

Reformed student government in new year?



Excalibur's roving reporter outside a meeting of college politicians

By Greg Saville

A new central student government which could replace or transform CYSF might be in store for York University as students come back from the Christmas holidays. Most of the student council heads of York's colleges, unofficially calling themselves the Constituent Councils of York, (CCOY), met last Friday, for the second time in a closed, informal conference with this idea in mind.

The chairman of Friday's meeting, Founders council President Ian Brennan, said the meetings of late are basically designed to construct some type of model for a new central student government. Since Calumet college's withdrawal from the CYSF, central student government at York represents about half the student population. There are now five colleges in CYSF and five, including Osgoode, out.

Bethune council chairperson, Bob Speller, says other groups such as the Environmental Studies and Graduate Students are also part of CCOY.

Why these meetings, (there's another one on Friday) have been under a cloak of secrecy isn't clear; most council presidents won't say.

Murray Miskin, president of Osgoode's Legal and Literary Society, described some content of past meetings: "Primarily we discuss the student government fees paid to student governments by the university from student tuition fees. Most councils this year found a great deal of difficulty meeting the financial requirements of the colleges."

Miskin explained that the conferences are an attempt to develop a strong approach to create a new formula for funding college councils from student dollars. "Basically we talk about different models of CYSF and come to some tentative agreements about CYSF structure and funding."

Why then has the present CYSF not invited to these informal meetings?

According to Miskin the meetings consist of an informal group of president's who feel they can better look into what their own problems

are. "This gives us an opportunity to develop our strategy and analysis independent of CYSF."

"The colleges and CYSF meet regularly in meetings sponsored by the CYSF," he said. "The next one will be held on the weekend of January 12. We (CCOY) are preparing a strategy for this weekend."

If a new model appears on that day it could become the new form for student government at York.

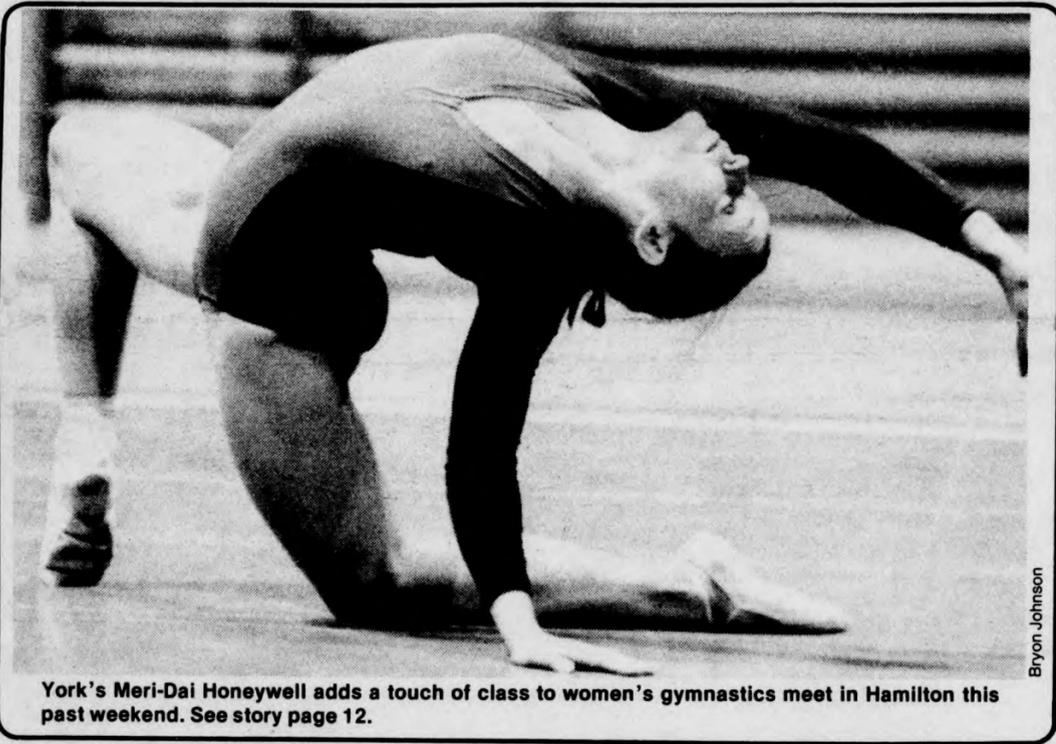
Stong college's council president, Bill Petrie, says that it's possible this model may not be brought before York students for a referendum. In that case the decision would rest with the Board of Governors and the administration, namely John Becker, ass't vice-pres. in charge of student services and W. Farr of employee and student relations. Petrie said he doubted they would decide on a new model at York without a referendum. But the possibility is definitely there.

Excalibur

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Thursday 7, December 1978



York's Meri-Dai Honeywell adds a touch of class to women's gymnastics meet in Hamilton this past weekend. See story page 12.

Bryon Johnson

OSAP criticism is "well founded"

By Greg Saville

In the Ontario legislature last Thursday Bette Stephenson, the minister of Colleges and Universities, said she felt criticism of this year's OSAP program is "well founded".

Meanwhile her ministry, along with York's Awards office, are rushing to complete applications for OSAP before Christmas.

The ministry has made \$11 million available in advance payments to universities and colleges in Ontario for emergency loans; loans that are to make up for financial shortfalls faced by students who have not yet received aid via OSAP.

Jo Anne Albright, director of York's Student Awards office, has stated that some of York's 800 students who have not received processed OSAP applications might have been waiting up to six months for an answer.

Stephenson's address to the legislature suggested the late policy changes in the past year's program are at the bottom of this year's problems. "I have assured the Awards Officers that policy changes will be kept to a minimum next year," she said.

The Ontario Federation of Students met with Stephenson Monday to discuss next year's program. Al Golombek, one of the OFS representatives yesterday, said he was concerned Stephenson's comments in the legislature meant that the changes in next year's OSAP would be minor ones. Golombek felt if this was the case, the few administrative changes suggested by Stephenson may put next year's OSAP in jeopardy because they will limit possible improvements in OSAP's performance.

"Basically," said Golombek, "the students are being asked to pay for the mistakes of the past minister."

Albright said she was skeptical about what she's seen of Stephenson's plan to make minimal changes. She said, "I'd like to see a few facts."

"The university has given the Awards office extra funds for emergency loans," she said, "and we're still trying to be flexible as possible with students."

According to Albright the real "crunch" at York will come in January when students are faced with the next payments for university tuition.

Drastic decline in book purchases

High costs, cutbacks stifle library

By Hugh Westrup

The soaring cost of academic journals is threatening to reduce the incoming flow of new library books to a trickle.

A recent estimate by the library states that in order to maintain the current number of periodical subscriptions, funds will exist in 1982 to buy only 460 books, a drastic decline from the 26,269 bought this year.

To avoid such a sharp drop in

book buying, the library has begun cancelling subscriptions; two to three hundred titles are being struck from its list this year.

"It's a grim situation," says library director, Anne Woodworth. "What we need is a 30 per cent increase in our budget but what we can expect is only five per cent."

Until several years ago, subscription rates to periodicals generally kept pace with inflation. However, last year, periodicals were 23 per cent more costly than the previous year. According to Woodworth, the library is facing an even greater increase this year, perhaps as high as 30 per cent. The library can no longer afford to subscribe to every periodical without draining money from its book budget, so subscriptions are being terminated.

A library document showing the above figures predicts that prices will continue to rise dramatically in future years and states: "the cumulative effect of a fixed dollar budget, steeply rising prices and devaluation of the Canadian dollar has to date had a devastating effect on the ability of the library's collections to support the

University's academic and research programmes."

(See Inflation page 2)

Beyond this page

- Profile of Atkinson film professor Robin Wood, page 6
- South African situation, page 6
- York Torch inter-college sports round-up, page 7
- A preview of the theatre department's student project week, page 8



Back to school January 3

The first day of classes in the new year, will be Wednesday January 3. York will be closed New Year's Day, Monday January 1. The undergraduate calendar does not even mention Tuesday, January 2 — perhaps it's an extra hangover-recuperation day.

The next issue of Excalibur will appear Thursday January 11. Don't look for us the second day back — deadline problems made publication impossible the first week.

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*See OSAP literature for definitions.

Ministry of Colleges and Universities
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Hon. Bette Stephenson, M.D., Minister
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78 11 14

Inflation hits York libraries

(cont'd from pg. 1)

Hardest hit by this gross inflation is the Steacie science library. Brian Wilks, head librarian at Steacie, estimates that science journals cost about three times as much as other journals.

"Because science journals are so expensive, price increases from between twenty and thirty percent have hit us like a tidal wave," he said.

Wilks says his ideal budgetary scheme is to allot 85 per cent to periodicals and the remainder to books. In reality, he has spent 93 per cent of this year's budget on periodicals with the rest going to reserve books and special requests by faculty.

"In the broad basic sciences, our book purchases are non-existent. This, of course, seriously affects our first year students."

After \$195,000 went to subscription renewals last year, \$5,000 was left over for the purchase of science books, though this was exacerbated somewhat by additional revenue from book fines.

York's libraries are currently considering several alternative strategies in tackling the problem. One possibility is the formation of a national lending library for periodicals, similar to the one established in Great Britain. This would be a back up collection at the federal level to house journals that local universities cannot afford.

