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BLUES**

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IN
DRAG**

Excalibur

York University Community Newspaper

Vol. 14 No. 8

Thursday, November 1, 1979

Grads to picket

Bruce Gates

Members of York University's Graduate Assistants Association (GAA) yesterday confirmed plans to set up an information picket line next Wednesday.

Negotiations between the 750-member union and the university have reached a stalemate and both sides now await the appointment of a provincial conciliator, which should take place some time next week.

The GAA felt further negotiation would be fruitless until the general membership was consulted.

"When we explained the university's position, the members certainly supported our breaking negotiations with them," said GAA business agent Peter Gallus. The Nov. 7 picket line will take place at York University campus entrances.

"It's not a 'picket' line," Gallus pointed out. "We're not asking people not to cross it, we just want everybody to be aware of our position."

Added GAA shop steward and chief negotiator Leslie Sanders, "We're taking this action to avoid a strike." She said she hoped the picket line would be joined by as many students and GAA members as possible in order to increase awareness of the union's position.

The GAA, which represents part-time faculty members and teaching assistants, has been negotiating with the university for five months.

Besides seeking an increase in wages, sick leave and academic freedom, the union wants the university to guarantee an additional three years of teaching after the first TA-ship is finished. The GAA's argument is that their members need a guarantee there will be a source of income in order to permit them to continue academic research during the summer months.

"We see our demands as being extremely reasonable," said GAA business agent Peter Gallus. "What we're asking for is a guarantee of TA-ships."

University negotiator D.J. Mitchell would not comment about York's position regarding this particular demand by the GAA, saying it is not his policy to make comments to the press about York's position while negotiations are taking place.



Margaret Atwood at York. Page 10

Pierre DesOrmeaux

Council blasts Balloon

Staff

The Atkinson student council has threatened to fire the editor of the Atkinson newspaper for printing an editorial which criticizes the council.

In a meeting of the Atkinson General Assembly on October 20, a motion was passed by a vote of 24-1-1 in favour of censuring Balloon Editor Roman Smilka.

His controversial article, entitled "Atkinson Students Without Suffrage," called the ACSA a "mini-dictatorship." It also urged the Vice-President of York University not to accept the newly drafted by-laws unless there is "universal suffrage" for all part-time students at Atkinson College.

A letter by ACSA Speaker Daniel Bloom delivered to Smilka two days later elaborated on the motion, which demands that Smilka retract the October editorial in the next issue and give notice that it was the "opinion of the Editor and not a factual statement."

The final paragraph of the letter states, "failure to comply with the above order of the General Assembly of the ACSA is contempt of the General

Assembly and may result in your dismissal."

An incredulous Smilka described the editorial as "a classic model of editorial restraint, which should not be drawing such overt criticism. I'm surprised at the Assembly's negative response to this editorial," he added.

Excalibur spoke with Bloom earlier this week. During the conversation, Bloom indicated that he would pursue legal action against the paper if his remarks were quoted.

At present, any Atkinson student who wants to become a member of the Assembly must be either a class representative or a student proceeding to a degree through the college. In both cases, the Assembly must formally ratify their membership. Thus, the rewritten ACSA by-laws do not allow the part-time student population to elect its executive members by a general vote. In contrast, the CYSF has a cross-campus election of its president and executive.

Smilka argues that this is an example of one of the many threats to the existence of a free and objective press in our society.

Evolution seminar

Life before man

Lydia Pawlenko

Although Darwin's Origin of the Species was published over one hundred years ago, a two-day symposium held last week at York university made clear that scientists are only now starting to answer some of the questions it raised.

Organized by York's Science Faculty and Vanier College, "The Evolution of Life" drew an overflow crowd to Burton Auditorium for a look at the emergence of replicating molecules, cells, plants and animals, and our present understanding of human origin.

Participants seeking answers to that ponderous question, "How did life evolve?" were enlightened by theories that went far beyond confirming our chemical

ancestry.

Dr. Leslie Orgel, a renowned chemist from the Salk Institute, told the audience how molecules on the primitive earth could have evolved before life existed on this planet.

"We are now able to rephrase Darwin's theories in terms of molecules," he said. Orgel also explained that all the molecules necessary for life to begin are among the most common compounds in interstellar space.

Leading geneticist Francis Ayala, of the University of California, spoke of a "two-sided" modern theory of evolution.

Through distinguishing the amount of genetic variation existing in the population, scientists can now determine the

potential for evolutionary change and how much change actually takes place, he said.

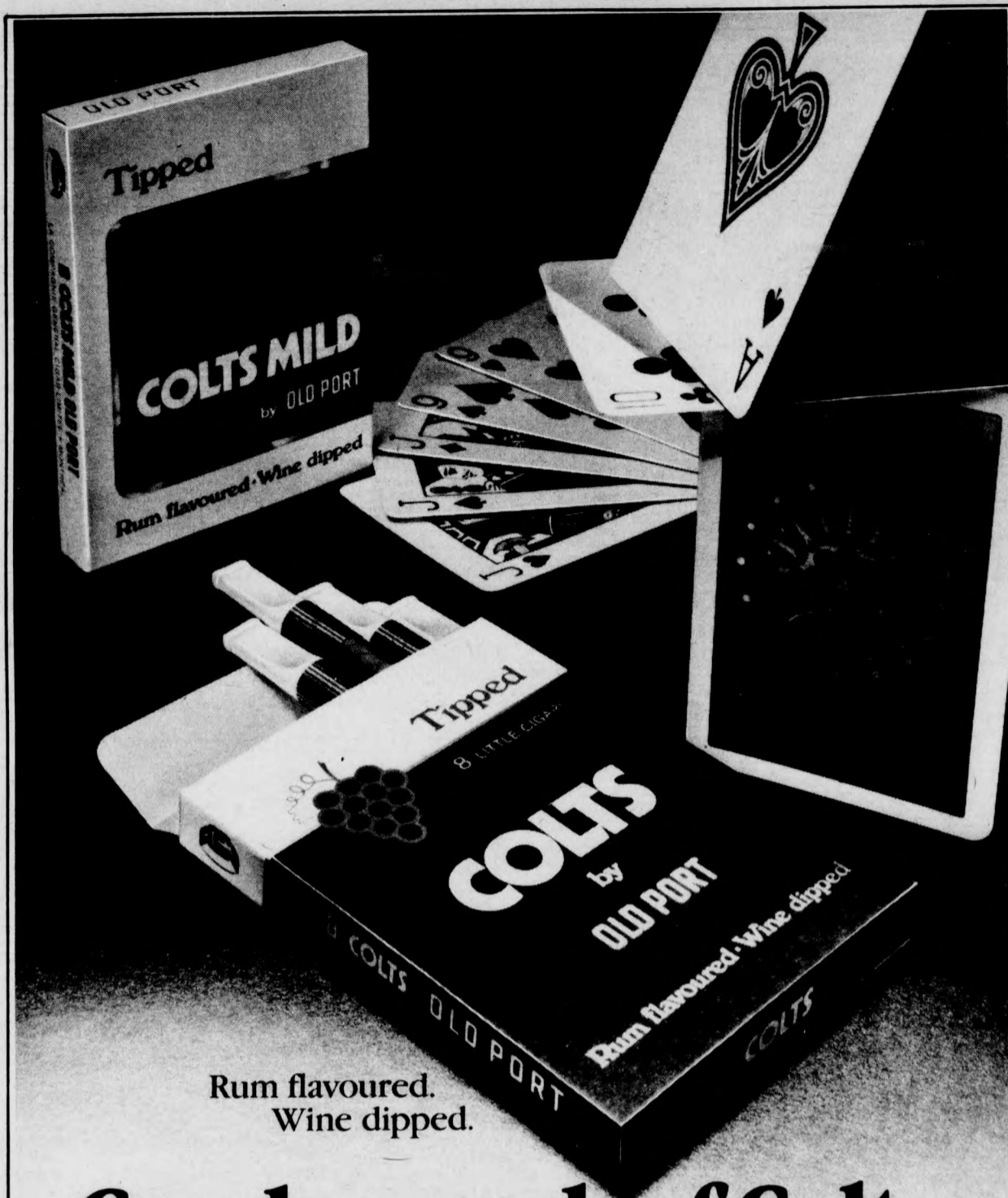
"We know that through hereditary materials such as DNA and RNA it is possible to study the properties of organisms," Ayala explained. "Sets of proteins differ from organism to organism, so that we can find how much variation exists in organisms as a whole." Humans were mentioned as being 67 heterozygous, meaning, in effect, "the raw materials available for natural selection are really enormous."

