes by (the PM can read).

Show the prime minister and all the other politicians who insult their constituents with their sometimes juvenile behaviour (ie. the Senate) that you can ask for some honest changes in a

manner becoming of the elite of the population (the University student).

How can you shout at him "Resign, Resign" two years into his term, because he's down in the polls when just a few months ago, David Peterson was turfed for holding an election a couple years early?

How can you chastise him for the way the Oka incident was handled when you throw paper at him, just as Canadian citizens threw rocks at native women and children passing by in cars?

There was a moral outcry then, but these were the same instincts displayed by those protesters who saw fit to pelt the prime minister with garbage.

There is nothing wrong with protest signs or shouts about the GST. Living in a democracy affords us the opportunity to do just that and I am sure that even the prime minister will agree that protests and demonstrations are sometimes the only way to grab the attention of a politician.

But shouts of "swine," "piss on you" and throwing objects at a grown man? Grow up.

Alan Grad

Proud to be at York?

To the editor,

Two weeks ago, a great many students showed up for the prime ministerial visit to the Administrative Studies building. Although Mulroney came to address only select Administrative Studies students, many others showed up to voice their concerns.

It was nice to see the enthusiasm

con't on pg 5

EXCALIBUR

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Production Manager	Stephen Perry
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Arts Editors	Trevor Campbell, Joanne "Switch" White
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Excalibur is an autonomous corporation with a mandate to inform, educate and provoke thought among York University's diverse population.

The distinct opinions and articles appearing in Excalibur constitute our collective voice. However, they belong first and foremost to the individual writers and are not necessarily shared by any other Excalibur staff or board member. Final editorial responsibility is retained by the Editor-in-chief.

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Room 111, Central Square
York University
4700 Keele Street
Downsview M3J 1P3

LETTERS

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asm, positive and negative, of so many York students on a Monday morning when the visit hadn't been announced to Student Council until the preceding Friday.

Yet, on Monday morning there were people with specific complaints about the troops in the Gulf, the GST, educational funding at the post-secondary level and more general complaints about Tory rule.

Everything seemed very pleasantly democratic. A political science professor proclaimed that rarely had he been more proud to be a part of York University. I had to agree with him. The apathy that is so often mentioned in regards to the York student body was lacking this time.

Gradually, however, this demonstration didn't seem so great after all. Hate messages began to pervade the chants for better national leadership and instead of criticism about government policy there were slanderous remarks about the prime minister himself. Appropriately, it was at this point that I lost sight of that professor.

Then when the PM arrived the really mature people showed themselves. These leaders in civility threw paper and macaroni and tried to barge through the conference doors endangering the safety of themselves and security.

In the process of this melee, the central monitor set up to watch the prime minister was disconnected. But what the hell eh, anything he says will be wrong anyway, right? Well maybe and maybe not; but, I don't think many of the protesters cared. The important thing to them was to overcome the weakening security and maybe get a good hip-check in.

I began to wonder if that political science professor was looking for a retraction. I certainly made one in my own mind.

Scott Bezeau

Setting the facts straight

To the editor,

As a result of Faisal Kutty's Oct. 24 opinion piece (U.S., U.N. and Israel: Double standards), three response letters were written expressing opposite points of view. In so doing, they severely criticized Arab nations and Muslims by undermining their capabilities: "their inability to achieve consensus on anything beyond their visceral hatred of Israel."

As well, the letters mocked Muslims' ability to fight for what they believe in: "What pray tell would they have done? Sent him nasty letters?" [To get Saddam out of Saudi Arabia had he invaded it].

First of all, I would like to set the record straight concerning Arab people's attitude towards Israel: Arabs do not want to diminish the Jewish state. If they did, they wouldn't have defined clearly and officially the state of Palestine as East Jerusalem, West Bank and the Gaza Strip, about two years ago, thus following the resolution made by the U.N. council (#242, Nov. 22, 1967). This proves, once again, that Arab leadership is dynamic and progressive.

So guys, do not go back to history to support an already weak argument! Asher, you used the word "HATRED" in describing Arabs' attitude towards Israel. I

wouldn't come anywhere near that word if I were you since it indicates a racist attitude on the Arabs' part. I strongly reject the implied accusation that Arab people are a shallow, racist group.

Arab leadership is doing what it can to achieve the well-being of fellow Palestinians so that they can realise "PALESTINE," just as they want to retrieve Syria's Golan Heights and Lebanon's southern part which are under Israeli occupation.

On the other hand, Arab leaders want the Iraqi soldiers out of Kuwait as do Arab civilians. Yet, they have different theories on how to achieve this. Those who believed they were able to talk Saddam into withdrawing from Kuwait were not given a chance to do so and were accused of tolerating acts of aggression and supporting Saddam!

Many moderate Arabs argued that blowing Iraq's aggression out of proportion and "internationalizing" it by sending troops to the Gulf would make a peaceful crisis virtually impossible and a destructive war, inevitable!

War, if it occurs, would only lead to a massive loss of Arab, American, British, French, etc. lives. However, Arabs will be the primary losers since civilians' lives are in jeopardy, Gulf states' economies are on the line and, of course, war may not lead to the return of Kuwait.

Canada's vulnerable economy is already showing signs of further weakness, since we import oil from the Gulf and export large amounts of wheat to Iraq. What would happen to tax payers and Canadian soldiers; what would happen to Canada if, God forbid, war breaks out?

Secondly, I believe that Saddam Hussein had absolutely no intention of invading Saudi Arabia. And those who are really "open minded" would undoubtedly agree:

1) Saddam invaded Kuwait claiming it was part of Iraq; a part taken away when Britain was the colonizing power, while Saudi Arabia was not.

2) If, for one reason or another, he intended to attack Saudi Arabia why didn't he do so before American troops arrived?

3) Saddam appealed to ALL Muslims to stage a "holy" war against "Western attempts to colonize" which means that he is fully aware of the strength of Muslims which would be used to defend the dignity of Islam as a sacred religion.

And if you disagree that Muslims would overthrow Saddam and fight him had he attempted to occupy Saudi Arabia on which the two holiest shrines in Islam exist, take a look at some examples which will prove that when any religion's sanctity is concerned, there is no room for compromise.

1) Look at the unfortunate bloody events in India where Muslims and Hindus were fighting over a 16th century mosque built on a land the Hindus claim is meant for their temple.

2) Recall what happened about one month ago in Jerusalem, when 21 unarmed Muslim Palestinians were shot dead while protesting a claim by extremist Jews that the third holiest shrine in Islam is actually a Jewish one.

Asher, Clive, Aryeh on one hand and Faisal on the other give many examples in supporting the argument of U.N. and U.S.'s double standards, yet Asher, Clive, Aryeh given their examples in an argument pro-U.S. and pro-U.N., emphasizing that they have a

"democratic character." I will not accuse you guys of hypocrisy, but your argument is weak.

If you want to talk about attempts to diminish a population consider this: Israeis massacre, jail, exile and torture Palestinians and (worst of all) allow illiteracy, which will be overwhelming soon if they do not re-open pre-schools, schools and universities.

For all these crimes, where do you think the United States of America stands? On oil rich Arab lands...

Basil El Abdallah

A shared experience

To the editor,

When I saw the cartoon, *Odyssey*, in the October 10 *Excalibur*, I felt a sense of community with the artist — here is a person with whom I have shared an experience.

The portrayal of the Christian in the cartoon as willing to go to nearly any length to convince the other rider to attend a Bible meeting was precisely as I have seen them the numerous times I have been approached on campus.

After reflecting on this for a moment, it occurred to me that there might be a kind of groundswell against the cartoon, and that perhaps I should write to the paper and share my feelings. When no such letter was forthcoming, I felt that the community simply recognised that many people feel cornered when approached by these people.