A second proposal is regional collections. Explains Woodworth, "one university would specialize in law, for example, and another would specialize in science. There would be total free exchange between schools. But this could be a pricey thing for us to absorb in terms of photocopying costs. There's also the danger that a university would be committed to buying things in areas where it has no academic need."

Collection development policies are also being worked out to determine how York's book collection should grow within the academic goals of the university.

Woodworth also cited a move on the part of the math department involving the exchange of subscription lists with the University of Waterloo's math department to

avoid unnecessary overlap in purchases.

Martin Muldoon, chairman of York's math department says this plan is still in the conceptual phase. Above all, Muldoon favours increased financial support of the library and is skeptical of the options discussed so far.

Larger cooperative systems would entail massive inter-library loan programs which Muldoon questions the effectiveness of, pointing with dismay to the current inter-library exchange which he believes hasn't worked well. "It usually takes a week to get things which were promised at the moment. This delays our work."

Muldoon also said that if universities begin cancelling subscriptions in favour of centralized lending, this would reduce the numbers of subscribers, pushing rates even higher and causing some journals to fold.

"This situation is a very serious one as far as math research is concerned," said Muldoon. "The library is our only tool and in order to maintain a good program of research we need to keep up subscriptions to 200 to 250 journals."

Faculty members have recently been consulted by the library about proposed deletions in the subscription list, and those members contacted by Excalibur said their departments could accommodate cuts made so far without adverse effects on research or education.

History department chairman, Paul Stevens, said faculty will have to become more involved in the libraries affairs. "We can't leave it to the bureaucracy."

Sabia speaks at York

Three million women marching on Ottawa to demand a Royal Commission? Laura Sabia, speaking at the York Women's Centre last Thursday, explained how Prime Minister Lester Pearson was persuaded to form the Commission on the Status of Women by a headline in the *Globe and Mail*.

The headline quoted Sabia as saying that angry women would convene on Parliament Hill unless the government took them seriously.

The women and men crowding the Women's Centre joined Sabia in discussing the progress of the women's movement since its early days. Sabia, former president of the National Action Committee, decried women's lack of power in what she considers to be three crucial areas: politics, economics, and religion. She urged women to use their powers in pursuing their ambitions and to work to restructure the nuclear family.

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Jamaican activist describes Island's plight

By B.J.R. Silberman

The conditions facing the majority of working people in the Caribbean today are at a point of crisis. In places such as Jamaica, wages are low and the cost of living is high. There is massive unemployment and the housing situation is far from adequate. Most homes don't even possess running water.

Leading West Indian political activist, Dr. Trevor Munroe, spoke at York last Thursday night on this theme at a meeting sponsored by Third World Students Union. He said the problems suffered by the region are a direct result of the

capitalist system.

Countries like Jamaica, whose main export is bauxite, are exploited by the multi-national corporations. In 1971 such corporations as ALCAN paid Jamaica \$2.40 for every ton of bauxite removed from the ground. They in turn sold it on the U.S. market for \$500 a ton.

Foreign investment made by has done little to ease the situation in the area. In the late sixties, U.S.-investment into the area was \$1.5 billion, and Canadian investment was \$5 billion. The money that was drawn back out from the

Caribbean as a result of these investments showed that significant profits had been made.

Jamaica, according to Munroe, is suffering from a balance of payments problem. It depends on external inputs in order to survive. Most of its food and medicine must be imported. In order to purchase such items, Jamaica must earn enough foreign exchange to pay for them, but it is unable to do this because it still works in a market which was forced onto it by colonialism.

There can only be two major solutions to such a problem,

Munroe said. A country like Jamaica can turn to the capitalist solution which is to borrow money from the International Monetary Fund. In return, the borrowing country must follow a standard program dictated by the IMF. To Jamaica, the IMF offered an extreme version of this program. If offered devaluation of Jamaican currency, a guarantee to private capital, a balanced budget and restrictions on workers' wages in the form of restraint or freezes.

The other alternative, Munroe stated, is a turn to the socialist system. Under this system, a country could renegotiate its old debts so that the payments could be rescheduled to a later date.

Very recently, Jamaica chose the IMF solution to solve its payments crisis. This choice, Munroe said, has locked Jamaica more tightly into the capitalist system. Its production has gone down and its cost of living has risen markedly.

Parking office's break-in policy questioned

By Brian Gillett

Some members of the York community have raised questions about the activities of employees of the traffic office headed by George Dunn.

Recently a York staff member had her car broken into by York security to remove a decal loaned to her by a friend on leave. Although the Community Legal Aid Services Program (C.L.A.S.P.) said these actions could be seen as trespass and theft of the decal, George Dunn justified his department's actions saying that York security suspected the decal was stolen.

In order to determine just how far the University feels it has the right to act in dealing with parking offenders, Excalibur interviewed Dunn last Friday.

Asked when York security will break into a car, Dunn replied, "A vehicle will be broken into in order to release the hand and parking brakes when towing is to be done. Furthermore, a vehicle will be towed away if it is parked along a fire route, in a medical zone, or in a service area. A persistent offender (one with more than three parking violations) may also be towed away."

Although vehicles are usually towed to one of the peripheral parking lots, the University has been known to impound an offending vehicle, releasing them only when proof of ownership has been produced. In this way, the university can establish the offender's identity. The university cannot legally

refuse to return a vehicle to its owner in order to force payment of fines and towing charges. However, Dunn says that cases have been taken to court to force payment of fines and "we've never lost one yet."

Dunn was asked why the university persists in using large stickers which are plastered on the offending vehicle when these stickers impair the driver's visibility and their removal may scratch the windshield itself. "I have no sympathy for people who receive stickers on their cars," he said, "these people are usually persistent offenders anyway, and besides no one is forcing them to drive their car when driver visibility is impaired. I see the main purpose of the sticker as an irritant and, hopefully as a deterrent to other potential violators."

According to Dunn, there are 14,000 vehicles registered at York. In addition, to the income received from permits, there will be another \$30,000 collected in parking fines for the 1978 fiscal year. Dunn says this money will be used to offset the costs of salaries of parking attendants.

Although Dunn maintains that the university is well within its rights to enter a vehicle, or even impound it over at the physical plant, there are other independent legal opinions to the contrary. According to a lawyer contacted by Excalibur, the whole issue may only be settled when and if someone takes the time, effort, risk, and expense to challenge the university in court.

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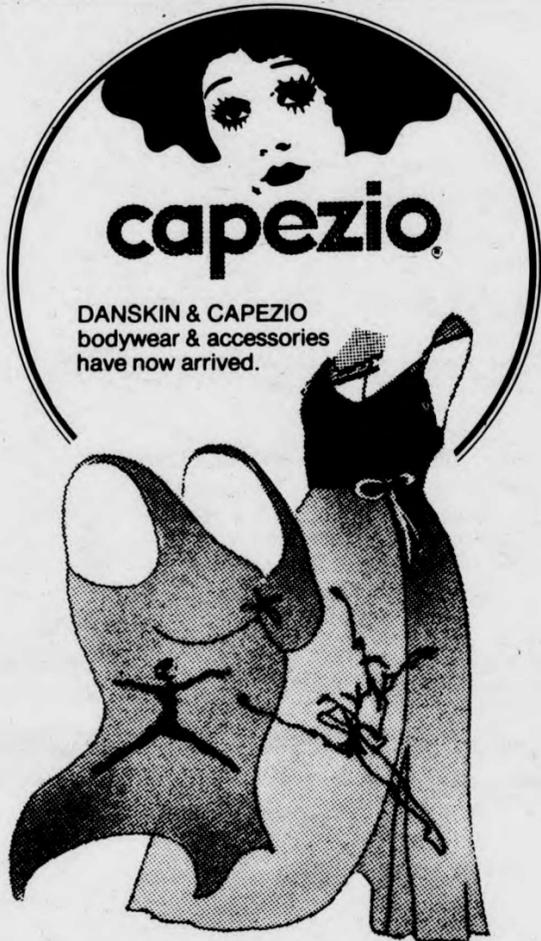
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Excalibur

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—Lord Acton

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OSAP is bogged down (despite OFS's efforts) and students pay the the price

"Now we know where the bugs are."

The words are Bette Stephenson's, Tory minister of colleges and universities, spoken during a Monday meeting with representatives of the Ontario Federation of Students, including chairperson Miriam Edelson.

The major topic of discussion was the bureaucratic bungling in Stephenson's ministry which has left thousands of students without their loans and grants from the Ontario Student Awards program, as the mid-year break approaches.

The school year is half over and Stephenson is working the bugs out. Splendid. We hope this is a consolation to the 800 York students who've been left hanging by the OSAP delays. (OFS information officer Al Golombek was, by the way, shocked to hear that 800 York students were affected — it looks like we may be one of the hardest hit campuses, since the ministry's delay compounds the one caused by the YUSA strike.

The result of the OSAP mess— apparently caused by former minister Harry Parot's procrastination — is that students will pay for governmental incompetence. The point of OSAP is to allow students free time for their studies, the time to be paid for later. Obviously people living on tight budgets are



having trouble making ends meet; hopefully no one's academic year will be ruined by a lack of student assistance.

To go from bad to worse, OFS has learned that in order to clear up OSAP's technical problems, the ministry will not make some needed policy changes, which would entail further tinkering with the computer program.

Golombek summed the situation up neatly when he pointed out to Excalibur that, rather than helping students, Stephenson & Co. are "trying to shore up their beleaguered bureaucratic ship."