Dr. Ayala stressed that no two individuals are genetically identical, with the exception of identical twins. "Every individual is different--this is true of both animals and plants," he said.

By examining the differences in proteins between related species, scientists can now construct phylogenetic trees showing the relationships between the species. Detailed pictures of how new species emerge can be built up in this way according to Ayala.

Natural selection creates features in the same way as an artist creates a painting: with proteins instead of paints, Dr. Ayala said, "the difference lies in the fact that the painter has a conscience, natural selection doesn't."

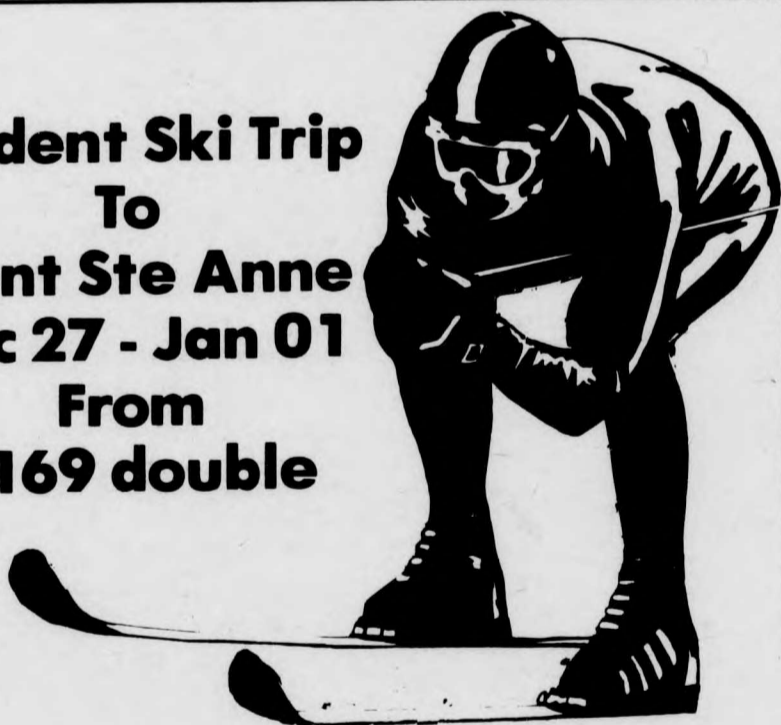
Later speakers talked about evolution from the social, behavioural and anthropological points of view.



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Excalibur

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it can bear discussion and publicity
—Lord Acton—

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Our Town

Eckankar
Problems you say? No adventures! Come to the free introductory talk on Eckankar, a Way of Life, on Tuesday, November 6 at 8 pm in S777 Ross.

Women's Centre
Film series: **Women in Defense** and **Women are Warriors**, Monday, November 5 at noon.

Mrs. Plummer's Mattress Factory
MPMF presents an evening of Monty Python, Saturday Night Live and original sketches at the North York Public Library, York Woods Branch, 1785 Finch West. Admission \$1. Tickets and information: Greg Moorcroft, 718 Bethune, 667-6061.

Gay Alliance
Hallowe'en Dance, Friday, November 2, in the Purple Passion Pit (2nd Floor Fine Arts). \$3 without costume, \$2 with costume. 9:30 pm. Licensed. Entertainment...Coffee House, Wednesday, November 7, 7:30-11 pm. Room S869 Ross.

Bethune
On Tuesday, November 6 at 3 pm in the Junior Common Room in Bethune, the All-Student Union Movement will be presenting the Nicaraguan film **Patria Libre of Morrir** (Free Homeland or Death). Also there will be a brief discussion with York University Lecturer and Ambassador of Nicaragua to Canada, Pastor

Valle-Garay, Co-Studies Program and the Third World Student Union.

Vanier
"Canada in the Seventies," November 5-9. Panel discussions will be on Literature (Monday), Politics (Tuesday), Sports and Fitness, and Media (Thursday). Most discussions will take place in either the Vanier Senior or Junior Common Room.

NDP Club
Next meeting is Wednesday, November 7 at 7:30. The topic is Medicare and the guest speaker will be Richard Johnson, MPP for Scarborough West. All welcome.

Theatre Department
The first Toronto production of **En Pieces Detachees** by Michel Tremblay will be performed in the Atkinson Studio on November 8 and 9 at 8 pm, and November 10 at 1 and 5 pm. Admission is free. Tickets available at the Burton Box Office between 11 am and 2 pm.

York Catholic Community
Everyone is welcome to our annual Hallowe'en Dance, Saturday, November 3 at 8 pm in the party room of 8 Assiniboine Road (Grad Residence). Costumes aren't necessary. Soft drinks and DJ will be supplied.

Classic Film Festival
Padre Padrone tonight at 8 pm in Curtis L. CYSF \$1.75. others \$2.

Money for the till?

Mark Monfette

Is York's financial position about to improve?

Maybe so. Due to changes in the method of government funding, undergraduate students may be worth more to the university than they have in the past. Depending on how he is pigeon-holed ("weighted"), an undergrad may now be worth one and a half or even twice his value in provincial grants. The first head count for full-time students begins today, Nov. 1, and at least one dean is optimistic about the effects it may have.

"I think there's been a change of mood," said Harold Kaplan, Dean of Arts, when reached by phone. "Every year we've been standing by the railroad track and we've been knocked over by the train. Now the mood is much more healthy."

Kaplan noted that York is at the bottom of Ontario universities in the funds it received for students and that we have "not been getting our fair share in comparison with the others."

"We must be more aggressive in arguing our claims," he said. "We should be banging on the door."

"It's time for the deans to think of maximizing income and not of how to split up budget cuts."

Sheldon Levy, a program cost analyst and a shaker and mover in the administration, also has "room for optimism."

"The count will certainly be better than it was," he said.

Levy pointed out that the effects of the new formula will only begin to be apparent in the 1980-81 fiscal year (May 1-April 30). "But we must all work together."

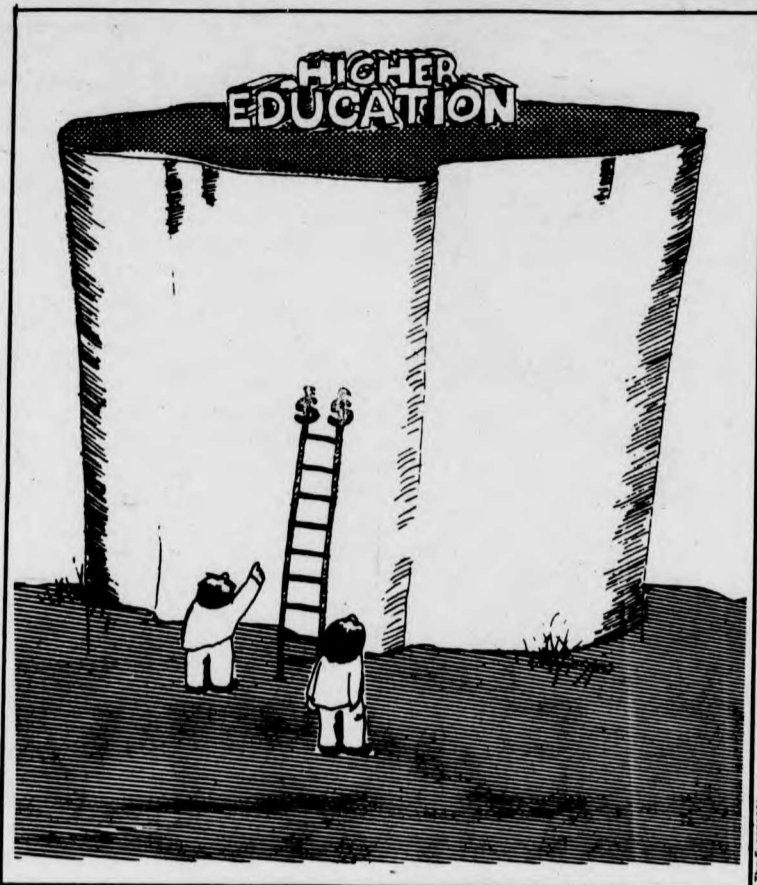
"The faculty must take off their faculty hats, the staff their staff hats and the administration their administration hats and put on York University hats or, when necessary, Ontario university hats, if we hope to achieve any changes."