The letter "Religious Prejudice" in the November 5 *Excalibur* contained such an important fallacy that I was compelled to write.

Mr. Bloedow begins by telling you that consistency should be the guide when determining which kinds of attitudes we should be discouraging. Homophobia, sexism, and racism are such attitudes. The best reason that Mr. Bloedow has heard (one given in *Up York!*) is that in discouraging these attitudes, we would "make life more pleasant at York and make the atmosphere more conducive to education."

His point here is that if consistency is desired (and I cannot really disagree with this), then we would be logically bound to discourage what he calls "religious prejudice" — expressing our opposition to specific religions. The conclusion he draws is that we should discourage "expression of opposition to a specific religion" with the same vigour that we do sexism, etc.

The idea that "expression of opposition to a specific religion" should be identified alongside sexism, racism, and homophobia is that with which I take issue.

Women and people of colour, and gays and lesbians are discriminated against **because of what they are**, not what they believe — this is what is called sexism, etc.

But, saying that we must not tolerate (or at least discourage) "opposition to a specific religion" is tantamount to saying that no criticism should be mounted against the practices of **any** religion.

This, by itself seems ridiculous, but what a differing political, scientific, and pedagogical convictions? They are sometimes held with the same kind of fondness as religious beliefs. It can be

seen that advocating this kind of principle will land us on a slippery slope that will ultimately call into question the legitimacy of the University itself.

If we cannot call something into question, why gather to discuss these issues? True, people do feel "uncomfortable" when their ideas are ridiculed (most even when their ideas are so much as challenged), however the remedy is not to discourage criticism, but to engender gentleness in dialogue.

The cartoon in question pointed out, quite vividly, the practice that some Christians have taken up — that of approaching individuals in public, engaging them in conversation, then inviting them to a Bible group that often begins in an hour.

This corresponds quite well with many experiences I have had with these individuals on campus. There was no intention to 'deride' Christians (I hope), but to point out that the practices in which some of them participate (and not necessarily the values which they hold dear) annoy and make "uncomfortable" many of the people that they target.

Mr. Bloedow's argument falls short — if we are to "judge" people at all, we must do so *only* upon what they say, do, and believe.

Sincerely,
Norman R. Gall
PhD II, Philosophy

Agreeing with NDP

To the editor,

I agree with the Ontario NDP that conservation measures (provided they are cost-effective) should be used to reduce the demand for energy, especially electricity.

But I seriously doubt that these steps alone can provide for the expected increase in demand and replacement of existing generating stations at the end of their useful lives.

As alternative sources such as hydro and solar are insufficient

J.M. McNamee
Associate Professor

STILL MORE SHAMEFUL REASONS STUDENTS TAKE GRAY COACH HOME!

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COLUMNS

I WRITE WITH AN AXE

by Brett Gellert

There's something special about the autumn. Ask any English major and they'll tell you they had telephone book-sized volumes on the color of leaves, death, and other truly depressing things.

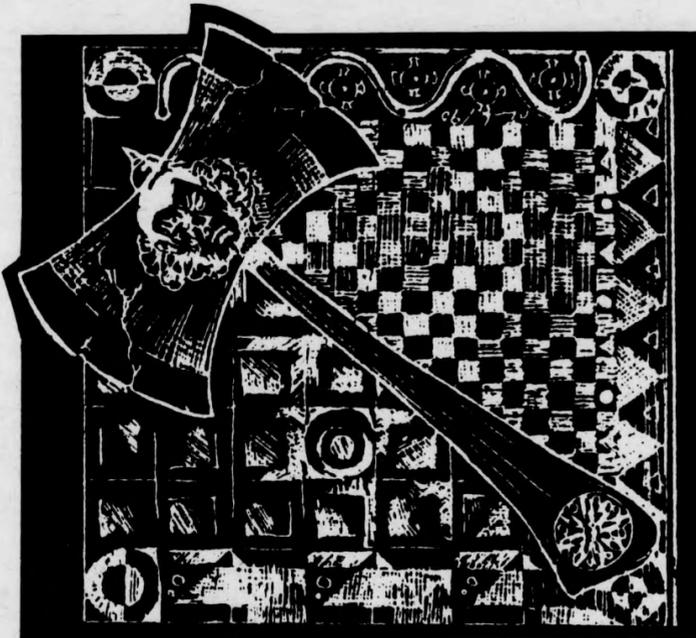
Anyway two weeks ago, the leaves were falling, the wind was blowing at about 200 km/hour, and students were throwing fistfuls of macaroni at the prime minister.

Now I know what most of you are saying, "Brian Mulroney will turn Canada into what it once was: a barren wasteland covered in ice and snow."

There can be no doubt that the prime minister isn't well liked, but is throwing Kraft foods at him really the answer? What could the poor guy be saying to Mila as they watched the news that night?

"Well dear, at least they weren't throwing buckets of warm lard."

Those of us who remember the Trudeau years could easily see him leaping into the crowd swinging his fists. Now there



was a guy who knew how to handle being despised.

The media seems to love the fact that Murloney is hated, preferring footage of people screaming at him to the more tiresome "droning speech" segment.

There are a few people who

believe that The GST may work. No one has ever seen any of these people, but the PM assures us that they exist, much like people who have seen the Loch-ness monster.

Everyone got the chance to ask about the PM's policies on

the TV phone-in show. It may seem like I'm trying to stir up controversy, but there was a decisive lack of phrases like "Wilson sucks too," and "Hey Brian, lets have a chin wag" (caller hangs up laughing), and the extensive use of the word "bonehead."

I've come to a conclusion about all of the bizarre decisions made by the government in the last few years. It involves science—so read carefully.

Someone, probably a Japanese scientist who fought the Megalon-Godzilla war, has transferred Ronald Reagan's brain into Brian Mulroney's body.

You notice that you haven't seen Reagan around lately. It's not because he can't find his home — that's a good guess though.

No, it's because in his bid to remain a world leader in the fight against world oppression, he knew that he had to stay in power.

Mulroney gladly gave up his brain to the man who taught him "When Irish Eyes Are Smiling" and became blind, con-

fused and extremely disliked, or as the Government calls him, Toryman. With his faithful sidekicks Joe "Fists of Steel" Clark and Mike "Smiles" Wilson they would fight the evil of the world. They would fight the Saddam Husseins, the Mikhail Gorbachev's, the tax payers.

If you don't believe the brain-transference theory then explain why, when people give the PM the finger, he gets a confused look on his face and waves.

There is a chance that Toryman can be used for good. "We could vote him out and let him pick up trash," I can hear you saying. Yes, that's true we could, or we could teach him that when the country looks like an English soccer game you should offer more than a phone-in TV show and a cute smile.

Then maybe we could get someone to explain to him, probably the aforementioned Pierre Trudeau, the meaning of the finger and the proper reply.

At least if people got the finger given back to them, they'd know where they stood.

York Federation
of Students

YFS/FÉY*

*formerly CYSF

Fédération des
étudiant(e)s
de York

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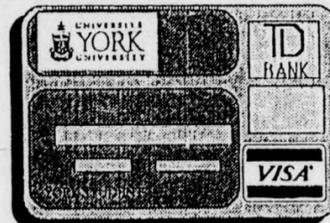
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COLUMN

The dissent of (wo)man

by Sue Pennypacker

York University has a nationwide reputation for innovative and progressive programs for the advancement of minorities. In spite of these programs, there seems to be a strong backlash against students and faculty members who attempt to stand up for their rights.

Most of us have been through classes which examine societal problems such as racism, ageism, classism, sexism and discrimination against religion or culture. Why is it that these "isms" are not being eradicated within the York community?