A large number of those short-changed by this situation are Ontario's part-time students; OFS has been unable to locate a single part-time grant recipient in all Ontario. Stephenson admitted Monday that changes in OSAP which were designed to help part timers have "not borne fruit."

But she won't do anything to improve the situation. Clearly, OSAP deserves to be the renewed object of student protest.

Perhaps our newly elected student governors, Shawn Brayman and Paul Hayden can do a little work in this area.

In conclusion, we'd like to commend the Ontario Federation of Students for their response to the situation. They got the word to the press across Ontario, that David Butler, chairman of the Ontario Association of Student Awards Officers, had criticized the government's bungling.

Way back in August, the federation sent a letter to the ministry urging that it make available a publicly advertised fund for emergency loans to cover precisely this contingency.

This was finally done — last week.

And OFS was quick to pressure Stephenson at Monday's meeting. To those who ask where the \$11,000-\$12,000 that York annually allocates OFS is going—here is one answer.

The plight of our libraries requires executive action

Amidst the turmoil caused by the Ontario government's decline in funding of universities, our libraries are going through their own additional financial crisis. Unable to keep up with a galloping inflation rate in the price of printed material, which far exceeds the national rate, libraries have begun to reduce periodical subscription lists and have had to upset the budgetary balance between books and periodicals.

That the standard of education and research rests on the type of book collection to which professors and students have access, is obvious. What is less evident is that during the past eight years, our library's share of the university budget has decreased by 33 per cent. During that same time period, our student population increased by 100 per cent. Can York's libraries take much more trimming? It appears that the time has come when further budget cuts will go beyond removing the purchase of unused volumes of esoterica, and begin to cut into the amount of valuable resource material.

York needs a solid base in journals and books, otherwise it becomes questionable why a student would come here for an education in the first place. In "hard times" the circularity of the situation becomes more apparent: An impaired book service is less attractive to the student whose decision to go elsewhere, or not go at all, results in a lower attendance rate and a decline in government grants.

York's library has responded to the province's cuts by reducing staff and services. In the face of their own crisis, they're seeking cooperation with academic departments and are searching out alternative methods of book access. It's questionable whether such programs as regional sharing will be less costly than the present system, or whether they'll be suitably efficient, but the library has shown more than a willingness to confront the problems of restraint.

President Macdonald said this fall that "we must continue the

fight and we must never give up the struggle for the university in general, and York in particular. Macdonald must demonstrate a serious concern for York before Queen's Park, and the library's dilemma is one more reason for doing so.

A major contribution to the problems of the library, which relies heavily on foreign publications, is the decline in the consumer price index. How much should we be asked to sacrifice by a government whose hand was in the policies that led to our devalued dollar?

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FALL 78 EXAMINATION TIMETABLE FACULTY OF ARTS, FACULTY OF FINE ARTS, FACULTY OF SCIENCE CHANGE # 1 TO TIMETABLE DATED NOVEMBER 21

DELETE

Humanities As 373.6
Visual Arts FA 434.6
Visual Arts FA 480.3(F)

CHANGE

Applied Computational/Mathematical Science -

SC 303.6 to read: 12:30pm-3:30pm

Interdisciplinary Science -

SC 102.8 to read: Curtis A,B,C,D,K

Natural Science -

SC 177.6C to read: 4:00pm-7:00pm

Physics -

SC 306.3(F) to read: 1:00pm-4:00pm Tuesday, December 12

SC 405.3(F) 9:00am-12:00 noon Monday, December 18 Ross N.142

Theatre -

FA 120.6 A,B,C,D to read: 9:00am-12:00noon Thursday, December 14

Visual Arts

FA 111.6 to read: 1:00pm- 3:00pm Tuesday, December 12 Ross N.201

FA 262.6 to read: 10:00am-11:30am Wednesday, December 13 FAIL 312

FA 352.3(F) to read: Monday, December 18 Fine Arts 308

FA 356.3(F) to read: 9:30am-11:30am Thursday, December 14 Fine Arts 308

FA 380.3(F) to read: 10:00am-12:00 noon Wednesday, December 13 Fine Arts 322

ADD

History AS 260.6 4:00pm-6pm Tuesday, December 19 Winters D.Hall

Philosophy AS 101.6 9:00am-11:00am Thursday, December 14 Stedman E

Psychology AS/SC328.3A(F) 6:00pm- 8:00pm Wednesday, December 13 Winters D.Hall

AS/SC 341.3A(F) 7:00pm- 9:00pm Wednesday, December 13 Stedman F

Visual Arts

FA 120.6 4:00pm- 6:00pm Wednesday, December 13 Stedman E

FA 254.6 10:00am-12:00noon Monday, December 11 Adm.Studies B02

Legal facts from CLASP



Since the 31st of March 1978, the Family Law Reform Act has regulated the legal effects of most family breakups. It replaced portions or all of more than a dozen other acts; the Ontario government claimed that it replaced outmoded legal concepts with a fair and realistic set of rules to govern family relationships.

The Act applies to all marriages in Ontario regardless of whether or not they were entered into prior to its enactment; it also applies to certain common law relationships. A major exclusion from the Act is divorce, a responsibility of the federal government in Canada.

Two basic obligations related to support exist: every spouse has an obligation to support herself or himself and every parent has an obligation to support her or his children. Either spouse may have an obligation to support the other spouse, depending on need and his or her ability to do so.

For the purposes of support

obligations a spouse includes not only a wife or husband but also partners in a common law relationship that has existed for five years or in which a child has been born.

The first thing I would like to do is thank the students that voted for me in the recent elections, and urge you to keep up your interests in student representation at York.

As I pointed out in my campaign my first objective will be to work with the College Councils, Osgoode, and C.Y.S.F. in their requests for a review of the student fee and student service budget. This problem has been around for quite awhile but with the shortfalls in budget structuring, we have all, seen that there must be a swift solution.

The student governments at York will be meeting at the first of the New Year, in a conference that will have a general theme but

The Act does not affect the property relations between persons who are not or have not been married. As between married couples there can be a division of family assets, usually in equal proportions, regardless of which spouse owns the property.

This division can occur once the parties to the marriage are separated or when a decree nisi of divorce is pronounced. The court has some discretion to divide the property into other than equal shares, taking into account factors such as the length of time the husband and wife lived together.

specific proposals. The theme being how do the student governments continue to supply services to students under current financial constraints and specifically what apparatus is necessary to do this efficiently and quickly.

My function in my term will be to represent the interests of the students at York and their governments and to ensure that the students at this institution are not dismissed as a lower priority in financing.

The Provincial government has had many studies done to find a solution to dropping enrollment, under-financed institutions, and student aid. The solutions of course are varied and have varied effects

The Family Court does not have the power to order a division of assets. This means that if the spouses are unable to agree on the division it will be necessary to go to the County or Supreme Court where legal costs are much higher than in Family Court.

When the couple cannot agree as to who should have custody of the children the court may order that either husband or wife receive custody. The only factor that the court must consider in doing so is the best interests of the children involved.

Some couples may not agree

with the Act's schemes for division of property, support, etc. In many cases they will be allowed to contract out of the Act.

The Family Law Reform Act recognizes three types of contracts; marriage contracts, cohabitation agreements entered into by common law spouses and separation agreements.

Marriage contracts and cohabitation agreements can cover the division of property and support obligations, but not the custody of children. Separation agreements can provide for all three of these matters.

student governor's report

but the general outlook is that there will be major changes as the financial outlook does not look brighter. One proposal was that Universities set their own tuition fees. A simplistic solution to a problem that already has students working part-time, if they are lucky enough to find a job, or still

waiting for their student loan or grant when the year is half over.

The first step to dining our own solutions at York, or keeping our heads above water if you will, will be a responsible effective program that will ensure that student service financing at York is not a frill and can be diminished or re-allocated.

The concerns and feelings on your situation at York would be appreciated as well as expected. The University as a whole needs interest, support and effort from everyone in the community. I can be contacted through C.Y.S.F. Office (667-2515).

Paul Hayden
Student Governor-elect

COMMENT: Nine York gays object to bigotry

On November 27th, several gay and straight friends went around York postering for the gay men's drop-in (held Tuesdays from 2 until 5 at 215 Vanier Residence). We were dismayed to find that, 24 hours later, all the posters were either torn down or violently defaced. We were angry, but we were not surprised. It happened the week before, when posters for the lesbian drop-in (held Mondays from 3:30 to 5:00 at the Women's Centre, 102 BSB) were put up. Stupidity and prejudice seem not to discriminate! We also knew that it has happened in years past. Such is the calibre of intellectual understanding and human compassion at York University.

But wait! Something else happened the night of November 27. Where once there was a poster for an informal drop-in dealing with homosexuality in a positive way, there now appeared this very different message: "Fags beware — we're going to get you this time around for sure!"

Just imagine the moral and physical courage it must have taken to rip off a poster and replace it with such a controversial message! No wonder, then, that this was done when no one who would have cared could see; no wonder that this wisdom

is offered to us anonymously.

The message was signed "the Stong Stomper". Other messages under this name have appeared before, but this does nothing to diminish the danger of this act. Indeed, the repetition, and the silent acceptance of its recurrence, makes it all the more dangerous and unacceptable. We have ignored these messages for too long.

No longer will we make this error. We cannot remain silent when faced with these words of hatred and violence. We are moved to speak by our concern for the effect such actions will have on the lesbian women and gay men at this University, particularly those who must live here. We no longer will allow to go unchallenged the assumptions about homosexuality prevailing at this University which rationalize a toleration of such actions. Such silence lends support for threats such as this.