When asked about the new funding formula, Dean Lundell, of Science, said that he found it "hard to be optimistic when government funding has not changed and inflation is much higher."

He suggested that the faculty could increase revenue by giving credit to the activity courses in Physical Education and by increasing the amount of contract research done by the faculty.

"In better times, we didn't want to do this," he said, referring to the contract work. "Now we might have to."

In the revised method of funding, departments are weighted in relation to costs incurred in instruction. An



honours English student, for example, would be worth one and one half basic income units (BIU), while the same student in the ordinary programme would only be worth one. Honours students in programmes such as computer science, geography or psychology would be worth two BIU's.

During the previous three years York has received a fixed amount (a BIU of 1.284) for each student. The university and the government negotiated this agreement in 1975-76 and renegotiated it again for the last fiscal year.

Asked if it was wise to

renegotiate the fixed agreement, David Atkinson, Finance and Development Officer, explained that at the time, the university thought it was.

"We did some studies," said Atkinson, "and they indicated that if we went on the program-by-program basis, the BIU might have dropped to 1.244."

Whether the BIU will rise or fall in 1980-81 is a matter for conjecture. It depends partially on the success of the deans in properly identifying those students who are eligible for more than one BIU and on the success of the university in attracting more students.

Food co-op formed

Michael Monastyrskij

In a bid to reduce food costs, members of the York community are organizing a food co-op on campus.

Doug Holland, an Osgoode student, tried to organize a York co-op two years ago. However, at the last moment, he was told there was no space available to house the venture. This year Griff Cunningham, Master of Bethune College, has agreed to provide a room for the co-op store.

Holland and Cunningham both live in downtown Toronto and are members of Karma Co-op. They are willing to act as resource persons if leadership for the co-op can be found at York.

At present, the major concern is a membership drive. Sixty people are needed in order to

start but 100 members are necessary to make the organization viable.

Capital for the inventory will be provided by fifteen dollar loans from the members, in addition to the five-dollar membership fee.

Holland said that the emphasis will be on natural foods because "with them, we will have competitive prices. The more processing involved, the more centralized the distributor." Most of the first supplies will be obtained from the Ontario Federation of Food Co-ops and Clubs. As the co-op grows the members will decide whether to add processed goods.

If you would like more information on the York co-op, call Joyce Thompson at 667-6456.

Faculty talks continue

Doug Allen

There's no end in sight to contract negotiations between the York University Faculty Association (YUFA) and the university administration. The talks, which have been going on intermittently since the last contract expired on April 30, are centered on two main issues: money, and the tenure and promotion system.

YUFA chairperson Al Stauffer says negotiations are a long way from being settled.

At the present time the Senate advises President Macdonald on matters of tenure and promotion. Stauffer says "the procedure should be more

clearly defined. The scheme "doesn't give people any clear rights...people can lose their jobs if it's done unfairly."

YUFA feels that departmental committees could best judge a person's ability.

Along monetary lines, the union feels that in light of York's history of low wages, nothing but an offer above the provincial average for faculty members will be accepted.

Handling the negotiations for the Administration is Vice-President of student and employee relations Bill Farr, who defended the administration's wage offer. Farr says the "faculty did a shade better (than the provincial average) last year and

the year before that." This year's offer, he claims, will keep the faculty in the same position as last year.

Farr dismissed the union's tenure and promotion scheme.

"The union would prefer the union as the principal voice," said Farr. It's not a question of faculty power, it's a question of whether it's the faculty union or the academic body that has the principal voice." Farr claims that the matter comes down to whether the faculty wants to wear their academic hats or their union hats. "If you told anyone outside the university about this, their eyes would glaze over in three minutes."

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Editorial

SupRESSION

The Atkinson College Students' Association's decision to censure the editor of the Balloon, and their threat to dismiss him, would be laughable if it wasn't so frightening. All this fuss over a tiny editorial which concludes that the council is not representing Atkinson students in the most democratic fashion.

The issue that frightens us is one that obviously reaches beyond the myopic view of the Atkinson council members—freedom of the press. The issue does not concern the accuracy of the editor's perceptions, but rather his right to print them.

Without a free press—which includes small, college papers—there would be no public access to information about those who wield power—in this case the Atkinson council—and therefore no democracy. How can a constituency make decisions if they are ignorant of what goes on in the upper echelons of business and government? How else but through a free York press could you know that the Atkinson College Students' Association Executive spent \$150 of council money on a luncheon meeting at the Inn on the Park last spring; that a dance held last February by the ACSA cost \$2,200.

In a university supposedly committed to democratic ideals, it is distressing to see this occur—especially in the light of recent events. In the past two years a number of publications in North America have been challenged by the courts: The New York Times for refusing to reveal a news source; The Toronto Sun for publishing classified documents; Toronto's Body Politic for "using the mails for the distribution of obscene materials"; The Progressive for printing supposed government secrets—instructions for making an H-bomb.

What the threat to Editor Roman Smilka demonstrates is that the Atkinson College Students' Association is exactly as he described it—a mini-dictatorship. Their motion bypassed any consultation with the ACSA Publications Board which oversees the Balloon's operations. Their action is indicative of a cliqueish college government unresponsive to its students. It seems the greater the concentration of power, the more paranoid a government becomes and the greater its inclination to ignore those it would represent. It brings to mind words spoken long ago by Lord Acton: "Absolute power corrupts absolutely."

The Atkinson council couldn't have exposed themselves more efficiently. But we must remember it was a free Balloon that prompted this. Now that the Atkinson constituents are aware, are they going to let their council carry through with the threat?

rather than to exercise any real leadership. I was especially struck by the total ignorance of Management of the day-to-day operation of the store.

The employees are generally disgruntled, and not without cause, but as a result they give the impression of being lazy, incompetent, and obsessed with petty internal jealousies. I have worked in other bookstores and York is by far the worst.

The attitude of the employees to the University community is one of hostility and contempt.

My personal view of the place of a University bookstore in the community is that it should reflect flexibly the academic environment in which it exists. In particular, sections of books devoted to some of the major interest-groups at York should be introduced, on the model of the Feminist Studies section already in existence (which I

understand the Director now wants to eliminate). Jewish Studies, African, Middle Eastern, Caribbean, Marxist Studies, etc., in addition to the so-called "classical" divisions. Profits in one year should be applied to the reduction of prices in the next, especially in the form of a general discount on textbooks. But the principal problem seems to be one of leadership and direction.

Until management acquires a vision and a sense of direction other than its own aggrandisement and gratification, the York University Bookstore will move precisely—nowhere.

Alexander Duncan

All letters should be addressed to the editor, Excalibur, Room 111 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 5 pm.



Correspondence

Jane-Finch

After reading your article "Nightmare in North York" two weeks ago, I concluded that the Government should have done something to rectify the problems in the Jane-Finch community. I wouldn't support the idea that Government should recommend cancellation of building more Ontario Housing projects. In fact, subsidized renting for low income families is one of the methods of redistributing income. The new interest mortgage deductibility plan introduced by the Federal Government benefits the rich only. More precisely, the mortgage deductibility plan is a kind of welfare for the rich.

The low income families who cannot afford to own a house can only benefit through subsidized rents by the Ontario Government. The problem now is how could more public housing be built and yet avoid the social unrest which arises in an area like Jane/Finch? The answers are obvious, the Government will have to introduce a 'mixed housing policy'. New projects will have to be rented out to middle class families at the

market rate. Also the projects will have to be rented out to low income families at subsidized rents. By this method the low income families will emulate the middle class families who will be their next door neighbours. Ghettos can only be formed when low income families are deeply concentrated in a project.

Secondly, a new by-law which will hold parents responsible for any damages to the building by the children should be promulgated, ie parents have to pay part of the fees for the repair of the damages. This will definitely reduce the acts of vandalism. Thirdly, playgrounds should be built next to each project. The Government should remodel the Jane/Finch projects. Some families presently resident at Jane and Finch should be relocated to other projects across the city under the 'mixed housing policy'.