It is strange that a community which sees itself as liberal and without prejudice commits subtle crimes against minorities.

One of the most pervasive forms of discrimination is sexism or gender discrimination. Stop any York student and ask her/him if she/he feels that women are

inferior to men. My bet is that any student will say that women and men are inherently equal. Still, many people are completely unaware of the various forms of discrimination that are faced by women. They seem to believe that simply stating that women and men are equal (equivalent) means that there is no problem.

We all forget that sexism and sexist attitudes are much more complex than the relatively simple idea of equality. In order to alleviate sexism, the traditional gender roles of both women and men must be changed.

Ask yourself a few simple questions. Is it OK for a woman to work while her husband stays home to take care of the child(-ren)? Is it OK for a man to cry? What about a woman? Why are certain occupations traditionally male while others are traditionally female? Is this simply convention or the way things should be?

We all have to learn that the roles assigned to men and women are arbitrary. We are all human and we share the same emotions and capabilities.

Evidently, this attitude is not shared by everyone in the York community.

The Sexual Harassment Education and Complaint Centre (S.H.E.A.C.C.) reports that women who express feminist views are often harassed. A case in point is the harassment which Carolyn Amendola faced when she complained about the sexist nature of the mock trials held at Osgoode.

Whether or not these views were justified is immaterial. Every student or faculty member at any educational institution must be able to present her/his ideas without worrying about harassment. Disagreement is welcome, as it is part of the learning experience, but harassment is another matter.

This is a concrete indication that women are not accorded the dignity and respect which are prerequisites of equality or equivalency.

Although many people say that they consider women to be inherently equal to men, it is clear, by the actions that this is not the case. Unfortunately, women are often treated like lesser beings.

Discrimination against women is subtle and sophisticated, disguised to look like help; but it does exist. There is still a lot of work to be done.



QUOTE OF THE WEEK

"We're looking for young people to go to war"

Major Serge Quenneville

Question Engine

Q: What do you feel about the building of commercial offices on university property?

by A. Clive Cohen

Michele Lejosius
English

A: I think it's a good idea because it will be beneficial to the university and students.

Lisa Fleming
History

A: As long as it is generating revenue and it doesn't take away from the university's independence I feel it is positive.

Hilit Gozlan
Psychology

A: Preposterous, the more we make it like a mall or market place, the more it will come down to that level.

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Spectacular Fifth Generation films share fatalistic view **Cinema OF MISERY**

by Andrew Sun

Chinese Film Festival Survey

As National cinema goes, Communist China is as consistent in putting out quality pictures as any other country.

Since the early 80s, movies from the mainland have been hits on the international movie festival circuit and a handful have even been released to tremendous critical acclaim in North America.

A good opportunity to catch a sample of what China has to offer is now being presented at the Bloor Cinema from Nov. 16 thru Nov. 22, and will feature six new works from the Chinese Cinema.

Yet for all their laurels, one could be hard pressed for specific names who lead the cinematic charge from the East. This relative anonymity can be attributed to one single factor—their numbers. Directors like Xie Fei, Chen Kaige, Xie Jin, Zhang Yimou, Wu Ziniu and others should be considered among the top of the field internationally. However, with virtually no media exposure or even a hint of what these directors even look like, it is too easy to toss them all into one group called the "Fifth Generation" Filmmakers.

The title was given to the crop of filmmakers who've graduated from the Beijing Film Academy (the only film school in China) since 1982. It was closed for 12 years during the Cultural Revolution until 1978 when the doors reopened to 150 plus filmmakers. Unfortunately some of these graduates will probably never make film again because of last June in Tiananmen Square. Of the films that have been made, *Red Sorghum*, *Girl from Hunan*, *Yellow Earth* and *Hibiscus Town* were each made by a different director. Numerous other less celebrated gems exist and even the films that fail are noble failures.

The "Fifth Generation" films all possess a panache for strong visuals and a natural narrative flow.

Technically, these movies look as spectacular as the best from



King of Children: Dead Society's Poet: Yang Xiuwen (student) and Xie Yuan (teacher) in CHEN

Hollywood. (Sven Nykvist could have been the cinematographer for every film I've ever seen from China!)

One common denominator of these films is that they share a similar fatalistic outlook.

Thematically, Chinese film can be described as the cinema of misery.

No other country has been so successful in portraying the anguish of simple peasants struggling against nature, landlords, armies, and bureaucracy.

One person who has been relentlessly trying to tear down China's cinematic wall is Russell Chan.

For more than three years, his company, Jasmine Tea Films, has been bringing films from China to the Bloor Cinema.

"China's 'Fifth Generation' Filmmakers never fail to impress with their work, all the more since last year's June 4th incident in Beijing," comments Chan, "these six films show [that the Chinese cinema] has gone beyond beautifully shot films about rural life. It now includes films of astonishing depth and candour."

A good depiction of rural Chinese life is Chen Kaige's (*The Big Parade*, *Yellow Earth*) new film, *The King of Children*.

It is about a mountain villager, Lao Gan (played with appropriately stolid expression by Xie Yuan), involuntarily hired to teach peasant children. Faced with no choice in this responsibility, he takes on the job rather earnestly only to find the school's supplies inadequate even for his limited teaching ability.

Evening Bells is an un-extraordinary film by Wu Ziniu, about the stand off between five

Chinese soldiers and an impoverished Japanese regiment set after the end of World War II.

Winner of the "Special Jury Prize" at the 1989, Berlin Film Festival, this stylish drama features some spectacular panoramas of China's harsh and adverse landscape.

Many of the characters are pretty standard war archetypes (what can one say about characters identified only as the Captain, the Giant and the Beard)?

However, for anyone familiar with China's prejudices, *Evening Bells* is curious for possibly being the most sympathetic portrayal of Japanese soldiers in a Chinese film.

The most astonishing film in the series has to be *Black Snow*.

It was shot after the Tiananmen massacre and director Xie Fei (*Girl From Hunan*) received a Special Achievement Award at this year's Berlin Film Festival.

The talented Jiang Wen (*Red Sorghum*) plays a prisoner just released and trying to re-adjust to life on the outside.

Wen's character implies that he is a thug and trouble maker by the way that he quietly broods, but he could also be a disillusioned stu-

dent activist.

Fei balances, on the one hand, a devastating statement about political repression, and on the other, government propaganda concerning what happens to corrupt comrades who do nothing useful for the State.

The hands of the government censors are quite obvious in several scenes but Fei works around them quite neatly.

Black Snow is powerful filmmaking and despite the overly symbolic closing shot this is a director who knows how to work for and against the system.

Two other films continue the surprisingly strong contingent of Chinese female directors.