We wish to tell the York community that something else now is happening here. Times change, and people at York will have to recognize a new situation. Lesbian women and gay men will continue to become an ever-growing visible part of this community. Whenever the "Stong Stom-

per" (or Stompers from any part of this community) is willing to face us directly, we will proudly and confidently... and "gayly"... meet this person's (these persons') homophobia (the unjustified and unreasoned fear of homosexuality) head-on.

Further, we want to know specifically what the Stong College Government intends to do in response to expressions of such obvious prejudice and violence within its community. What do you plan to do to defend the dignity and protect the safety of the lesbian women and gay men who attend and/or reside at Stong?

We also wish to express to all people at York the regret we feel on seeing you allow such threats, which symbolize the extreme of both intellectual and moral bankruptcy, to go unchallenged. Those with authority have been contacted in previous years about the theft and defacement of posters about services for lesbians and gays. There has been no significant response.

The day must come when homophobia is no longer expressed at York University. In our lives we have found the strength and positive potential within homosexuality. We will no longer have our value as lesbians and gays denied; have threats of violence force

us to deny expressions of our true sexuality.

Chuck Wheeler, M.A.
Social and Political Thought
Robin Wood, Chairperson
Department of Fine Arts
Atkinson College
Edward Weissman
Ass. Prof., Political Science
P.J. Murty
3rd Year, Film
Morgan McGuire
Winters College
Glendon L. McKinney
4th Year, Film
Varda Burstyn
2nd Year, Social and
Political Thought
Gary Kinsman
Bethune College
Linda Keith
Stong College

(This extra-length comment piece was authorized by a vote of the Excalibur staff assembly, but does not necessarily reflect the view of anyone other than the writer. Any member of the York community can appear before the staff and request a comment piece. Letters of response are invited.)

letters

A new student lounge idea

Concerning Floyd Davis' letter of November 23 ("Move bookstore and create student lounge") since it was addressed to newly elected people, I feel compelled to respond as I am a newly installed student senator.

You are not alone in your belief for the need for a student lounge area. I have heard the sentiment voiced a number of times by fellow students. I spoke to David Chodikoff, president of CYSF on this issue, and he states that he and the council have been working on the problem for three months. He also agrees that the bookstore area would be the best space for the lounge, as this was the result of studies that have been made.

However, moving the bookstore is not a very easy proposition. I can understand the problems involved and I would predict that the move will not happen this academic year (perhaps not even in the foreseeable future). As an alternative, there is a proposal that I raised at the York NDP club executive meeting last week which was endorsed by that body.

That is, the length of the hallway on the west side of the bookstore (that extends from the doors by Scott to the clubs room) could be converted into a

lounge area. The conversion could be done quite easily and inexpensively, as this was how the clubs room was created.

With the addition of a partition by the Scott doors, comfortable common room type furnishings and perhaps carpeting and curtains, it could be reasonable. Granted the space has its drawbacks, such as size when compared to the bookstore, but I think it's viable. This could also provide space for a student-run snack bar.

I would appreciate feedback on this issue, either through Excalibur or the CYSF office.

Fred Kuzyk
York NDP Club

Another view of York Security

Mr. H. Sharp is entitled to his opinion - "Security Stinks", - "Excalibur", November 30th, and I would not feel it necessary to respond to his letter except that it may be advisable to correct the misconception he has regarding the operations of the Department of Safety and Security Services, inasmuch as this may be shared by other members of the community.

"Parking" and "Security" are two separate functions of the department, while the small security staff is

financed by the University the officers engaged in the control of traffic and parking are paid and equipped entirely by the fees of those persons using the parking facilities, these also finance snow removal costs, parking lot maintenance and repair, and all other expenses pertaining to the parking operation. The fact that all officers wear the same uniform may have given rise to Mr. Sharp's assumption that officers are deployed on the enforcement of parking rather than on "security" work, but this is not the case.

If it were possible to reduce the number of persons employed on parking control, which has not seemed to the Parking Committee, (consisting of faculty, staff and students) to be reasonable, this would result in a decrease in parking fees, but would not increase the number of persons available for security.

Any addition to the security staff would necessarily mean a cut-back in some other budgetary area, with a consequent loss in the services provided there. As an alternative, the active co-operation of members of the community, particularly of those students in residence, or those who frequent university buildings and grounds during the evenings, would I believe substantially reduce the incidence of vandalism, the cost of which in the long run must inevitably be reflected in

additional fees or in a reduction in necessary university services. If this is insufficient inducement the dictum of the late John D. Rockefeller that "Every right implies a responsibility; every opportunity an obligation" may be more persuasive. In whichever category students regard their presence at York the implication is obvious.

C.G. Dunn
Director of Safety
and Security Services

Thanks Excalibur, from Hadassah

The Hadassah Bazaar was a great success again this year and we feel that the excellent coverage which we received in the press was a greatly contributing factor, and we are most appreciative.

Many thanks for your courtesy to us.
Mrs. I.J. Frisch
Publicity Co-Chairman

Cabaret was "shoddy"

I would expect that a person writing theatre reviews for Excalibur would have at least a basic knowledge of the theatre, its workings and background,

plus some knowledge of the other arts.

This is not the case with Andrew C. Rowsome who cannot identify garbage even when it is thrown at him with such force and quantity as it was with the recent production of *Candide*.

Mr. Rowsome praised an orchestra that played neither in tune or time; dancers that had no grace or sense of rhythm; and actors and their singing which should not have been allowed to perform in public.

The direction was about as innovative as mouldy white-sliced bread. The technique of placing the audience in the middle of the action has been generally used for hundreds of years, and most specifically in the successful Harold Prince production of *Candide* in New York in 1973; it was also Prince's idea to present the show in a circus setting — at least the director of the York production knows quality when he 'borrows' from it. So much for what Rowsome calls 'inventiveness'. And what kind of logic is it that places the orchestra conductor so that he has to turn around constantly to see the cast, or has him cueing actors' backs because the cast has been directed to face the audience and not the conductor?

The fact that the Faculty of Fine Arts allowed such a shoddy production to be presented publicly is shameful. The fact that your reviewer couldn't recognize it, is inexcusable.

Lynn Slotkin

All letters should be addressed to the editor, Excalibur, Room III Central Square. Letters must be typed, triple-spaced, on a 66 stroke line. Letters are limited to 300 words (seven column inches). Name, address, or phone number must be included or the letter will not be published. Excalibur reserves the right to edit for grammar and length.

Deadline Monday 4 pm

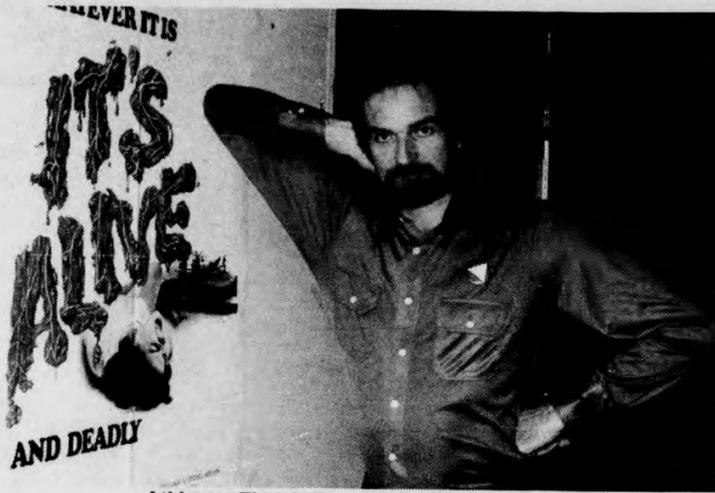
Film prof Robin Wood: horror films

Story & Photo
By Lydia Pawlenko

Robin Wood insists that we can no longer be content with talking about film as a beautiful work of art. He has argued that a work of art is not an object for display in a museum case, but an object for use.

A renowned film critic, professor, and also Chairman of Fine Arts at Atkinson College, Robin Wood is an extraordinary man. His bright red office is adorned with select horror film posters of *It's Alive*. A gay lib button is proudly worn on his bright red shirt. He uses care in choosing words. It is frustrating to answer questions in a few sentences. There is so much more he has to say.

"I am interested in examining popular cinema both to look for



Atkinson Fine Arts chairman Robin Wood

artistically significant work, and to study social and cultural trends, particularly in horror films, which seems to be important in the seventies," he explains.

Numerous articles of his have appeared in *Movie* and *Film Comment*. He is also the author of many books, among which are *Hitchcock's Films*, *Ingmar Bergman, the Apu Trilogy* and *Personal Views*.

Professor Wood believes that approaches to film criticism have changed in the seventies, "Critics are far more politicized and politically aware. There is at last a strong and articulate body of Marxist film criticism. This is reflected in my own film criticism. Underlying it is my own com-

mitment to gay and women's liberation as radical movements."

Why the fascination with horror film?

"The common aim of the gay and women's movement is the overthrow of patriarchal ideology, and the essence of the horror films is the challenge of our standard normality," he says.

In his idea he connects two interrelated Freudian theses: that in a society built on monogamy and family there will be an enormous surplus of sexual energy that will have to be repressed; and that what is repressed must always strive to return.

"Popular films are both the personal dreams of their makers and the collective dreams of their

Bethune symposium spotlights South Africa

By Laura Brown

"What was immediately apparent during my brief visit this summer to Mozambique and South Africa was the factor of dramatic change in the pace of events in Southern Africa," said Atkinson Professor John Saul.