David Agbo Esho
Founders College

Hurrah For Us

Please accept my thanks for your excellent coverage of the York Yeomen football season. In particular, please convey my

appreciation to writers Walter Weigel, Lawrence Knox and Bruce Gates, and photographers Gary Hershorn and Bryon Johnson for the quality of their coverage. Our student athletes make a sizeable time commitment to their sport and it's nice to see Excalibur recognize that.

Frank Cosentino

Bookstore Mismanaged

I would like to second Iain Davies' criticism of York services in Maureen Brown's article entitled "Prof peeved at York services," especially his attitude to the York University Bookstore. I am especially qualified to speak about this as I was employed by the Bookstore for half a year. (I am now a graduate student in English.)

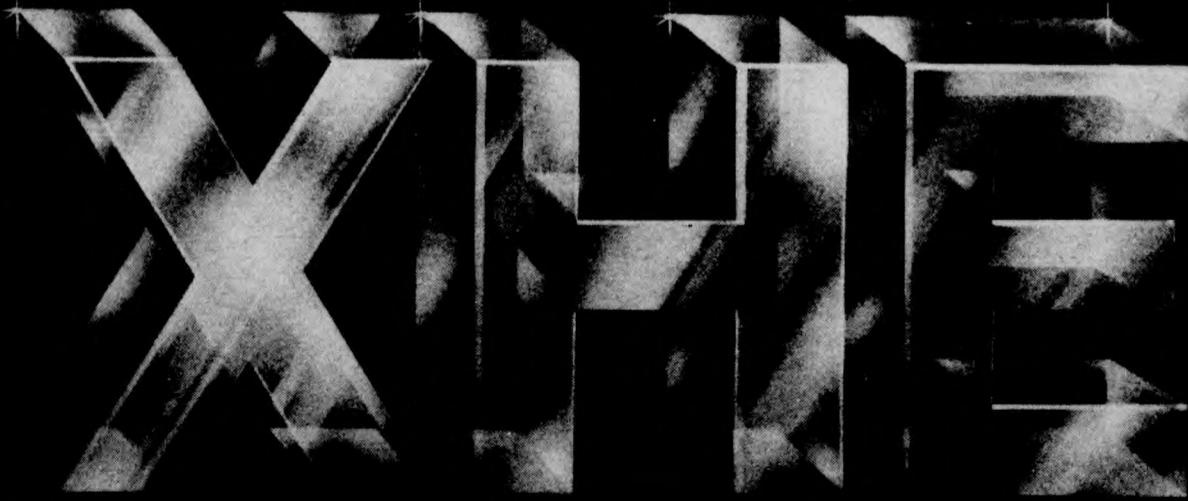
The principal problem in the Bookstore is a lack of personnel, and the unwillingness of Management to exercise any leadership and to restructure its organization. In particular, the filing system is too cumbersome for the number of employees and should be streamlined.

My perception of Management is that it prefers to enjoy the "cosmetic" prerogatives of p.r.

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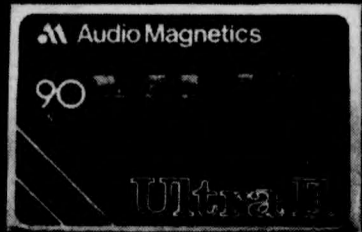


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Conversation

with Margaret Atwood

The first lady of CanLit, Margaret Atwood, appeared at York Tuesday, as guest of the York Women's Centre, to give a reading from her newest novel, *Life Before Man*, on behalf of the True Davidson Collection Fund. Atwood agreed to fit in an impromptu interview with Excalibur's Lydia Pawlenko, while signing copies of her books at the York bookstore.

What do you remember about your year of teaching at York in 1971?

Cold. There wasn't any tunnel. But let's see, I met a couple of people I liked a lot - one of them was Don Cole. Basically, I froze a lot.

You taught a humanities course at York, dealing with Canadian culture. It wasn't such a popular subject at the time. Do you think this attitude has changed?

Well, it was teaching that class that gave me the base for writing *Survival*. It helped me put it together so that I was able to write it with great speed. A lot of material in *Survival* was material I was putting together for my lectures.

Your books *Surfacing* and *Survival* were used as a basis in first year humanities course dealing with Canadian culture. It really affected a lot of people, including me. How do you react to the fact that so many young people are influenced by your work? We've really become an "Atwood generation."

Yeah, possibly. Ah, I don't know. There are lots of other writers around besides me. I wrote *Survival* because nobody else had written it. I guess I'm flattered, partly, but that wasn't the effect I had intended. I don't think you should read just my book on the subject. I wrote my book because there wasn't a book like that, and there needed to be one. Now there are other books which have other points of view. One thing my book did was it generated a lot of controversy, and what that indicated to me was that Canadians were interested. Nobody had written to those people before. They had written to other academics. A lot of the work that has come out since has been written to academics, although it usually starts off by attacking me. Most of those books begin with, 'as Margaret Atwood failed to mention,' or 'here are the distortions of Margaret Atwood which I will now correct.' My book deals with Classic Canadian literature, and that's anything written before 1972 when I wrote *Survival*.

What do you think about the Canlit boom?

I think that a view of Canadian literature has to be balanced by a view of other literature, which I have made fairly clear in my book. I don't think people should just read Canadian literature. I think it would be false any more than reading only English literature or American literature. That becomes a kind of chauvinism that one really does not wish to deal with. But before I wrote *Survival* it was very much the other way. The reaction of the academics was very odd, it was sort of like - you've invaded my pumpkin patch and stolen my pumpkin. You ought to be just writing novels or poetry or whatever it is. That was the general tone of the academic reaction, I think.

Why is it that you, like so many other writers, have chosen a rural setting to work in?

For me it was an accident. Now that I'm there I don't want to move. But I've written everywhere, on buses, on planes, in train stations. I don't need a specific place to write. Some places are better than others because there are few interruptions. But if you're a writer you'll write. In other words, don't keep waiting for the perfect situation because it will never come. You've just got to do it anyway.

Tillie Olson's book *Silences* links the relatively limited number of women writers to the general oppression of women in society. Yet in Canada, there seem to be so many prominent women writers - Margaret Laurence, Jane Rule, Marie-Claire Blais, Marian Engel, Constance Beresford-Howe. Doesn't this contradict Olson's thesis?

I think that the fact that some of us are prominent, may give you a wrong idea. Usually when people say why are there so many famous Canadian women writers, they really mean, why are there some? If you count up the numbers of people in the Writers' Union and people in the League of Poets, it's about a third women in both cases, nowhere near half. In a way, it's a distortion to look at five or six women writers and say why are there so many women writers in Canada. You should probably be asking, why are there only a third.



Why did you choose to be a contributing editor of *This* magazine?

I feel it's one of the few publications that are not controlled by large business interests and, therefore, have to censor what they print in advance. And it's one of the few places where you can read a certain kind of article in this country which would not make its way into *Maclean's* or *Saturday Night* or *The Canadian* magazine. They deal with material which I think is important. I think it was important to know how many Chilean refugees did not get into this country, whereas everybody is making such a big fuss about the boat people. There were a lot of people who were not let in and nobody made a big human cry about them at all. Things like that are important. There are a lot of money interests in the big papers, whereas we, on the contrary, are always broke.

What seems to come more naturally for you, writing poetry or fiction - or does it all come in the same way?

Well, it doesn't all come in the same way. Writing a novel has to be an act of will. In other words, you can get the idea for it, but following through on that idea takes a lot of time. You gotta go into that room and slave away at it.

A lot of your writing seems very depressing or painful. What is it like putting pain on paper?

Fun. It's just as much fun as putting anything down on paper. Keats once said, "Shakespeare took as much delight in creating an Iago as he did in creating an Imogene." The pleasure or the exhilaration is in doing the actual writing and in feeling that you're getting it right. I don't know exactly what the sensation is, but obviously it's a very powerful one because it keeps writers writing. You might call it word addiction. The bad part of writing is when you're not doing it, or when you're not doing it right.

If you're writing something that is in fact painful to contemplate, the experience of doing that is exhilarating. It's not a painful experience. It may cause you to cry or whatever. If writers were total masochists and felt pain every time they wrote about a particular subject it might answer your question. But they're not. They don't write to make themselves suffer.

The dialogue between characters in your new book *Life Before Man* is skillfully banal. Why?

That's how people talk. Or haven't you noticed? Try it in an elevator sometime or in a restaurant. Try eavesdropping. In fact, it's a good exercise. Just take your tape recorder with you, record conversations and write it all down, and see if it makes good fictional dialogue. Well, I can tell you right now that it does not. Prose is much more condensed.