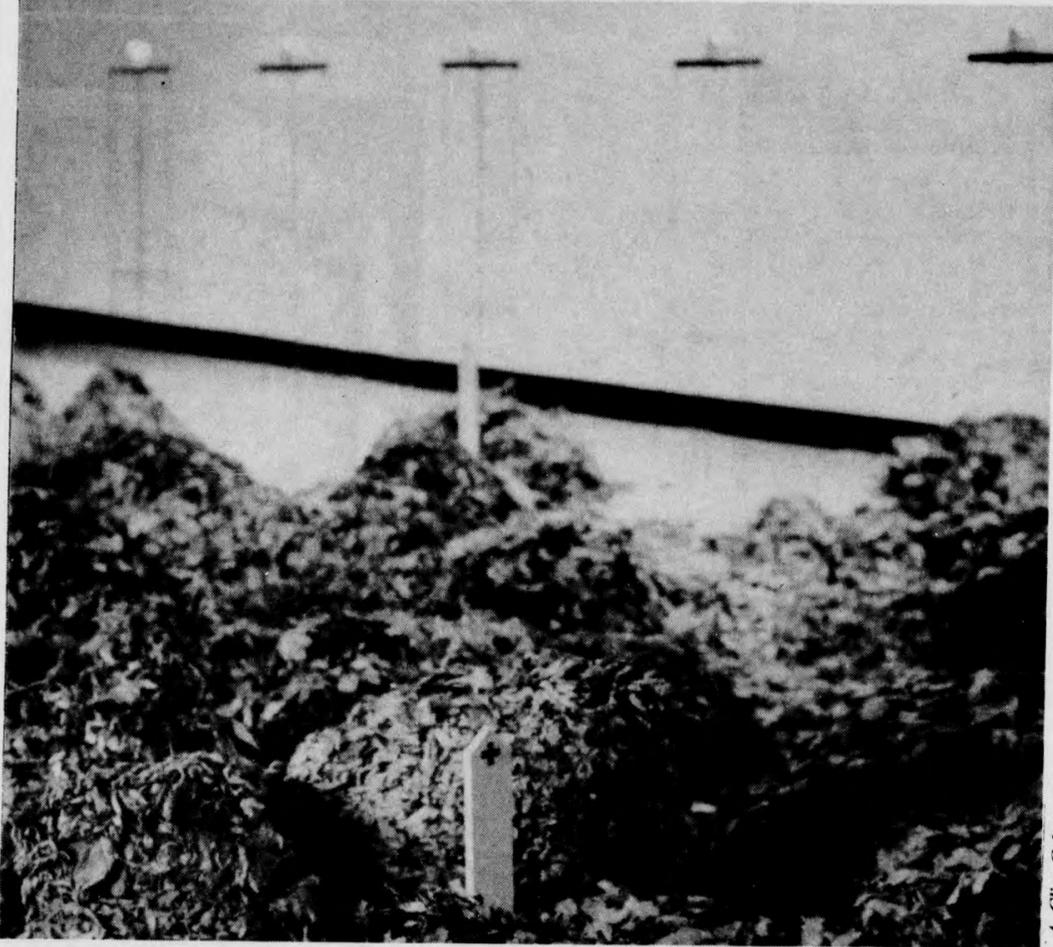
The Story of Women explores the lives of three women travelling to Beijing from a small rural village to sell their wares, while *Far Removed From War* is a family drama on China's generation gap.

The final film, *The Filmmakers* is a bold, controversial look at a group of filmmakers desperately trying to finish a project. The film's erotic lesbian scenes have caused quite a stir within China.

The series continues at the Bloor Cinema until Thurs. Nov. 22, and is definitely worth a look.



Black Snow: Jiang Wen in the first Post-Tiananmen film to come out of China



A. Clive Cohen

Rotting leaves create a quirky dichotomy

by Mara Giordan

Moving Towards . . .
Winter's College Art Gallery

"Moving Towards . . ." an installation/improvisation exhibit, was more than an eye-full, it was also an ear-full, a hand-full and yes, a nose-full too.

Two weeks ago saw the Winter's College Gallery's first showing of the 1990-91 academic year. Presented and prepared by three of York's visual arts students, Angela Somerset, Stephen Doyle and Andrew Brouse.

As I threaded my way through the hallways of Winter's College and neared the gallery, a pungent odour filled my nostrils. It smelled like leaves - a familiar smell at this time of the year.

My sense of smell did not betray me, for when I entered the gallery I was greeted by mounds of dark and rotting leaves resembling buried human forms.

Throughout the mounds pathways had been formed, spontaneously created by previous guests of the exhibit. Jutting out from the mounds were stark, white wooden pickets adorned with red painted crosses.

My perception of the scene took on a new light as my gaze shifted to the front of the room. There, a row of tiny, white, artificially illuminated sugar-cubed houses, each resting on its own perfectly manicured synthetic lawn, was being supported on long, wiry,

stilt structures.

Above the chatter of the guests a synthesized song of the housewren was being emitted from a stark white box at the entrance to the gallery.

The scene necessitated a total involvement and liberation of the senses.

According to Angela Somerset, the show purports to "explore the dialogue/collision between the poles of the nature/culture dichotomy with an eye to some of the quirky absurdities of contemporary life."

The collision was head-on. The decaying leaves provided a reeling contrast to the white sugar houses.

If I initially felt more comfortable looking at the serene and sophisticated sugar houses than the rotting leaves, that comfort was short-lived.

A closer look at the houses showed them to be precariously balanced on their wire structures. In fact, one of them looked like it could fall at the slightest touch.

Stephen Doyle suggests one possible interpretation of the piece as "a movement towards decay" with "erosion in both houses and nature."

Andrew Brouse describes the show as a "surrealist juxtaposition of incongruent elements." He describes the piece as "experiential."

This may allow one to feel and interpret the scene in different ways depending upon what their past experiences dictate. In fact, on an impulse I wanted to kick the

leaves into the air, or throw myself carelessly into a pile of them - an act reminiscent of my younger years as a child. Perhaps for this reason Stephen claims a certain "open-endedness" to the interpretation of the show.

Where the houses and the synthesized lawns remain the same for years, the leaves, on the other hand, will constantly undergo a process of regeneration. Could this be what the red, painted crosses symbolize? Symbolic of healing, the red crosses provide affirmation for the continuance and endurance of nature.

In terms of structure, the exhibit denies having one at all.

It is a packaging and simulation of nature - a sophisticated composition of natural and created objects blending to form a myriad of images.

It is a refreshing change to be able to actively participate in an exhibit, and although the piece gives little in the way of instant gratification, it is most definitely a thoroughly imaginative and thought provoking piece.

Pam Jacobs, curator of the Winter's College Gallery, promises more exciting exhibits in the months ahead. Yes, somewhere behind the unassuming walls of Winter's College there lies a gallery brimming with new and innovative exhibits.

Next on the agenda is a video installation by Beth Francis which begins on Nov. 19 and runs through until Nov. 23. The gallery is open from Mon. to Fri., 12-3pm. See you there!

Art for people's sake

by Daniel Judd

A Fine and Public Place
Wendy Michener Symposium

While leaving the Fine Arts building the other day, I happened to stumble onto a conversation between two of York's maintenance staff. "It looks like garbage to me," one caretaker said to the other.

They were criticizing a colourful banner that squeezed out the back door of the I.D.A. Gallery, suspended from the ceiling of the adjoining walkway.

In defense of this show, I quickly responded. "Hey c' mon man, this is art." The larger of the two was quick to respond. "I've seen better art on my refrigerator."

This battle between "intention" and "interpretation" took on a more serious tone the following day, during the "4th Annual Wendy Michener Symposium" held at the Nat Taylor Cinema.

Renowned writer, broadcaster and cultural commentator Bronwyn Drainie provided the insightful and provocative keynote address during the afternoon. The event was hosted by the Faculty of Fine Arts and Winter's College.

The subject of Drainie's address entitled "A Fine and Public Place," was the conflicts that arise when cultural institutions try to meet the interests and concerns of their public.

The recent exhibit "Into the Heart of Africa" held during the summer at the Royal Ontario Museum, was among the examples used to illustrate this tension. The exhibit's stated purpose of drawing attention to the irony of white colonialism in deepest Africa at the turn of the century, was seen as patronizing and racist by the Afro-Canadian community. They feel that the artifacts displayed, told an entirely different story.

Drainie suggested that in the past, it has been the "hierarchical" structure of cultural institutions such as the ROM and the Canada Council that has caused such dilemmas. The predominance of white English and French Canadians within this structure has over-

looked a number of minority factions, including native Canadians.