Saul was speaking at last week's Bethune College symposium on *The Transition in Southern Africa* which dealt with the country's changing mood and resistance over the past decade.

According to Saul, the sixties was a decade in which the forces of change internationally and in the country were relatively muted.

But what is clear now in the seventies is that the lull is over and, "the people in South Africa are doing something about their situation and it is important to take their new expression of ongoing initiative very seriously," Saul said.

There is an increasing resistance which is taking its toll as the white oppression is increasing.

"In the course of chatting as widely as I could with the people in South Africa, I can say safely that I met only a very few blacks who hadn't been imprisoned and beaten by the police in the last five or six months," Saul said.

And although this is a very old story in South Africa, Saul added that everyone also suggested to him that this kind of internal terrorism has intensified and moved into new areas.

While conversing with some of the people in Soweto, it became clear that changes are occurring in the ideological movement as well. The major activities no longer rest with the students alone, but there is a deepening of the ideological perspective in terms of the importance and possibilities of the working class taking action.

"This is a very crucial transformation in South Africa, considering the important role of blacks in the productive process," he said.

Foremost in his observations was the immediate awareness that the war in South Africa is very close to the surface.

"One constantly heard talk of 'our boys on the border'," said Saul.

The threat of war was further

illustrated by the intense activities of the white students vis-a-vis the black population, who are increasingly reinforcing the system of white oppression.

Saul's visit to Mozambique gave him the opportunity to see "what the legacy of a successful struggle looks like."

"The first thing that you sense in Mozambique is that you're in a war zone..... we've had a really understated sense of just how much damage the war has done to Mozambique," he remarked.

According to Saul, there is a necessity to actually draw people actively into the struggle, and to create institutions which are genuinely democratic.

This was further illustrated by a remark by Mozambique's President Machel that, "it is very important for Africans to use Marxism and not let Marxism use them".

The second speaker at the symposium, Professor Cecil Abrahams, is an exile from South Africa and now teaches at Bishop's University in Montreal.

Abrahams began his talk with the assertion that "South Africa is the cancer of Southern Africa which has resulted in many African countries conflicting with themselves. All forces should be amassed there because the day you solve the South African question you will in many ways resolve the problems in Southern Africa."

Abrahams led into his perceptions on the South African issue with a short personal account of life in that country.

He reminded the audience that resistance and transition in the country is not new, contrary to western news media coverage which only deals with situations such as in Soweto and Sharpeville.

But changes will not come about easily, for according to Abrahams, the Afrikaner speaking white population has been indoctrinated into believing that it is impossible for blacks to share in the power and the opportunities of the country.

Abrahams spoke of a recent survey which was taken at a predominately white Afrikaner university. The survey was based on

the assumption that young people throughout the world have changed and are causing transformations in their own societies.

"But the survey brought depressing results that these students were even more backward, even more right-wing, and even more narrow than their grandfathers. And to the man almost, they claimed that before they would share the power with the blacks they would first see to it that they killed themselves and destroyed South Africa," he said.

Abrahams pointed out that the process of regimentation has been much greater since 1948, and that the Afrikaner Nationalist party has been diabolical and systematic in the regimentation and division of the country.

But mounting resistance has also been apparent since 1948, with in-

creasing acts of sabotage and struggle against the government of South Africa.

"Of course, the South African newspapers are not allowed to report these incidents, for the white population must be left believing that their standard of living, which is already the highest in the world, will continue for ever and ever. And so the newspapers must get into line and not report these incidents, which would otherwise panic the liberal, English-speaking white population and get them into the situation where they might challenge their government and ask for change," he maintained.

But the resistance has now taken up again with a new breed of people, many who are training with the African National Congress and who were involved in the Soweto and other uprisings in South Africa in

1976. "It's a new breed of people - they're much younger, more militant, and more uncompromising," he explained.

Abrahams attributes this change to the liberation struggle in the Portuguese colonial territory, and commented that the Frelimo and the MPLA are obviously playing an immense part in the changes which are now happening in South Africa.

According to Abrahams, the struggle does not rest solely with the regime. South Africa is tremendously rich and "probably one of the last extremely rich areas in the world that a colonial power can exploit," he maintained.

As western investments amount in the millions of dollars, their investment will not be easily overturned overnight.



Speakers Cecil Abrahams John Saul and moderator Ato Sekyi-Otu at Bethune symposium.



your student council

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Anyone interested in welcome to join Toronto Festac Productions (a student group) as a volunteer. Future projects are: an International Student Seminar; a Canadian Designers'

Symposium and community resource seminars. Present projects include a crime-prevention seminar for the City of Toronto. If interested, individuals may leave their names, type and year of study, and phone number in the CYSF office.

The Council of the York Student Federation would like to wish all York students a very healthy, happy and safe Christmas, Chanukah and New Year.

Submitted on behalf of the Council,
David W. Chodikoff
President, CYSF Inc.

challenge normality

audiences. And horror films are our collective nightmares," he explained at a spine-chilling screening of *Sisters* (a feminist horror film) last Thursday night, as part of the Atkinson Faculty Lecture Series.

He offered a basic formula for the horror film: normality is threatened by the Monster.

"The definition of normality in horror films is in general boringly constant: the heterosexual monogamous couple, the family, and the social institutions (police, church, armed forces) that support and defend them.

The Monster is, of course, much more protean, changing from period to period as society's basic fears clothe themselves in fashionable or immediately accessible garments - rather as dreams use material from recent memory to express conflicts

or desires that may go back to childhood."

"At present in the American cinema, there has been a very depressing return to oppression," he frowns, "especially shown in *Rocky* as well as *Heaven Can Wait*, *Star Wars* and *Close Encounters*.

Sadly he claims that for every two steps culture progresses, it takes one step back.

He admires the work of Larry Cohen and Brian De Palma. While lecturing in New York last summer, he was fortunate enough to attend the premiere of *It's Alive II*, which he praised as, "One of the finest new films coming out this year and a landmark in the development of horror film."

Robin Wood was born in England in 1931. He attended the University of Cambridge and graduated with a

degree in English literature. Fascinated with film since childhood, he became interested in writing about film in 1960.

Beneath the surface of Robin Wood, is there an artist seeking to make 'the great film'?

"I have never made any films. I see myself as a writer and a teacher, not a film maker."

Professor Wood taught both film and English literature in England before coming to Canada in 1969 to teach at Queen's University. In 1972, he returned to England to establish a Programme of Film Studies at the University of Warwick in Coventry.

Commenting on York's film program, he feels "Film study courses should offer a much more rigorous examination of film theory than they do at present.

York Torch round-up

By Kim Llewellyn

As the new year rolls around it's neck and neck in the race for the York Torch. Stong, with 4874.5 points, narrowly leads McLaughlin's 4705 and Osgoode's 4683.5.

Participation and competitiveness is growing by "leaps and bounds" in inter-college sports each year, according to inter-college coordinator Arvo Tiidus.

Although the emphasis is on participation, there is a strong competitive drive in some of the sports.

"It all depends on what sport," says Tiidus. "In men's hockey there are a lot of former Junior A players. The level of competition in basketball isn't bad either. But other sports, like inner tube water polo, where most people have not played in an organized fashion, the calibre is not as high."

Although enthusiasm for cross-campus competition has hit a peak year, the history of the York Torch has been plagued by monopolization. From 1966, when inter-college sports at York first got off the ground, until 1971 Glendon was the sole winner of the Torch.

Stong took over from 1972 until this year.

As the term came to a close it was looking like Stong might be edged out for the lead. Stong took the coed section of the competition, with McLaughlin second and Osgoode third. However, McLaughlin beat out Stong in the women's division, with Osgoode placing third.

In the men's division, Osgoode placed first, Stong second and McLaughlin third.

Nevertheless, in the final tally, Stong squeezed past its rivals once more.

"A lot of people would like to see the downfall of Stong this year," says Tiidus. "It's difficult to wrestle away a championship from someone else, but once you have it inertia seems to take over."

Tiidus attributes Stong's

York Torch mid-year standings

Women's Division		Coed Division	
McLaughlin	2280	Stong	3054.5
Stong	2230	McLaughlin	3050
Osgoode	2157.5	Osgoode	2800
Calumet	1700	Calumet	2725
Founders	1277	Alumni	2321.5
Bethune	1055	Founders	2168
Alumni	1043	Bethune	1775
Vanier	775	Vanier	1137.5
Winters	512.5	Winters	987.5
		Grads	612.5
		M.B.A.	387.5
Men's Division		York Torch	
Osgoode	2925	Stong	4874.5
Stong	2615	McLaughlin	4705
McLaughlin	2515	Osgoode	4683.5
Calumet	2315	Calumet	3766
Founders	1912.5	Founders	3490.5
Vanier	1415	Alumni	2907.5
Alumni	1210	Vanier	2277.5
Glendon	667.5	Bethune	2065
Grads	600	Winters	1590
Winters	570	Grads	1221.5
Bethune	400	Glendon	667.5
M.B.A.	165	M.B.A.	532.5
		Atkinson	0

repeatedly good showing to the strong participation encouraged by their student liaison officer, Steve Dranitsaris.

"Stong doesn't always win but it comes overall first because of participation," he says. "Swimming is a good example. In the recent swim meet Stong didn't win any section but came overall first because of participation."