How are your books accepted in the States?

Pretty well. Canadian Studies, interestingly enough, is a booming academic business in the States. There is considerable interest in it, if only for people wanting to save their academic skins by whipping out an M.A. on the subject so they can get a job.

When I lived there, which was in the early sixties, people were so naive about Canada that they would really ask me, and this is no joke, whether my father had a team of Huskies. I would lie to them and say yes, not only that, but we live in an igloo in the winter. They would believe it. It was quite wicked of me.

Now that you have a massive following, does the powerful influence you have ever frighten you?

Power is starting a war. Power is causing 20 million people to behave in a certain way. Let me put it this way, if I died a lot of people would come to my funeral, but if I said, now everybody vote NDP, nobody more would vote NDP than always had. I don't really have political, external power.

But what about your power as a writer?

That's very, very hard to measure, that kind of power. And it has no direct connection with me. I don't feel the effects of it very often. I write books, I do the best I can. The books go out there - maybe they change people, maybe they don't. I never get to see whether they do or not. It's largely an unknown quantity. There's no way of measuring that.

I think if you run out on the street and ask the people you meet if they have ever heard of Margaret Atwood, probably 75 per cent of them would say no. Well, it depends what street you're standing on. Now, it's true that for this country I have a very high per capita readership. But it's really minute when you consider the total population.

What advice would you give to beginning writers?

Well first of all, the people who think they want to write, but are not writing at the moment, are probably wrong. The only way you can really learn it is by doing it. You're only a writer when you're writing. I would say start reading as much as possible. Then, unless you're one of these closet writers who says 'I only write for myself,' which usually means you're afraid to put it out there where everybody can see it, you should start thinking of publishing. You might as well try. All it will cost you is a stamp.

What do you think is the advantage of taking creative writing courses?

I don't think it'll kill you, and it could give you some short cuts, but it's not necessary. You don't have to take a creative writing class in order to be a writer, otherwise I wouldn't be here. It's a way of getting university credits doing something you like.

How do you come up with such realistic characters in your novels?

I project myself into the character and then imagine what the character would do, how the character would behave. Anybody can do it except that they don't usually practice much.

I think basically all failures are basically failures of the imagination, especially war. In other words, if you could imagine what it would be like to have a bomb dropped on you, you would never drop a bomb on anybody.

When you were a student writer in university, did you foresee yourself as a famous writer?

Of course not. When I was going to university starting in 1957, there were no visible Canadian writers. E.J. Pratt was about the closest you could come. I think I studied two Canadian poems in the whole time I went to high school. If you count John Buckin's *Thirty Nine Steps*, I studied one Canadian novel. There were no role models for being a writer in Canada.

When did it dawn on you that you were a writer?

A big thumb came down out of the sky when I was about sixteen and said "YOU."

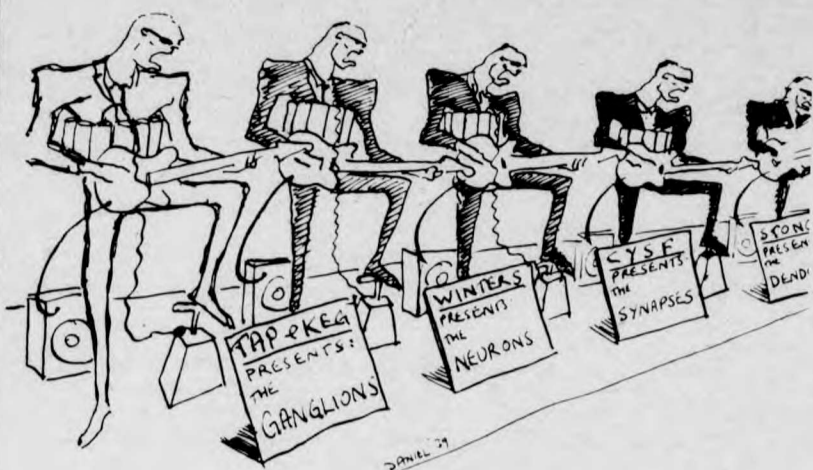
Do you discipline yourself to regular hours of writing every day?

I write from 1 to 6 o'clock, roughly. I have to write so many hours per day because I have a young child, and with a young child you have to compartmentalize your time.

Do you ever reach points where you just can't write?

I reach points where I don't write, when I'm doing stuff like this.

Tighten the Tap



On September 21, Food and Beverage Manager Norman Crandles shut down Tap 'n' Keg after investigating damage which occurred the night before, during the final set by the punk group Teenage Head — an act known for encouraging audience violence. Crandles described the reputation of Tap 'n' Keg as "dreadful," and warned that another incident of the same nature would force him to permanently lock its doors. Tap 'n' Keg reopened on October 5th with Zon, and less than 70 people attended. A concert featuring The News, staged on the 18, was basically the same story. It failed to either recoup the pub's prior losses or help it regain its status as an "entertainment hot-spot" on campus. It was a fiasco!

Tap 'n' Keg is a six-year old institution located in Bethune College's dining hall. Presently, it is said to be experiencing a number of major difficulties which may result in its demise as a licensed entertainment facility here at York University.

The weekly Thursday night pub is the direct responsibility of Steve Campbell, program chairman; Simon Schillaci, manager/talent coordinator/publicity supervisor; and seven other staff members, most of whom are Bethune College residents.

I spoke with Steve Campbell early last week, at which time I became fully aware of the unsuccessful nature of their most recent endeavours. He concluded that a lack of promotion has been the reason for such poor turn-outs so far this year. However, having worked as a promoter myself, I find it absolutely impossible to believe that ineffective publicity can completely explain the sizeable amount of money already lost.

Free Speech

The hardships faced thus far seem to stem from the fact that Tap 'n' Keg is an improperly run establishment. It is in dire need of a quality overhaul so that its stability can be elevated.

If I may be so bold as to make a few suggestions, I would like to outline two improvements which should be made. Firstly, Tap 'n' Keg would be wise to build up a rapport with other university and college pubs in and around the Golden Horseshoe area. They could compare prices, learn of any hassles created by particular groups, in short, advise each other on the ins and outs of promoting shows. Forming a circuit like this would undoubtedly increase each pub's knowledge and efficiency in the business.

Unfortunately, Tap 'n' Keg is not the only outlet on campus this year which appears to be

having troubles functioning. The main reason for this is because the communication between the college entertainment committees is non-existent. The result is that York provides four or five sound pieces of entertainment on say Thursdays and there is nothing during the other days of the week. On October 18th for instance, Tap 'n' Keg showcased The News, CYSF ran **Attack of the Killer Tomatoes** and **Flesh Gordon**, Winters College featured Toronto's Hott Roxx, McLaughlin hosted Mrs. Plummer's Mattress Factory and so on. Consequently, it creates unwanted competition and places a financial strain on everyone.

Tap 'n' Keg is supposedly working to rectify their present situation, while revitalization of other pub policies has yet to begin. Hopefully, a significant change will occur in the immediate future. At least this way, our talent buyers will stop being referred to by local booking agents as "a bunch of inept entertainment convenors who need to get their shit together."

Evan Adelman

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.

Harbinger

Many students reading the front page of Excalibur last week would have been confronted with news about an organization they either never heard about or one they would have dismissed as a "Gay Hangout" or a "Sex Shop". Time Out. As with any organization that has been around for thirteen years, a lot of misconceptions and rumours have arisen. As well, a lot of first and second year (even third and fourth year) students have never heard of us. Others are reluctant to turn to "non-professionals" for comfort and counselling. In this column I would like to deal with some of these issues and concerns.

A lot of fuss is made about the fact that Harbinger is a "peer counselling" centre. Some see this as negative, others as positive. Obviously my bias is to view it in positive terms. As peers we are in a better position to empathize with what is going on in a student's life; students very often feel more comfortable with fellow students than with professionals. We are not thrown in as counsellors "cold turkey." All peer counselling staff are required by the Board of Directors to engage in over twelve hours training. This does not make us professionals, but does make us more aware of alternatives and how and where to direct our empathy. We do not get into long term or "heavy" counselling. This is left to the Counselling and Development Centre and certain off-campus agencies. Part of our job is to direct students to the appropriate agencies if we cannot deal immediately with their situation.