At the opposite end of the spectrum, one finds institutions such as the National Museum and the CBC, telling the public what they want to hear by providing them with regional coverage. A move, according to Drainie, aimed at "duping Canadians" into thinking that they are being widely and fairly represented.

Drainie spent a number of years as a broadcaster for the CBC, during which time she witnessed this kind of false representation. News broadcasts for the different regions across the country were prepared, each with consistent national coverage, but varying regional news.

"A fisherman in Newfoundland would assume that the whole country was learning about his problems" she said. While, in fact, only those who were directly affected by the issues were hearing about them on "The World at Six."

In general, she stated, it is the white male hegemony that has failed to recognize the change in public demands. Because of the diverse and widespread fragmentation we experience in our country, and the lack of any effective means of "marketing" our interests, institutions go about their ways somewhat blindly.

Drainie also spoke about self-censorship: the fear of expression which leads to presentations that are toned down so as not to offend certain groups. She feels that this type of compromise will ultimately create meaningless vacuum.

Her solution to this dilemma is one of integration and representation. "Every group should have access to the challenge of communications," Drainie said. "Fairness, truth and honesty is the only job facing our cultural institutions today."

Following Drainie's address, a number of noted personalities were given the opportunity to comment, including Barbara Emo of the NFB, Yvon DesRochers, the director general of the National Arts Centre and John McNeill, the acting Director of the ROM.



Bronwyn Drainie

ARTS



by Ron Howe

It was just after WWII that Carolyn Cassady met up with the beginnings of the Beat Generation and its characters. She married its literary hero, Neal Cassady, the manic Dean Moriarty from *On The Road*. The author Jack Kerouac, was a lover of hers for a time.

No one can claim to be as close to the two main proponents as Carolyn Cassady. And I, atten-

ding the reading, intentionally wore my seediest clothes.

Looking around the room at all the highbrow intellectuals and stuffed-shirted BMW drivers, I had to question whether they had ever read the books. Did it mean anything to them? I also thought about the \$10 ticket price and the general consumerism of things and reasoned that someone's money had to fly her over from England.

The first half of Cassady's lecture consisted of all the problems she had getting the book released, mainly securing permission from Kerouac's wife to reprint letters.

Then there was to be a screenplay from the book, choice of leading men (Nick Nolte...), possible shooting locations, lawyers, parties, etc.

It was a lot like Charles Bukowski when he recounted his tales in *Hollywood* all about the making of *Barfly*. They both arrived at the same conclusion, Hollywood is filled with the most vile, conniving, lying bunch of crooks imaginable in humanity.

She read right off the page, pausing and accentuating at all the right passages. You would have thought she'd been doing readings for years, all the madness of the Beat days leaving no noticeable scars.

The second half dealt with life with Jack and Neal, which seemed much to the crowd's liking. I've always had a strange feeling about this sort of thing and it continued into the question period. Wasn't anyone concerned with lifestyle/time period as Mrs. Cassady

With the death of the pair (Jack and Neal) within a year at the end of the sixties, no one can chronologize the methods and the madness of the Beats as well.

This was Carolyn Cassady's first public reading.

Her book *Off The Road* had been involved in revisions and copyright problems since 1973.



Jack Kerouac & Neal Cassady

She presently makes her home in London, England.

An unbelievably, spry and quick-witted sixty-seven, she appeared both motherly and scholarly on stage reading with involved inflections and many a mistake.

When I comment on her surprisingly flawless abilities it is not necessarily a reflection of her advanced age and seemingly legendary stature. This was combined with a mental madness certainly inflicted upon her during a twenty year marriage to Neal Cassady.

The reading was part of the International Festival of Authors what she'd done in the last twenty years, how her life had been affected?

The legendary status afforded Neal and Jack, particularly with their premature unusual deaths, has obviously influenced a lot of people.

Since she is one of the few remaining people alive who was actually there, isn't what she has to say about present day things

more important than asking "Why didn't Jack like Hippies?"

Mrs. Cassady also displays an interesting literary style, which makes me surprised that this is her first publication. That she's merely alive, or rather very alive after a saga like hers is pure testament to perseverance and survivalism with a touch of luck. I would imagine. She is deserving of her legendary status.

The only question I think worth noting is in reference to a statement Mrs. Cassady made in which she said Neal had resolved himself to death about five years before he actually ended his legacy.

"He had just sort of given up. He didn't have any of the spark or enthusiasm, and he saw how the booze was killing Jack the same way as it had his father, and that was killing him. He just got more and more into drugs, started rolling cars, getting more and more out of it. There wasn't much we thought we could do."

And thus ended the Beat Generation, as frantic and searching for meaning as its creators had originally sought.



Carolyn Cassady

A tale of good versus evil

by Suzanne Kennedy

Zastrozzi written by George F. Walker Performed by Theatre York Directed by Robert Seale

Zastrozzi is a tale of revenge of the violent war between good and evil.

It hosts the lives of amazing people who act in unexpected ways as they pass through the social and moral laws of their mysterious and sensual world.

This description of the cast's combat demo, held a few weeks ago, had me hooked even before I knew what the play was about.

Zastrozzi was written by Canadian playwright George

F. Walker, who has won four Dora awards for Canadian Drama and a Chalmers award for Outstanding New Canadian Play of 1981. His most recent play *Love and Anger*, was 1989's smash hit.

The main character is an evil, corrupt fellow by the name of Zastrozzi, played by both Shawn Doyle and Simon Fon. (The play has been double cast). He is the criminal mastermind of Europe.

Both Doyle and Fon agreed that the character is very egocentric. He likes to figure out how people's minds work, and then do things that he knows will upset them. Zastrozzi was "existential before it was around", says Doyle.

Bernardo, Zastrozzi's sidekick, is played by a very athletic Pedro Guevara-Mann.

Pedro described his character as being similar to a kid hooked on drugs. Bernardo, because of his low self-esteem, is hooked by Zastrozzi's abusive leadership qualities and, cannot escape.

Matilda, Zastrozzi's girlfriend, is played by the double cast of Tamara Bernier and Nicole Oliver.

Bernier described her character (as well as the character of Julia, played by Lori Heath), as being extreme allegorical figures, with Julia the Madonna and Matilda the Whore.

The part of Matilda is a very physical one, which

Bernier said took a lot of practise with hip movement and bawdy body movement incorporated into the character.

Julia on the other hand is constantly described in the play as having a marvellous "gentle sensuality".

Both characters are basically stereotypes which Walker has fun with, but by the end of the play it is discovered that there is more to them than originally meets the eye.

Zastrozzi Daniel Levinson, plays the "good guy." The character is an idealistic painter and Christian who gradually comes to see himself as God's chosen one.

All the actors talked about the importance of

making the characters believable. The most important thing was to make the audience feel sympathetic towards the characters and to ask themselves WHY the characters are the way they are. If this hadn't happened then the characters would have been unbearably ridiculous.

Zastrozzi is filled with gory combat scenes which are director Robert Seale's specialty. He has won awards in North America for his combat choreography.

The cast has a fantastic amount of energy and a great deal of talent. Although they admit they still have a lot of learning to do, they are well on their way to some great stage careers.

AURAL SECTION

We ain't righteous We're Teachers

by Trevor Campbell

The Poor Righteous Teachers
Holy Intellect
Attic

There is a debate over the significance of Rap music.

One side believes that this musical fad serves no purpose other than to channel out inner-city realities — rap's negativism outweighs its positivism.

The other side argues that Rap is the most important, recent cultural movement not created by the establishment.

Rap must address the negative in order to get on with the positive.

Enter the Poor Righteous Teachers and their new album *Holy Intellect*, a hip-hop collection of Islamic spirituality that educates without preaching.