Stong's strategy will remain the same in its bid for the '78-'79 Torch. Participation and consistency is the key, says Stong athletic rep, Al Morrow.

"I'd like to see Stong win it again," he added. "But the competition from the other colleges is tough. The calibre has improved. There is more participation than I ever remember."

Second in line for the torch is McLaughlin, on whom many pin their hopes. It is to "Big Mac" they turn to bring down Stong, the giant of inter-college sports.

This year McLaughlin has eight inter-college reps, more than any other participating college.

"Organization is our strength," says Gary Coles, one of these reps. "With eight reps that

means each one only has to handle three sports. We want to see if we can give Stong a really good run for the money."

Third place Osgoode is also pressing its competition hard.

According to Tiidus there are several reasons Osgoode has been near the top this year. One is its tradition: a few years ago when Osgoode was separate from York its sports teams played at the varsity level.

In addition, says Tiidus, there are often athletes in Osgoode who have used up their five year varsity playing eligibility and turn to inter-college sports as an alternative outlet for their athletic energies.

Nora Gillespie, one of the four athletic reps for Osgoode, thinks Osgoode has a good chance of upsetting Stong this year.

"The big change is that the women's teams are a lot better," she said. "People are starting to take the women seriously. Also, the competitions we haven't played yet are the sports we are the strongest in—basketball and hockey."

With 22 competitions left to play, we can expect bloody fight to the finish. "It all depends on who's in their pushing," says Tiidus.

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entertainment

Theatre project week approaches

By Andrew C. Rowsome

Theatre is doing and it is generally held that it is impossible for actors, directors and technicians to become good without essential experience. Continual contact with an audience is a necessity. If that audience is one which can give feedback, so much the better. Every year the theatre department at York cancels all its classes during the second week of December and gives its students this crucial opportunity.

Student Project Week this year consists of four solid nights of plays. According to Sarah Knowing, the week's producer and chief organizer, "This year is the biggest Project Week ever. We have around 30 productions going on." It is also an extremely varied week with productions ranging from absurdism to a children's

show. "It gives people a chance to try something different," notes Sarah.

Perhaps the most daring example of "something different" is a production of *For Coloured Girls Who Have Considered Suicide When The Rainbow Isn't Enuf* using a mixed cast of males and females, black and white. "Jacques Lorenzo and I saw the production when it was at the Royal Alex and really wanted to do it," explains Mimi Zucker. "But who would cast us in a play about black females? So now we have a chance to do it ourselves." Janet Sears, the only black in the production adds, "We've changed the title to *For Those Who Have Considered Suicide* and I think it works. It's not really a question of colour, the theme applies to everyone."

Charlotte Dean is in charge of coordinating costumes and she

feels that part of the value of Project Week is that "It's more professional. Chances are that they've done productions in high school but all of a sudden the lighting crew has to know exactly what is going on and there are specific hours for picking up costumes."

"The hard part is in cooperating, in telling them what they can and can't have," adds Sarah. "Sometimes we have to put our foot down and just say 'that's too bad but it's impossible.' Just learning to make do with what resources we have can be a very valuable experience."

One first-time director is Sheri-Lee Guilbert: "It's great. I'm learning so much; how talented everyone else is. All the technical people know so much about their crafts. I've suddenly realized how much I can rely on them. It's also good in that in Studio classes we're

molded in a specific direction, which is good because they know so much, but here we have a chance to try something on our own. If I fall flat on my face I have no one to blame but myself but at least I tried. It's great to get out on stage and do something you've helped create."

"Although the faculty is not officially involved and Project Week is entirely student run, we've received a lot of help whenever we've had problems," Sarah points out. As well, some of the more advanced performance students have lent their support as coaches. Mimi explains that "As a first year student I was really separate from the department as a whole. I was so busy getting used to the university and trying to get my gen. ed's done I didn't really know who to ask for help. This year I'm very involved with the department so we've received a lot of help."

The entire philosophy of Project Week is simple says Sarah, "The proof of the pudding is in the tasting, if we don't get a chance to do shows on our own how are we going to know if we can?" Janet sums it all up, "In first year you get no chance at public performance except for cabarets, in second year only one. It's great; Project Week gives us a chance to actually act."

York's theatre students will be mounting their productions on December 6 through 9 with a different program every night. The performances begin at 7:00 in the Atkinson Studios and admission is free.

The Trojan Women

A new version by Gwendolyn MacEwen

Original music by Phil Nimmons

Directed by Leon Major

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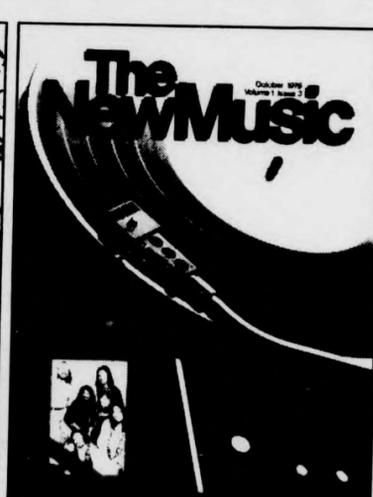
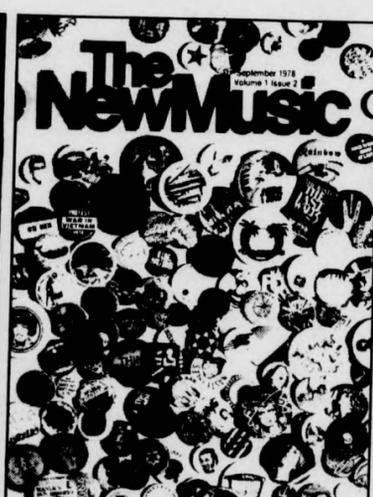
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Little mag

By Michael Korican

Waves, York's tri-annual literary magazine, is marking its seventh year of publication and move to new office space in 357 Stong College with a reading next Monday at 4 pm. Gathering in Stong Theatre will be editors Bernice Lever, Robert Casto, Hedi Bouraoui, and John Oughton as well as friends Miriam Waddington, Lix Lochhead, Greg Gatenby, Pier Giorgio diCicco and four others.

Waves began publication in the spring of 1972. Northrup Frye, international critic, said of vol. 1, no. 1: "It is an issue of great variety and liveliness, and I congratulate you on it, besides extending my best wishes for future success." Seven years later, *Waves* certainly is going strong, and according to poet Irving Layton is "one of the best little mags in Canada."

Editor Lever claims "Hundreds of poets send us poems — we can use only five per cent of what



arrives. *Waves* tries to print one student from York per issue and several unknown writers. The established names sell the magazine and allow the 'unknowns' a readership."

All poetry is judged by a standard of good contemporary writing with a fresh, interesting use of language. Each issue also contains some fiction, graphics and reviews. The current volume, 7, no. 1, also has an index to vol. 6 and features "Amuck in the Bush Garden" by Scriblerus Redivivus, a playful diatribe on the state of Canadian writing.

With subscribers in Paris, London and Sydney as well as across North America, *Waves* is definitely a credit to York as it nurtures new writers and artists, exploring emerging Canadian Literature.

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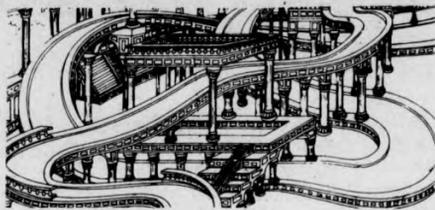


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Off York



Cinema

The Lord of the Rings: Ralph Bakshi's animated film version of J.R.R. Tolkien's classic is an experiment with several prominent flaws but a final result which is nonetheless powerful. In his last film *Wizards* Bakshi toyed with rotoscoping (a process whereby a scene is shot in black and white and then painted over for an animated effect) and met with dismal failure. In *Lord Of The Rings* the technique has been perfected, especially in the eerily effective battle scenes, but Bakshi is unable to integrate it into the film as a whole. It is very disconcerting to have a character who was living and breathing in full glorious animation become a half-human rotoscope creation in the next sequence. Tolkien purists will, of course, be disgruntled at the rapid pace with which the film introduces and disposes of characters. It is unlikely that it would have been possible to please the legions of fans who all have their own conception of how Frodo and Gandalf 'really' look. The film is playing at the Eglinton theatre and should not be missed by anyone interested in either animation or J.R.R. Tolkien.

Andrew C. Rowsome

Theatre

Action: Put away three dollars, a couple of bus tokens and head to the Theatre Second Floor (86 Parliament and King.) Til December 23 director Paul Bettis presents *Action*, a one-act play by the American playwright Sam Sheppard. This theatre is one of English Canada's few remaining genuinely 'experimental' theatre companies — having produced new Canadian works as well as "Waiting for Godot" and "Julius Ceasar." *Action* continues their policy of entertaining audiences with provocative 'off the wall' features. The brilliant script is highly crammed with themes of alienation, loneliness and anger. As

the four characters interact within the context of snowbound isolation in the woods we see them questioning many facets of their lives, tossing out symbols such as fish, water and food.

Sam Sheppard currently is experiencing a wave of popularity within Toronto theatres, following similar successes in New York and London. Four productions, including *Action* are slated for presentation this season. They include *Cowboy Mouth* at the Horseshoe last week, *Curse of the Starving Class* at the New Theatre and *Angel City* at the Toronto Free Theatre.