Harbinger is not part of nor an extension of GAY or the Women's Centre. We morally support and endorse these organizations but we are separate from them. When necessary we refer students to them. We

do counsel gay people and we do counsel women. Some of our staff belong to these organizations, but our services are unique and separate from them.

Harbinger does counselling in the areas of human sexuality, birth control, VD, etc. However, we are not preoccupied with sex. Many students are just becoming aware of themselves sexually and others are just beginning to engage in love making. We attempt to provide information and counselling in these important areas. We provide a moral and hassle free environment for students to make their own decisions and choices. We also concern ourselves with drug/alcohol abuse, health and nutrition, loneliness, etc. That etc. is very important. If someone is having concerns in areas not mentioned, it is probable that one of our volunteers has had experience or a specific interest in that area. In addition, we can direct them to the appropriate agency. We also have a lending library and an extensive collection of pamphlets covering many areas.

According to Webster's, Harbinger means, "one that pioneers in or initiates a major change." For many of us, this time we are spending as students is a time of pioneering and major change. What we do in the next few years may profoundly affect the rest of our lives. Harbinger has been in existence for 13 years and has been established to provide information, counselling and referral for those of us who are changing, experiencing and exploring. As with any expedition, we will need maps, directions and comfort when we get lost or confused. As fellow travellers, we at Harbinger are willing to share the journey.

Gary Yorke

Board Rep Report

Here we go again, another possible strike that should have been settled long ago. This time it is the Graduate Assistants Association which includes Teaching Assistants for labs or seminars and part-time faculty.

At present we can expect that GAA conciliation meetings will start in late November and if they break down immediately the Union will be in a strike position in early or mid-December. You got it — right in the middle of exams. If they don't break down right away then one pressure tactic that might be used is to withhold marks — from the administration not us. That is, the TA, Lab Assistant or marker might mark the paper, tell the students the mark but not officially submit the results.

The GAA is asking 11 percent and is being offered 5.9 percent. The variables in this area are that inflation is running around 9 percent, that there was a 1.5 million dollar surplus last year, that the GAA represents the lowest and smallest wage package in the budget and that the 11

percent is a negotiable figure. Bear in mind that when YUSA went into conciliation with the administration last summer, they were also asking about 11 percent and they were able to negotiate a satisfactory settlement.

This Union represents employees who receive no benefits. They have no sick leave, no maternity leave, no OHIP, no dental or drug plans. This shows the lack of concern the administration has for its employees, but it should make negotiations easier and faster.

Academic Freedom

All academics (probationary/tenured) have the right to teach course material in the manner which they believe is best and they are protected from reprisals. The administration has never proceeded against a teaching assistant or part-time faculty for reasons connected with academic freedom yet they refuse to include it in the contract.

What can students do?

Students can start a discussion in their next tutorial with their tutorial leader. They can request

information from the GAA in room 129 McLaughlin (phone 6341) or from the Vice-President, Employee & Student Relations, S906 Ross (phone 6283).

Then choose a side and work for it. I'm pro-union and I've never made any secret of that. In this case we are consumers — we pay fees to the administration and we expect them to provide a service. If they're not doing it to our satisfaction then we should complain to them.

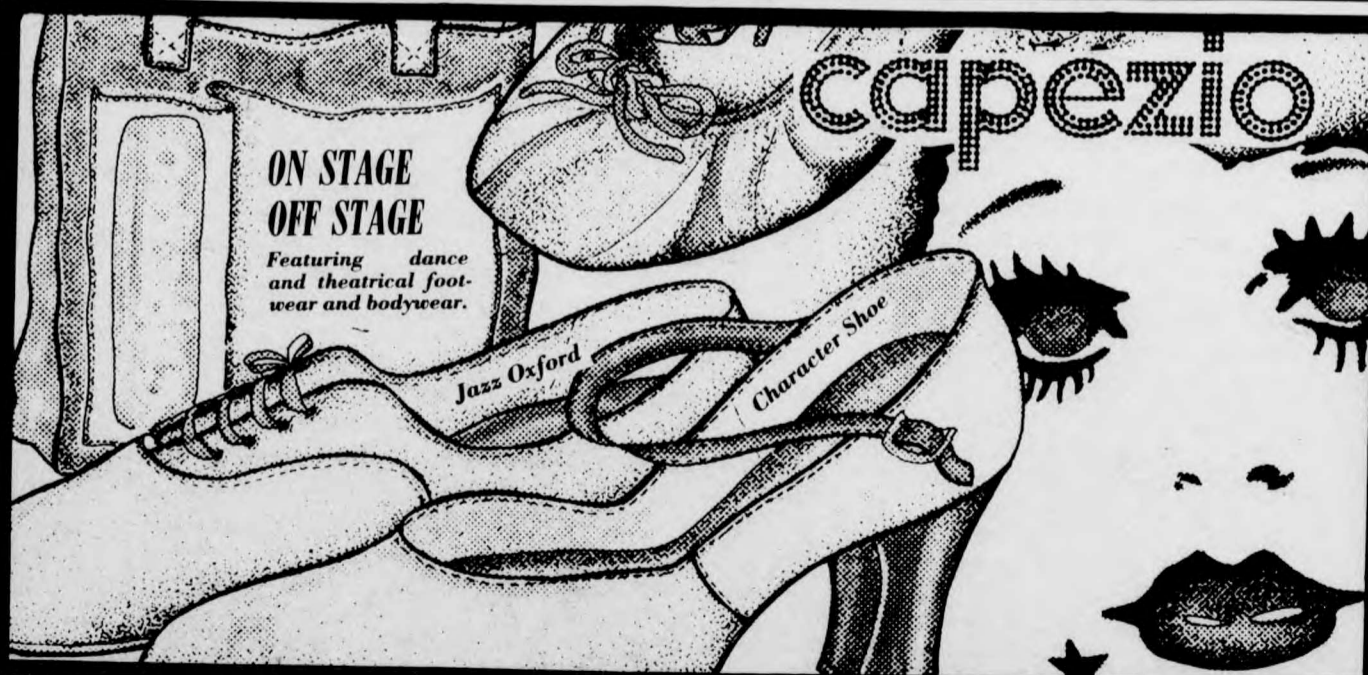
Students can join the Information Picket at the main gate on November 7th from 8:00 am to 10:00 am. This means a couple of hours showing support and passing out leaflets explaining the situation.

We can get our clubs, organization or student governments to have informational meetings on the situation. Then they can pass resolutions of support and let the administration know where we stand.

Peter Brickwood

Opinions expressed in this column are solely those of the student representatives of the Board of Governors.

**Films by
York
filmmakers
Wednesday
November 7
3 & 8 pm
Curtis "L"**



**THE EATON CENTRE
593-1001**

**70 BLOOR (at Bay)
920-1006**

**BAYVIEW VILLAGE CENTRE
225-4400**

V.D.

Some straight talk from Julius Schmid

The purpose of this advertisement is to educate you about venereal diseases. If you think this subject is no concern of yours, we'd like to point out that V.D. has reached epidemic proportions in Canada. It cuts across all age, income, social and educational groups. A conservative estimate is that between 500,000 and 1 million Canadians suffer from V.D.

What we're going to do in this advertisement is to tell you in plain, simple language about three

of the most prevalent venereal diseases in Canada today. What the symptoms are, the various stages of the diseases and most important of all, what you can do to prevent infection.

Now, if in the course of reading this advertisement, you suspect you might have some of the symptoms described, consult your physician immediately. The treatment is confidential and if caught early enough the disease can be easily treated.

GONORRHEA

This particular disease has become rampant due to possible changing social and sexual attitudes. Despite the most advanced treatment methods medical science has been unable to check the spread of this condition.

STAGE I

Symptoms generally appear from two to six days after exposure to the bacterium *Neisseria gonorrhoea*, however, up to 20 percent of men and as high as 80 percent of women show no symptoms at all. In the male, the usual signs are pain when urinating and a discharge of pus from the penis. Women are likely to experience burning during urination, a yellowish vaginal discharge, abnormal menstrual bleeding, and swelling or abscess of the Bartholin's glands at the mouth of the vagina. (Symptoms of oral and anal infection may include, in the throat, a burning sensation, and, in the rectum, burning and itching, persistent urge to defecate, and a bloody discharge).