The Teachers, comprised of Wise Intelligent, Culture Freedom, and D.J. Father Shaheed, manage to blend the seriousness of Afro-centric identity with an often playful musical style reminiscent of De La Soul's 1989 album *3 Feet High and Rising*, creating some of the freshest dance beats heard since the Soul crew.

These hip-hop preachers manage to retain their raw energy by denying the use of slick studio techniques. Instead they allow the idealism of youth, (idealism soaked with seriousness as well as fun-flavoured) to permeate each song.

They take themselves seriously as shown by their philosophy concerning Black self-det-

ermination, but they do so in a light-hearted manner. A point that is illustrated when they sing in a monotonous drone reminiscent of party songs that encourage easy participation.

Holy Intellect sounds like an invitation to a party where pretense is a four letter word and fun is tantamount to existence. However, good times, according to The Teachers, can only be achieved after realizing one's identity. They speak of an Afro-North American experience, but do so without prejudice. As Wise raps, "And now them callin' me a racist?!/But why must I be a racist for turning people to the truth?"

Unfortunately, as Wise understands, some people remain trapped within the dogma stating that the medium is the message. So, considering Rap's negative image, this medium's message is tainted.

People ultimately believe the hype about Public Enemy and other more militant rappers, and consequently dismiss this music as nothing more than an indication of troubled times.

The Teachers, however, attempt to educate by making the learning experience enjoyable. Ultimately, you will listen to the lyrics, but initially, you will dance to the music.

Holy Intellect will entertain and educate without intimidating. So check out The Poor Righteous Teachers' "raw, underground music," to become aware "of what takes place underground." You'll have a great time doing so.



Slightly disturbed but fun

by Bruce Adamson

Sister Ray
To Spite My Face
Resonance Records

We human beings are a truly inventive bunch. Fire, the combustion engine and the telephone are just some of the great things we've dreamed up over the years.

Today we celebrate one of the modern era's truly hip innovations — the distortion pedal.

Ah, the distortion pedal; the scourge of parental units and the saviour of disenfranchised youth the world over. Sister Ray's third LP, *To Spite My Face* shows that in the hands of experts, this gadget can be sonically devastating.

This Youngstown, Ohio crew is noisy. Sixteen of the seventeen tunes on the aforementioned plat-

ter are point blank crash and burn numbers that are definitely not intended for the pacemaker set.

Guitarist Mark Hanley combines the Byrds trebly jangle with a deep Hendrix-soaked fuzz to make his four chord post punk statements. Drummer Vince Colucci and bassist Joe D'Angelo have unashamedly lifted their collective thump from the Bo Diddley-Sex Pistols catalogue and applied it competently, if not originally, to vocalist Sam D'Angelo's material.

Sam is not a happy camper. "Out of My Head" is a well-aimed stab at plastic surgery, no doubt inspired by Oprah/Sally horror stories. The influence of media violence on every day life is explored in "One Step Beyond",

and relationships gone psychotically sour provide the inspiration for "You Are So . . ."

At times D'Angelo's stuff reeks of punk cliché; hearing four guys chant "piss off and die" is not as funny as it was when I was 15. Likewise, the overall lyrical focus on *introspection-to-the-point-of-insanity* gets a little long in the tooth after a while.

Basically Sister Ray is about four slightly disturbed guys writing about slightly-disturbed people. This isn't new but what the hey, it's a fun bash and Halloween is still in the air.

Pretenders to the distortion throne beware!!! S.R. have more fuzzboxes than Thomas Edison has patents, and they definitely know how to use them!

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Hope our Cocteau Twins winners enjoy the show on the 21st courtesy of Excal and C.P.I.

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ARTS

Culture is not a weapon

by Jim Russell

Songololo: Voices of Change

The Carpetbaggers have descended on South Africa.

They are presenting themselves as friends of the revolution while they are in fact just another wave of colonialists bearing "gifts."

Wrapped attractively in celluloid, they call CULTURAL NATIONALISM and FEMINISM *Songololo: Voices of Change*.

Songololo is a celebration of black South African culture, masquerading as a glimpse of a revolution in progress.

The do-good "Baggers" arrived with their suitcases filled with film and liberal notions of "solidarity," before proceeding to record beautiful images of the revolution.

Songololo is a beautifully filmed music video, but it is not about revolution.

Revolution is a horrible, gut wrenching process concerned with the removal of a horribly oppressive system. The experience is nearly unfilmable and, even as such, it would be

unwatchable.

Songololo was shot in South Africa in the fall of 1989.

A heady time for black South Africans as the winds of change swelled to hurricane force. The South African government was forced to legalize anti-apartheid demonstrations for the first time in thirty years.

It was during this period of liberalisation and euphoria that South African born director, Marianne Kaplan went to Johannesburg, Soweto and Natal to make her documentary. She chose to feature two talented black performers - singer, writer and director, Gcina Mhlophe and poet/musician Mzwakhe Mbuli.

The movie follows these two, showing us not only their public side, through live performances, but also their private lives through family vignettes.

Ms. Mhlophe speaks for the "woman and children of her country" while Mr. Mbuli is known as the "people's poet."

Described as "cultural activists," they seek to present culture as a valuable tool, "a weapon that does not rust."

It is here that they do the black

people of South Africa a great disservice.

Culture is not a weapon, it is a "quality" that shapes the soul and fills the oppressed masses with substance and a sense of identity. Culture can do nothing more.

Cultural Nationalism and the divisiveness inherent in Feminism, on the other hand, can dilute and divert the forces of change, providing valuable time for the oppressors to regroup.

Songololo will probably do well on the Canadian Art theatre circuit. Images of black people singing and dancing have always made us comfortable.

Now that this questionable film has opened in theatres across Canada, I have no doubt that it's major funders - Telefilm Canada, National Film Board, OXFAM, External Affairs and the Anglican Church are busy patting themselves on their liberal vertebrae. I hope they develop cramps in their arms.

I give *Songololo* a one out of ten, only because it would be wrong not to recognise the crew who produced a beautifully filmed, lit, edited and composed product.



Mzwakhe Mbuli and Gcina Mhlophe

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Due to the popularity of the baseball posers in Volume IV, The Riddler offers these three new sports problems.

Even those readers who do not follow the year's seven great sport seasons: Baseball, football, hockey, tennis, basketball, midget tossing, and, of course, falconry, should be able to handle these riddles. It requires little more than utilizing all of your reasoning faculties, so get to it, Hopeful Grey Matter Masters!

1. Bowling: What's the lowest possible score when five strikes and five spares are rolled in any order? (Assume that any bonus balls thrown at an eleventh or twelfth set of pins aren't counted as spares or strikes.)

2. Table Tennis: You are director for this year's York Ping-Pong championships. 847 students

enter. The tournament is decided by elimination: The winner of each match advances to the next round and the loser drops out.

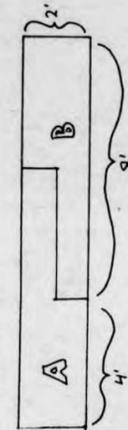
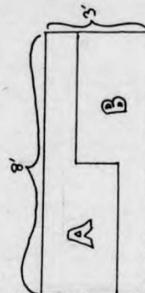
The pairings in the first round are made at random, so by chance some player will advance automatically to the second round. How many matches will you have to schedule to determine a champion?

3. Carl ran a 10 km (6.2 mile) race at the constant speed of one mile every seven minutes. Ben ran the same race at a variable speed, but for any one-mile stretch, including the final mile, his time was constant; seven minutes and one second.

Explain how, even though they began the race at the same time, Ben finished ahead of Carl. (Assume that this is a drug-free race.)