Music

Tony Bird of Paradise: Who is Tony Bird? He hails from Africa, growing up in Colonial Nyasaland, now Malawi, where the local music and Dutch Afrikaaner mixed in his head with the folk, rock and country music he heard there and overseas. What brings me to this, his second album, is the fact that John Lissauer produced it. Known for his work with Canada's 'enfants terribles' Lewis Furey and Leonard Cohen, Lissauer is a sympathetic figure who can ignite a prolific songwriter with some equally competent music writing. To Lissauer's credit, the project is carried off with the same flair as exhibited in past efforts. Bird is surrounded with a varied selection of musicians who play the songs as they were first heard in the composer's head. The title cut is pure pop, but it is pop with tongue way back in cheek. Listeners will smile and hum the song before they even finish a first listening. The album's lack of noterity should not discourage prospective buyers. Latch on to Bird now and be the one to say, "I knew him way back....."

Elliott Lefko

Street Talk. The name says it all. It's the Toronto Star's new tabloid that talks about what's happening with the people on those streets that make Toronto the great city that it is.

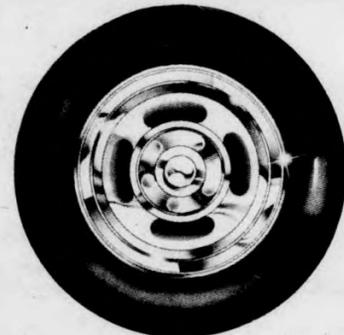
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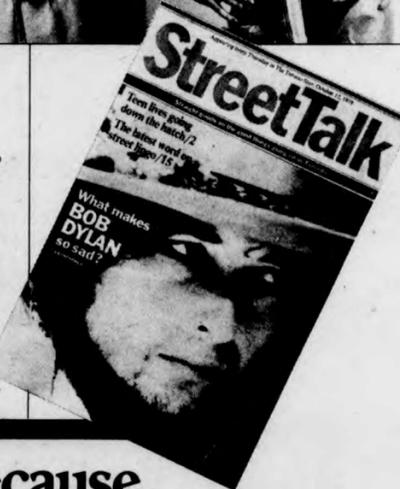
It talks through people like editor Kevin Boland, columnist E. Kaye Fulton, fashion-wise Bonnie Hurowitz and many others. So if you're thinking young in Toronto, Street Talk is talking to you, every Thursday in The Star. Pick up a copy, or for home delivery phone 367-4500.



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Atkinson

The next topic of Atkinson's Faculty Lecture Series is *A Geneticist Looks At Cancer* with Professor John Hedde (Department of Natural Science). The lecture will be held in the Fellows Longe (Room 004) at 7:30 pm, Tuesday, December 12

Bethune

There's a *Heroes and Beer* session today at 4 pm in the JCR. Everyone's welcome

Bethune's Christmas dinner is being held Friday, December 8. The buffet dinner will be followed by a dance (with a band featuring old '40's - 60's music). Advance tickets are available in the coffee shop (Room 112).

EXAM TIME? ANXIETY TIME?

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CYSF Films

CYSF will be showing the only print of *White Christmas* available in Canada, on Thursday, December 7 at 8 pm in Curtis L. Admission is \$1.75.

Founders

Come out to see MacLean and MacLean tonight at 9 pm in the dining hall. Tickets are \$2 for Founders students and \$3 for aliens.

Mrs. Plummer's Mattress Factory
 Mrs. Plummer's Mattress Factory (formerly Python Club) urgently needs people to help in the following areas: a pianist for the songs, a production student to supervise the lighting, and a half-dozen people for props and costumes. If interested, call Greg at 667-6061 or drop by Room 724, Bethune Residence.

Winters

The Christmas dinner and dance will be held in the dining hall at 6:30 pm tonight... the price is \$7, cash or scrip. A reception will be

held in the JCR after dinner, followed by the dance with the group *Westview Stage*.

Winters Theatre (Room 023) will be holding two productions on December 11 and 12. The performances are *The Jewish Wife* by Brecht and *Out of the Flying Pan* by David Campton.

Winters College Council would like to congratulate new treasurer Paula Cline and new first year female rep Karen Finley.

York Women's Centre

Gerde Werkerle will be speaking on *Women and the Urban Environment* today at 12 noon - 2 pm (in Room 102 BSB). Bring your lunch.

On Monday, December 11 at 12 noon and 6 pm two films will be shown. One is entitled *Would I Ever Like to Work*, and the other is a short feature (title to be announced).

Special event.... An end of term party for all the friends of the Women's Centre. Come out for the entertainment, food, and good times. The party's on Wednesday, December 13, from 4 pm to.....

Buckles & Bums Ski Club

A dance after the Christmas break and weekly ski trips up north is in the offing for the new year.

The York and Stong ski clubs have expressed a desire to combine forces. This request is presently under review.

For further information on ski events at York please call Roger, Mitch or Jay at 667-3195.

Laura Brown

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Unblended reefer gladness

By Gay Walsh

The success of a musical comedy revue is determined by many things, but three ingredients are essential in building and sustaining interest throughout — song, dance, and comedy. These ingredients when executed with a reasonable level of competence can maintain, from moment to moment, a constant flow of entertainment. *Reefer Gladness: The All Marijuana Revue*, presently at Cafe Soho, is a musical comedy revue which fails because the production lacks a total blending of these three qualities.

With the opening song, "Around Goes the Pound," we find that out of the five ensemble members, only one really has a bearable voice — Busi Mhlong — but she has miscalculated the dimensions of the performance area to the point where her voice overexerts itself. It is too powerful, too loud for the small intimacy of Cafe Soho. Not only are the remaining four performers unable to carry a tune but they also are unfamiliar with the performance style which is inherent in a cabaret revue. They do not know how to sing to an audience, how to suck them into the mood and tone of their songs.

Besides the music, *Reefer Gladness* is composed of several comedy skits all revolving around situations which might arise while smoking marijuana. "Airport Strip", with Ralph Benmurgey and Mary Vingoe, shows a middle class couple returning from their vacation in Peru, having bought presents for their children — a pound of dope. We see them awkwardly attempting to smuggle it through customs. In "The Confessions", Jim Tuck, a dope pusher confesses to a priest that he sells Columbian Gold. Ralph Benmurgey, the priest, asks the pusher his price and when Tuck replies, "\$95 an ounce", the priest is unable to grant him divine

forgiveness. This is a sample of the level of humor which one finds in *Reefer Gladness*.

Occasionally we do experience moments of humor which are based on real situations and therefore have substance. For example, in "Not a Pretty Job", Benmurgey gives a short but very moving portrayal of a narcotics agent. There is something pathetically real about this narc and consequently, the humor stems from a base, forming substance and depth from a legitimately funny character. Unfortunately, such portrayals are too rare throughout the revue.

The problem with *Reefer Gladness* is a simple one; it finds its roots in an inability to realize where talent is lacking and then to act from that realization. Starting with the script, it was easy to see that the comic material was not

particularly funny. Moment after moment, the script was just not filled, packaged with enough humorous situations with which the performers could work. The music by Dan Larsen and Pat Clemence took me to no emotional heights; the lyrics were lost somewhere in the untrained throats of the performers.

In short, the shortcomings of the revue are a direct result of misjudgement. The ensemble, the composers, the playwright — all misjudged their own talents as well as the talent of their co-workers.

It is necessary to say that with all of the apparent faults and weaknesses in *Reefer Gladness* Michael Boncoeur, an adept director, managed to move the revue along quickly, changing from skit to skit smoothly and efficiently.

'Hearts' lacks heart

By Mickey Trigiani

Cabaret, York's unique campus theatre, combining rowdy bar and hushed playhouse, presented its first offering of the year last week entitled, *Do You Play Heats?*

Directed by Andy Lewarne and featuring six players, one pianist and a spotlight, *Hearts* investigated the popular theme of love through the medium of song, dance and short dialogue.

As with *Roustabout*, last year's first Cabaret, the script for *Hearts* was based upon the writings of R.D. Laing and the songs and dancing once again animated his sharp, simplistic, circular dialogue.

Unfortunately, such strong semblance to last year's show demands comparison. *Roustabout* explored the human condition within the framework of a circus thereby giving the show the possibility of moving in hundreds of different directions and using props and costumes to heighten the effect. *Hearts*, on the other hand, restricted the vivacity of the material by relying on metallic speeches emitted with robot-like accuracy and offered us only a couple of surprises from the flow of perfectly memorized lines.

These surprises represented more than a good laugh. They drew us closer to the performers' excitement. In a cabaret, we want to be part of the show and not the distance *Hearts* provided. We want to share in Suzanne Bennet's and Charlotte Moore's vocal energy. We'd like to soft shoe with Doug Bergstrom as he floats across the stage or tolerate the vain questions posed by Jean Diagle in the bedroom scene.

What *Hearts* lacked was the intimacy so important in a cabaret. As last year's artistic director Kate Lushington so aptly put it, we want to be able "to touche the actors' faces and take the make-up off."