STAGE II

If allowed to progress untreated, gonorrhea can produce severe inflammation of the pelvic organs; blockage of the Fallopian tubes and sperm ducts and thus sterility; gonorrheal rheumatism or arthritis; inflammation of the heart valves; even blindness, particularly in newborn babies.

Up until a few years ago, penicillin was the standard treatment method, but today, several penicillin-resistant strains of the disease have appeared and other, stronger drugs—tetracycline, spectinomycin, ampicillin, amoxicillin—must sometimes be used. Cases in which pelvic inflammatory disease has developed may also require hospitalization.

SYPHILIS

First of all let's make one thing clear: you can't pick up syphilis from lavatory seats or public drinking fountains. Syphilis is transmitted only through sexual intercourse.

STAGE I

About three weeks after sexual relations, a lesion called a chancre (pronounced "shanker") develops at the site—usually the genitals or mouth—and nearby lymph nodes become enlarged. The chancre itself disappears within four to six weeks.

STAGE II

If syphilis is left untreated, more lymph nodes eventually become enlarged and a spotty red rash appears over most of the body. During this stage, fever, weight loss, general weakness, loss of appetite and headaches are typical. After several months, the rash subsides and syphilis enters a latent period lasting months or even years.

STAGE III

Blindness, insanity, impotence, heart disease.

Children born to syphilitic mothers are also infected. The earliest sign is sniffing, after which sores appear on the skin and the mucous membranes, and the disease starts to progress as in adults.

If caught early enough, syphilis can be easily treated with penicillin. Other antibiotics such as tetracycline, erythromycin, or chloramphenicol are also used.

GENITAL HERPES

This sexually transmitted disease was almost unknown until the late sixties. About 95 percent of all cases are due to infection with herpes simplex virus II, a virus affecting only the genital areas; while another 5 percent result from infection of the genital area with herpes simplex I, the cold-sore virus.

STAGE I

In women, tiny, painful blisters resembling oral cold sores appear on the labia, cervix or anus. Symptoms in men include similar lesions on the penis or anus, accompanied by burning urination and watery penile discharge. Fever is a possibility in both sexes. Within a day or so the blisters break, then form round, grey-white patches which generally heal spontaneously within two weeks. This may be the end of the problem, or genital herpes may reappear periodically as cold sores often do.

STAGE II

A possible serious complication: recent studies suggest that herpes II may play a role in the development of cervical cancer. The virus is reported to be present in 36 percent of cervical cancer patients, and parts of the herpes II virus have been extracted from cervical cancer cells. Because of this, women who've been infected should be especially careful to have regular Pap tests.

No totally effective cure for herpes exists. While some gynecologists paint the infected area with gentian violet, others maintain this treatment doesn't work. However, a promising new antiherpes drug, adenine arabinoside (Ara-A) is being tested and may soon be approved for general use.

AND HOW TO PREVENT CONTRACTING THEM.

There are only two methods of avoiding the risk of contracting V.D.

1. Refrain from sexual relations.

2. Use a prophylactic during intercourse.

Use of the prophylactic is the only method officially recognized and accepted as an aid in the prevention of transmission of venereal disease. Besides being a disease preventative, prophylactics are one of the oldest and more effective means of birth control known and the most popular form used by males.

And we'd like to introduce you to six of the best brands of prophylactics that money can buy. They're all made by Julius Schmid. They're all electronically tested to assure quality and dependability. And you can only buy them in drug stores.

RAMSES *Regular (Non-Lubricated) & Sensitol (Lubricated)*. A tissue thin rubber sheath of amazing strength. Smooth as silk, light as gossamer, almost imperceptible in use. Rolled, ready-to-use.

FOUREX *"Non-Slip" Skins*—distinctly different from rubber, these natural membranes from the lamb are specially processed to retain their fine natural texture, softness and durability. Lubricated and rolled for added convenience.

SHEIK *Sensi-Shape (Lubricated) & Regular (Non-Lubricated)*. The popular priced, high quality reservoir-end rubber prophylactic. Rolled, ready-to-use.

NuForm *Sensi-Shape (Lubricated) & Sensi-Shape (Non-Lubricated)*. The "better for both" new, scientifically developed shape that provides greater sensitivity and more feeling for both partners. Comes in "passionate pink." Rolled, ready-to-use.

EXCITA Gently ribbed and sensi-shaped to provide "extra pleasure for both partners." Sensitol lubricated for added sensitivity. Also in "passionate pink." Rolled, ready-to-use.

Fiesta Reservoir-end prophylactics in an assortment of colours. Sensitol lubricated for added sensitivity. Rolled, ready-to-use.

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FINE ARTS AT YORK

A listing of Music, Dance, Film, and Visual Arts events happening on York's main campus, at Glendon College and in the Faculty of Fine Arts' new space downtown on Markham Street.

EVENTS

Friday November 2

8:00 p.m.
Alliance for Canadian New Music Project presents: Recital of Canadian compositions by Scholarship Winners of Showcase 79.
—YUFAM, 596 Markham Street

November 5—9

Sessions all day.
ENCOUNTER CANADA. Panel Discussions and Guest Speakers in Media, Literature, Politics, Sports and Fitness, and "Shifting Values."
—Vanier College, Junior and Senior Common Rooms
—Inquiries 667-3503

Wednesday November 7

12-2 p.m.
Jazz in Bethune presents: THE ED BICKERT QUARTET, sponsored by the Musicians Trust Fund.
—Bethune Junior Common Room

3:00 p.m. & 8:00 p.m.
On-Campus Screenings of Films by York Filmmakers. Selected films made by 3rd and 4th year Film majors in 78/79.

4:00 p.m.
The Curtis 'F' Concert Series presents: Artists-in-Residence, THE GALLIARD ENSEMBLE
—Curtis Lecture Hall 'F'

8:00 p.m.
The Department of Music presents: THE TORONTO SEPTET
—YUFAM, 596 Markham Street

Friday November 9

8:00 p.m.
THE GALLIARD ENSEMBLE
—YUFAM, 596 Markham Street

Sunday November 11

3:00 p.m.
ANTHONY DAVIS, Pianist
—Admission: \$4.00
—YUFAM, 596 Markham Street

November 12—17

THE SAND by Marion Andre. Second year Theatre production. World Premier, directed by the author.
—Burton Auditorium
—FREE. Obtain tickets in advance at box office or telephone 667-2370

Tuesday November 13

7:30 p.m.
York Electronic Studies Series, "Tuesday Night in the Studio": DAVID MOTT REVEALED. He will play and discuss his own compositions.
—012 Steacie Building

Wednesday November 14

12:00 noon
Jazz in Bethune presents: THE PETER LEITCH QUARTET, sponsored by the Toronto Musicians Union Trust Fund.
—Curtis Lecture Hall 'F'

4:00 p.m.
Dance Workshop. A performance by Dance students.
—in the Fine Arts Building
—Inquiries 667-3242

4:00 p.m.
The Department of Music presents: "An Afternoon of Chamber Music," with student ensemble.
—Curtis Lecture Hall 'F'

Friday November 16

8:00 p.m.
A concert of South Indian Music with T. Viswanathan on flute and Trichy Sankaran on mrdangam.
—Location: to be announced
—Inquiries 667-3365

Tuesday November 20

7:30 p.m.
York Electronic Studies Series, "Tuesday Night in the Studio": PHIL WERREN will play
—012 Steacie Building

8:00 p.m.
"The Clouds" by Aristophanes (a readers' theatre production), sponsored by Vanier College. Featuring faculty fellows and students of Vanier. Refreshments.
—Vanier Senior Common Room (010 Vanier)

Wednesday November 21

4:00 p.m.
The Department of Music presents the "Contemporary Music Series": THE MUSIC OF JIM HISCOTT, sponsored by the Music Department and the Musicians Trust Fund.
—Curtis Lecture Hall 'F'

Thursday November 22

7:00 p.m.
"As The Toe Points," a flight of 'dancey' brought to you by Vanier College. Sallie
—Vanier Dance Studio (Room 202, Vanier)

8:00 p.m.
The York Jazz Orchestra and Jazz Workshops and members of the Music faculty will present a CHARLES MINGUS MEMORIAL CONCERT.
—YUFAM, 596 Markham Street

Friday November 23

8:00 p.m.
LE GROUPE DE LA PLACE ROYALE
—Burton Auditorium
—Cost: Students, \$4.50; Staff, \$5.50; General Admission, \$6.50