Answers to VOLUME VII (Monday Nov. 12):

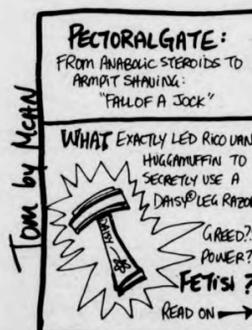
1. There are a total of 13 triangles.
2. Once you realize that the object has curved lines and that the side view has been up-ended, the visualization becomes easy.



3. Joe cut the board as shown on the left, then rearranged the pieces to create the exact dimensions required (on right).



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Odyssey by Pinc



HORRORSCOPE

by Mary Cerisano

- Aquarius (Jan.20-Feb.19)**
Avoid entering into a partnership where you need a partner who needs you as well.
- Pisces (Feb.20-Mar.20)**
Remember that the minute you throw something out, you're bound to need it.
- Aries (Mar.21-Apr.19)**
Even though it's unnecessary, you will be manipulative today.
- Taurus (Apr.20-May20)**
Business relationships rely on profits; friendships don't.
- Gemini (May21-June20)**
Taking charge will be easy today, just remember that you have to set the example.
- Cancer (June21-July22)**
Your best approach today is one of less talk and more action.
- Leo (July23-Aug.22)**
Don't take things too seriously, you're prone to be overly sensitive.
- Virgo (Aug.23-Sept.22)**
Don't ask where time has gone, it goes to the same place it always has.
- Libra (Sept.23-Oct.23)**
Today, you'll become aware of what your future holds.
- Scorpio (Oct.24-Nov.22)**
That loan you made to a Sagittarius will finally be repaid.
- Sagittarius (Nov.23-Dec.21)**
An acquaintance may try to get the better of you, over something irrelevant. Don't fall into a hole you won't be able to climb out of.
- Capricorn (Dec.22-Jan.19)**
Giving advice may put you in a no-win situation. If things don't pan out, you may be blamed.

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SPORTS



Powerplay lacking in York loss versus Blues



BUMP AND GRIND:Yeoman Rob Miwa and a gaggle of Toronto defenders. The Thursday night game at the Ice Palace was a 5-3 loss for York.

by Josh Rubin

You could say the Yeomen hockey team "blue" some opportunities in this one.

Last Thursday against UofT, the Yeomen suffered with a rough start and a lacklustre powerplay, going down 5-3 at the hands of their cross-town rivals.

The Yeomen struggled in the early going, and it was a giveaway in their own end that led to UofT's first goal just three minutes into the game.

The UofT lead could have gone even higher in the opening frame had it not been for the stellar play

of Yeoman netminder Ted Mielczarek.

Despite a 15-13 UofT lead in shots on net, the score remained 1-0 going into the second.

The Yeomen jumped out of the gate early in the second, and their pressure paid off when Rob Miwa tied the game up just 2:49 in.

But a York win simply wasn't in the cards. The Blues added another pair before the end of the period.

A short-lived third period comeback gave the York faithful something to cheer about, but a pair of Blues goals sealed the victory.

The Achilles heel for the Yeomen in this one was their powerplay, which went an anemic 0-8 on the evening.

Head coach Graham Wise admitted he wasn't entirely pleased with the way his team handled the man advantage.

"We had our chances and didn't capitalize," Wise said. "We've got to tighten ourselves up. Guys have to react to situations, not think."

Wise also felt that despite having six league games under their belt, his team is still learning their game plan.

With the win, UofT tied the Yeomen for second place in the tough OUAA East, a fact which didn't escape Blues coach Paul Titanic.

"[The division] is all up for grabs now," enthused Titanic.

Titanic says with teams like McGill and York playing inconsistently a second place finish for his squad is realistic.

Still, Titanic feels UQTR has first place all but locked up.

"You're not going to win any games with the officiating they've got in their building.

"They've got an automatic 11 wins," said the Blues coach.

Despite the Yeomen's woes on the powerplay, there were still some bright spots against UofT.

One of them was Ted Mielczarek, who continued to shine while Willie Popp sits out with a strained groin muscle.

Popp, the other half of York's puckstopping duo could be out for up to three weeks.

According to team officials, Popp suffered a second degree strain in the Yeomen's game against Laurentian two weeks ago.

Labatt's Blue Tunes Trivia Contest

1 I met myself a woman, she took my heart away

1. Dire Straits
2. Bachman Turner Overdrive
3. Electric Light Orchestra
4. Georgia Sattalites

2 Pretty woman out talking with gorillas down my street

1. Joe Cocker
2. John Denver
3. Colin James
4. Joe Jackson

3 Now here we go again you say want your freedom

1. Carly Simon
2. Fleetwood Mac
3. Carol Pope
4. Cindy Lauper

4 On the day I was born the nurses all gathered round

1. Billy Idol
2. George Thorogood and The Delaware Destroyers
3. Rod Stewart
4. The Box

5 Mars ain't the kind of place to raise your kids

1. David Bowie
2. INXS
3. Elton John
4. Duran Duran

6 There's an old man sittin' next to me makin' love to his tonic and gin

1. Bruce Springsteen
2. Billy Joel
3. Bob Marley
4. The Band

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York Varsity Athletics for the week of November 19 to 25

Tuesday November 20

Ice Hockey

Yeomen at UofT - 7:15 pm

Thursday November 22

Ice Hockey

Waterloo at Yeomen - 7:30 pm

Friday November 23

Basketball

Yeowomen host Brooks Tait McKenzie Classic (Fri.-Sun.)

Ice Hockey

Yeowomen at Queen's - 7:00 pm

Squash

Yeomen at East Sectional at Queen's (Fri.-Sat.)

Swimming

Yeomen at East Sectional at UofT
Yeowomen at McMaster Invitational

Volleyball

Yeomen at Guelph Invitational (Fri.-Sat.)

Saturday November 24

Basketball

Yeomen at Windsor - 8:00 pm

Ice Hockey

Yeowomen at Queen's - 1:30 pm

Sunday November 25

Basketball

Yeomen at Sienna Heights (Michigan) - 3:00 pm

SPORTS

Thunderbird steroid shocker

UBC linesman faces one-year suspension

by Josh Rubin

A UBC Thunderbird football player has tested positive for steroids.

Andy Sidhu, an offensive linesman for the team was informed of his urinalysis results last Saturday, a day before his team's CWUAA final.

According to a spokesperson for the CIAU, Sidhu's first sample (A) was the one which tested positive.

Results of the B sample, taken at the same time, are expected to be released later this week.

Under CIAU regulations, Sidhu faces a one year suspension if the second test is positive.

Penalties for second offenders, however, include an automatic life suspension from all CIAU athletics.

UBC football coach Frank Smith refused comment on Sidhu but added he felt no responsibility for the result.

"We as a coaching staff have done everything in our power... to inform our players of our position against using these substances," said Smith.

Smith was referring to CIAU regulations which oblige all athletes to attend pre-season anti-doping seminars.

Athletes must also sign an anti-doping "contract," which Smith

claims his players also have done.

CIAU spokesperson Doramy Ehling said that Sidhu is only one of 180 people tested, however.

"We have to feel the vast majority of our athletes are clean," added Ehling.



Ehling admitted, however, that a large percentage of the CIAU's 2,000 athletes currently remain untested.

Despite Sidhu's positive test, Ehling remains confident her

organization's anti-doping program has been largely effective.

She says competitors are subject to two kinds of random testing during the season.

From Feb.1 to Oct.1, athletes are given 36-hours notice to report to a CIAU doping control officer.

But from October onwards, says Ehling, athletes may be subjected to tests at any time, even during practice.

Though the testers are not allowed to interrupt practices, Ehling says the CIAU guidelines are strict.