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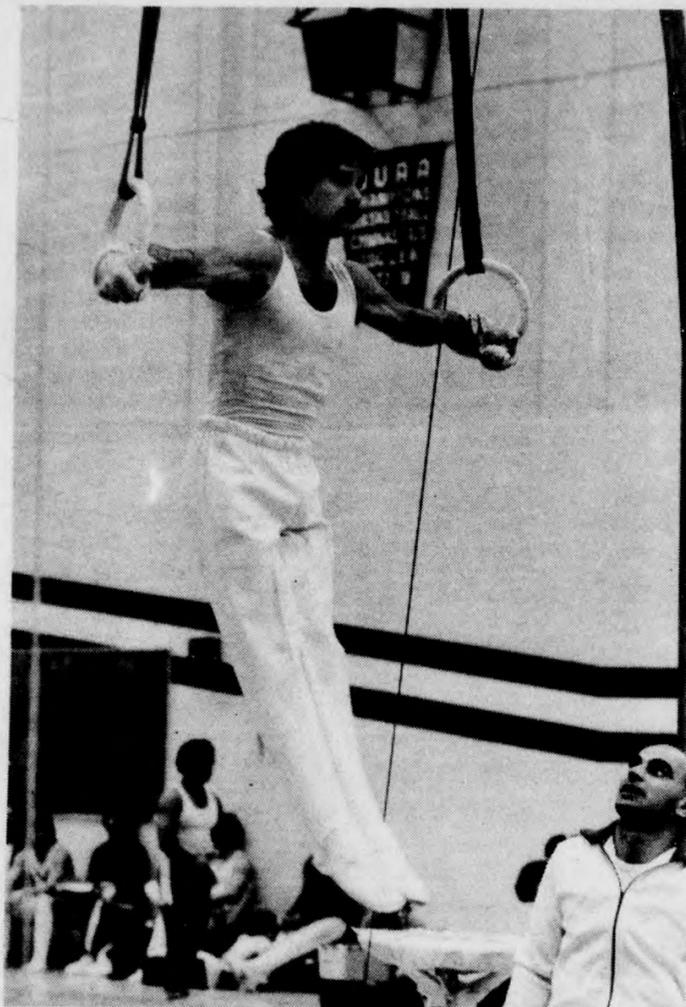


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Gymnasts win own invitational for tenth time



Tom Bertrand hanging out at weekend meet.

It's quite evident that men's gymnastics are in fine shape here after two York squads emerged victorious this past Saturday in the tenth annual Men's Invitational Gymnastics Meet.

York's current varsity team and a prospective future varsity team tied for first place with 154.95, almost two points over the competitive Eastern Michigan University.

A third York contingent called the "Old Timers" not only provided comic relief throughout the meet but also managed to place third over-all with 150.85 U of T, McMaster and Western University placed fourth, fifth and sixth respectively.

York's nationally ranked Marc Epprecht, now competing with Canada's national team in England, was absent from competition but David Steeper illustrated York's dominance in men's gymnastics by winning the over-all individual title with a score of 53.45. Steeper's teammates, Frank Nutzenberger and Dan Gaudet, placed second (53.15) and third (53.1) respectively.

Individual events won by York were the floor and parallel bars, by Gaudet, the horizontal bar by Steeper, and the side horse by Tom Bertrand.

In other individual events, Dave Willoughby of Michigan turned in a winning performance on the rings and vault and managed to place fourth over-all in individual standings.



Charlene Kelly in an expansive mood at Hamilton.

Women compete in McMaster meet

By Rose Crawford

York's eight-woman gymnastics team travelled to Steeltown over the weekend for the McMaster Invitational Junior Gymnastics Meet. Charlene Kelly, a fourth year student and one of the veterans of the team, placed second in the balance beam event and third in the floor exercise event. These helped her to an impressive sixth all-round placing.

The other competitors for York were Jenny Hines, Lisa Popovich, Gloria D'Andrea, Heather Innes, and Lori Britton, all first year team members, Meri-dai Honeywell from second year and third year member, Doris Chandler. Norma Gazensky, a promising gymnast, did not compete because of a broken foot.

York could not be included in the team standings because, according to OWIAA regulations, each university must have four competitors entered in the all-round competition. Charlene Kelly was the only all-round gymnast entered by York.

The purpose of this meet, as far as York was concerned, was to give each gymnast competitive experience at the university level, as most of the girls are first year competitors.

Pucksters come back for 7-2 win

By Steve Grant

The York University hockey Yeoman scored a decisive 7-2 win over the University of Ottawa Gee Gees last Friday night at the Ice Palace.

Trailing 2-0 midway through the game, York came back to even the score by the end of the second period and then broke the game open in the third. Naturally coach Ron Smith was elated over his first O.U.A.A. regular season win, but felt the players deserved all the credit:

"They really hustled for this one" Smith said. "The important thing was that we were up and ready for this game. We talked about it before the game and again between the second and third periods."

The talk certainly paid off as York stormed to the attack in the final frame outshooting Ottawa 22-2 and more importantly outscoring them 5-0.

Pacing the York attack was Al Sinclair and Paul Johnson with two goals each, Wally Stankov, John Winder and Glen Wagner adding singles. Dave Beveridge and Paul

LeGault tallied for Ottawa.

In a season where goals have been difficult to come by at times, the seven scores had to be encouraging, yet it was the defensive effort that was most impressive. The Yeomen defence, anchored by Roger Dorey consistently thwarted

Ottawa attacks before they could get started. In their own zone, they played with poise, confidence and started many dangerous counter-attacks.

In the game, York outshot Ottawa 46-14.

B-ballers beat Mustangs, sweep Guelph tourney

By Bruce Gates

York Yeomen are marching through the OUAA like Sherman through Atlanta, and they continued their conquest last week by burning up the University of Western Ontario Mustangs, 83-65, Wednesday night in London, and by sweeping a weekend tournament in Guelph.

The Yeomen opened the Guelph tournament Friday night, blitzing the McMaster Maunderers, 96-56. They followed up that win on Saturday morning by bombing McGill, 96-51, and then polished off the host Guelph Gryphons, 99-79 to take the tournament.

Lonnie Ramati, who led York

scorers in the final game against Guelph with 21 points, was selected the tournament's most valuable player, while teammate Bo Pelech, who contributed 20 points, was chosen for the all-star team. Dave Coulthard was York's third highest scorer with 17 points.

York has had things pretty much their own way so far this season, but the team will soon get its share of tough games when it hits the tournament circuit this Christmas, starting this weekend in Montreal in the Concordia Tournament.

Two years ago, York won the Con U tourney, and that was enough not to get them invited back last year. But this year they return. And they will be in tough against the likes of CIAU champion St. Mary's.

St. Mary's is a formidable force right now. But they're going to be even more formidable for the Yeomen if two of York's starters, centre Lonnie Ramati and forward Paul Layefsky, can't make the trip. They face another formidable task: trying to fire basketballs through the legal loopholes of Osgoode's law exams.

Without two starters, York's case against St. Mary's will be weakened somewhat, but if the team can keep the score close they'll have done a job. At any rate this tourney should be a character builder.

Layefsky and Ramati will most likely be back for the first annual

York University Invitational Dec. 28-30 when the Yeomen host Alberta, Concordia, Windsor, Carleton, Waterloo, Henry Ford (Mich.), and Guelph. Look for tough games against Waterloo, Windsor and Con U.

Future Yeomen take the floor at Tait McKenzie Dec. 27-29 at the annual York Invitational high school tourney...Lonnie Ramati was York's leading scorer against Western with 24 points and 20 rebounds.

Inter-college scoreboard

Inner tube Water Polo (Coed)		Bethune Winters	
	Pts.		
McLaughlin	550		0
Alumni	475		0
Osgoode	412.5		0
Stong	412.5		0
Founders	375		0
Bethune	237.5		0
Calumet	237.5		0

Inter-College Hockey (Men)		Bethune Winters	
	Pts.		
Alumni	14		0
Stong	14		0
McLaughlin	12		0
Glendon	10		0
Calumet	10		0
Osgoode	8		0
Vanier	4		0
Founders	2		0

Inter-College Basketball (Men)		Bethune Winters	
	Pts.		
Alumni	14		0
Stong	14		0
McLaughlin	12		0
Glendon	10		0
Calumet	10		0
Osgoode	8		0
Vanier	4		0
Founders	2		0

Jock shorts

● In women's volleyball action last Friday (right) York trounced the visiting team from Queen's in three straight games with scores of 15-6, 15-4, and 15-9. A second visit on Tuesday night, this time by the McMaster team, ended similarly with York winning three in a row.

● Over the weekend, the York swim team travelled to Montreal for the McGill Co-Ed Invitational Swim Meet. There they faced opposition from 4 other Canadian universities and 8 from the United States.

York, despite being one of the smallest teams present, was placed fifth in the overall standings. Donna Miller swept aside all opposition to win both the backstroke events in meet record times. Her times were 1:04.6 and 2:22.4 for the 100m and 200m backstroke respectively.

● From the men's side to parallel Miller's victories was Mark Erwin who won both the freestyle sprint events - the 50m and the 100m. In the breaststroke events, Martin Tiidus was 3rd in both the 100m and 200m, out of 34 and 28 swimmers respectively.

● Although the Yeowomen dropped a 64-49 decision to the University of Toronto here last Wednesday, coach Frances Flint is confident her team will rebound and continue its steady



improvement this year.

"We're expecting to move right up there," says Ms. Flint. "Last year we won only two games all season; we've won three so far this year." Currently, the Yeowomen are 3-1 in regular-season play and are in second place over-all in Tier two in the OWIAA-volleyball league.

Yeowomen are currently third overall in field goal percentages with a 39 per cent average. But better still, the team leads the whole league, including first-ranked Laurentian, in rebounding.

Time out: Leading scorers for York against Toronto were Marj Watt with 11 points, and Patty Gillis and Anne Kinsella who both had eight points. York's next league game is January 6 against Ottawa.