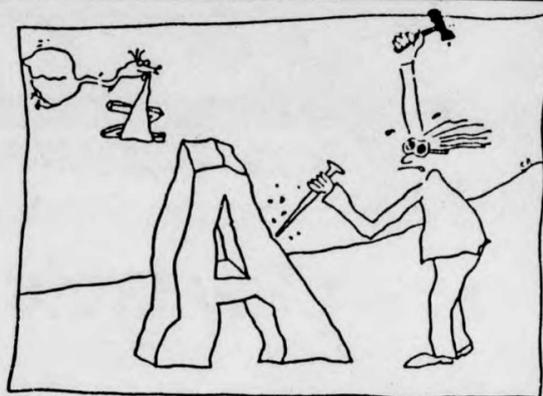
"The idea is [the doping control officers] don't let the athletes leave their sight from the time they arrive until the sample is produced.

"If they have to go to the bathroom during practice, we'll do the test then," added Ehling.

Ehling feels these factors greatly reduce the risk of self-catharization, which several national team wrestlers admitted to doing during the Dubin commission last year.

In that process, an athlete would insert a tube into the urethra, in order to empty their bladder of any incriminating evidence.

Following the withdrawal, the athlete then injects someone else's "clean" urine into the urethra.



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Balanced basketball blowouts as Yeomen crushed, Yeowomen romp

by Riccardo Sala

Tuesday was a comme-ci comme-ca day for York's basketball teams.

While the Yeowomen beat Waterloo 63-37, the Yeomen weren't

as productive. They were bashed 95-56 by the Guelph Gryphons.

"We were really surprised," said Yeowoman coach Bill Pangos afterwards. "I thought that it was going to be 6-8 point ball-game."

"The team did a good job in executing offence and reading the defence."

In the past there has been a tendency to put York's scoring workload on the shoulders of either Jennifer Cushing or Cathy Amara.

Cushing, with 13 points against Waterloo, was still York's scoring leader. However, a stronger team effort allowed players like Joann Jakovcevic to flex their offensive muscle.

Jakovcevic had 12 points in the game, a tally which Pangos says should become routine for the third year center.

There were fewer smiles from the Yeomen.

"We didn't play very well," Yeoman Clive Anderson said after York's 95-56 loss to the Guelph Gryphons.

Anderson's standout game wasn't enough to save the team, despite his 23 point total.

Despite being outscored 44-23 in the first half, the Yeomen still put in a solid effort.

But the taller Guelph team was simply too strong.

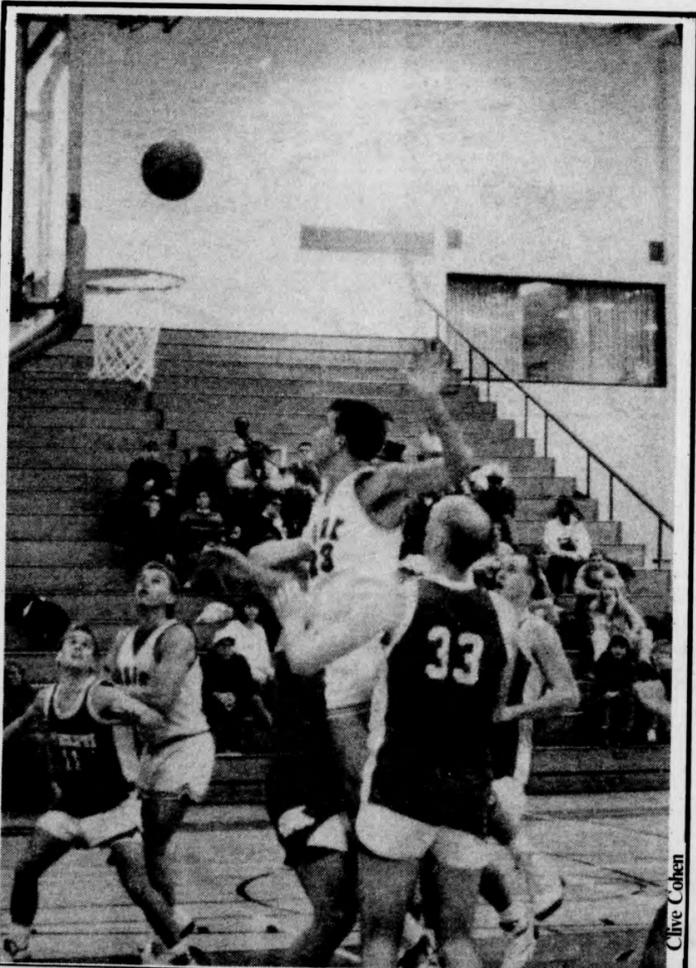
The Gryphons scored with ease and completely dominated the boards, both offensive and defensive.

In the second half Guelph pulled away effortlessly.

Despite some individual gems like Don Taylor's defensive play and Mark Bellai's hot three point shot, there wasn't much for the York fans to cheer about.

"We didn't play well and we played a much better team," Yeoman coach Bob Bain said.

For Bain there was also the spectre of an injury diminished team, as Yeoman Chris Pollmann suffered a wrist injury from a hard landing in the first half.



I CAN FLY: Guelph's Jason Myles (33) looks on as York guard Mark Bellai (23) crashes the boards during the Yeomen's 95-56 loss. In other basketball action, the Yeowomen were more successful, dumping Waterloo 63-37.

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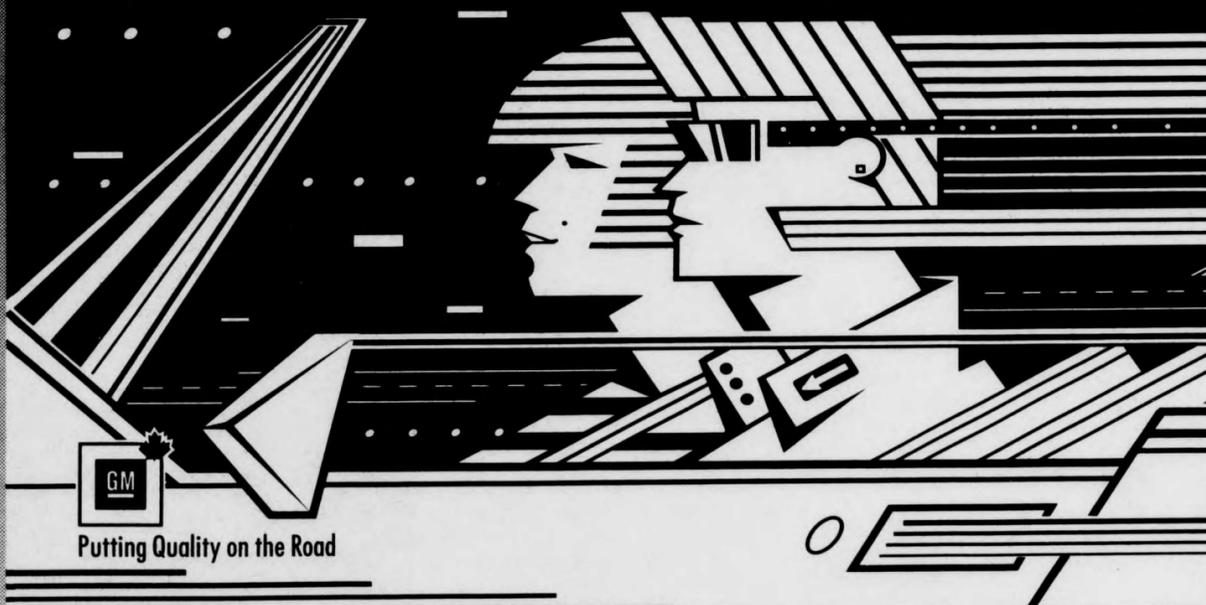
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