Sunday November 25

8:00 p.m.
The Community Chamber Orchestra of York University under the direction of James McKay will perform works by Beethoven, Mozart, and Gounoud.
—YUFAM, 596 Markham Street

Monday November 26

8:00 p.m.
The Community Chamber Orchestra of York University. Programme: see above.
—Glendon College Theatre
Glendon Campus

Wednesday November 28

12-2:30 p.m.
Jazz in Bethune presents: THE JIM GALLOWAY QUARTET, sponsored by the Toronto Musicians Union Trust Fund.
—Bethune Junior Common Room

4:00 p.m.
The Department of Music presents: A COMPOSERS' FORUM with DAVID LIDOV, JIM TENNEY, PHIL WERREN.
—012 Steacie Building

7:30 p.m.
LAURA GLEN DANCE CONCERT
—YUFAM, 596 Markham Street

8:00 p.m.
RICHARD SCHECHNER, artistic director of New York's avant garde Performance Group (creators of Dionysus in '69) will lecture on Contemporary Avant Garde Theatre.
—Burton Auditorium
Cost: \$2.50; tickets at Burton box office
—Inquiries 667-2370

Thursday November 29

8:00 p.m.
ART ENSEMBLE OF CHICAGO, with Lester Bowie, Malachi Favors, Joseph Jarman, Roscoe Mitchell and Don Moye. A jazz concert presented by the Performing Arts Series.
—Burton Auditorium
—Cost: Students, \$4.50; Staff, \$5.50; General Admission, \$6.50
—Inquiries 667-2370

York-Guild of Canadian Playwrights, the Second Reading.
—YUFAM, 596 Markham Street
—Inquiries 532-2885

ART EXHIBITIONS:

Art Gallery of York University

Hours: Mondays-Fridays 10:00 a.m.-4:30 p.m.
Location: N145 Ross Building

Continuous to November 14
"CRAIG TANDY 1974-1979"
Kinetics

November 26 -
TANUMA, Photography, Japanese Children

IDA Gallery

Hours: Mondays-Fridays 9:00 a.m.-4:00 p.m.
Location: Lobby of Fine Arts Building

November 15—30
The National Theatre of Great Britain
Exhibition

York University Fine Arts on Markham (YUFAM)

Hours: Wednesday-Sunday, 12:00 - 6:00 p.m.

Hours: Wednesday-Sunday 12:00-6:00 p.m.
Location: 596 Markham Street

Continuous to November 18
Exhibition of works by Guido Molinari, a French Canadian artist.

November 21—December -
T'WAS EVER THUS, an exhibition of Eastern Canadian Folk Art.

ALL ABOVE EVENTS ARE FREE OF CHARGE AND OPEN TO THE PUBLIC UNLESS OTHERWISE NOTED

This listing is published courtesy of the Faculty of Fine Arts

CUT OUT AND SAVE AS NOV. ARTS CALENDAR

Entertainment

"...only the absurd will survive..."
-the Preacher-

Dressed as a man in Iran



Stuart Ross

"I find frequently in life that I seem to find myself in the most amazing situations and I'm prepared to sort of grasp them and take them, go into them..."

Ten years ago, dissatisfied with an editorial job, Sarah Hobson packed up and thumbed out of England. Her destination was Iran, where she wanted to explore Islamic art and design.

She also went to learn about herself—at least that's how it turned out. "Like many people of our generation," Hobson told me, "I felt pretty disillusioned with my own society, with my own values. I was a little confused about what I was meant to be doing, what my role in life was."

Just before she left, Hobson decided to christen herself 'John' and dress as a man, as this would

enable her to see more, and would make solo travel much safer. The disguise worked even better than she had hoped, and provided many unexpected insights.

Hobson describes this first journey (she's been back many times since, as a woman) as "a very powerful personal experience." On her way, going through Italy and Yugoslavia, she helped out a youth brigade cleaning up after an earthquake. In Iran, she travelled among the mountains' Qashqai tribes on 'Mephistopheles,' a dilapidated moped. In Qum, the country's religious centre, she lived in a men's theological college. "People were saying, 'You shouldn't go there because it's a fanatical place.'" And so, of course, Hobson went.

Hobson attributes the success of her disguise to the Iranians' inexperience with Europeans. She explains that "anything that they thought a bit peculiar they put down to Western culture, not a male/female thing. Just as we have very odd attitudes and stereotypes about Iranians and

Muslims, so they also had stereotypes about Westerners as being very permissive, very uncaring in relationships, very insensitive. They were appalled by our divorce rate. We find being able to take four wives appalling. It depends on what your viewpoint is, and we do tend to develop stereotypes about other people. It's safer and more convenient, and it bolsters our own society."

Hobson was discovered a number of times. On one occasion, she was brought into a police station for a passport check and questioning. When they found out that she was a woman, they became suspicious and accused her of being a Russian spy. By late evening, they had offered her a bunk and were bidding for her services. "And I'm ashamed to say I didn't reach a very high price." She was finally able to dissuade them, and was given a large breakfast and sent on her way.

Hobson tries not to align herself politically and has very little interest in political ideologies. Instead, she takes

a humanitarian viewpoint, regarding people in terms of their culture. Iran's culture she found to be fascinating and complex. Charming and frightening. Iranian life is subtle, she says, they have their own masquerade—very involved phrases and customs disguising what they really want to say and mean.

Her travels are described in **Masquerade: An Adventure in Iran**, a travelogue that ranks among Sterne's and Basho's. It's the story of a culture, a religion, and personal enlightenment.

Hobson has also written **Family Web**, a study of life in India, where she stayed with a large family for about four months. She is presently working on three more books, including a novel. Her books have been well received by the general reading public, as well as being used as source material for universities. "I keep driving at the human element, to be able to identify with people and their feelings and the realities of their lives. That's what I feel I want to get on with."

See Martyswing

Elliott Lefko

I found myself on Queen Street last Saturday night with nothing to do at one am. I approached an upstairs cabaret called Cafe Soho which promised late night jazz. Sitting down with a cold lemonade and a french ceigarette, I sat till four am, listening to a collection of rag-a-muffin musicians known as the "Jive Bombers." Amidst a sea of coat-tail tuxedos, leopard-skin vests, yellow smoking jackets, and old caps, I noticed an old friend: Bathurst Manor's semi-legendary Marty Loomer. I had heard that Loomer had gone to York to study music and had actually become a pretty fair jazz guitarist. Now here he was, playing 1940's boozy, sexy, gut-bucket jump blues, and by the looks of things, he was really enjoying himself.

The Jive Bombers, most of whom are from York's jazz department, originally formed to play dances at The Ports. Four years later, they are still together playing gigs like Cafe Soho: smoke-filled clubs swinging to spiritual Louis Jordan numbers.

Loomer's musical fortune rose when he helped form the "Wee Big Band," a mixture of highly-respected Toronto jazz stars and young upstarts. Under the tutelage of sax great Jim Galloway, the group has been blazing a name for themselves with a series of hot gigs around Canada. Loomer is the principal arranger of the group. He listens to the old songs and transcribes the music onto paper, complete with harmonies and solos.

Because of his work with Galloway, Loomer's reputation has grown to the point where he now is considering forming a 10- or 11-piece band to play his own compositions. This past summer he worked at the Charlottetown Theatre Festival writing musical parts. He finds that while it is nice to be constantly working he sometimes forgets to take any

time off. After a long winter last year he was determined to find a relaxation outlet. He found it in sports.

"I see a comparison between sports and music. When you're really swinging on a song, it's like you're standing at the other side of the room, listening to yourself play and you feel that you cannot make a mistake. It's so easy. You talk to some football player about making a really impossible catch and he will say, 'It's like the ball was in slow motion. I'm just walking along here, and it takes forever to get there. But when it is ready, it just falls into your arms!'" I finish my 'ade, wish Marty lots of nachus, pick myself up and slouch into the cold November night. Hail a taxi, climb in and dream about the screaming purple tophat I plan to buy the following day.



Gary Hershorn

Off York

Music

Picture yourself in the basement of Montreal's hot and sultry Nelson Hotel. You've had a good amount of intoxication and you can barely see through the heavy cigarette smoke in front of you. Wearing so little clothing that it stings the eyeball Carole Laure saunters on stage. She sings with the grace of an angel, bawdy ballads and despicable dialogue. Now for the first time, Carole Laure is available on record, for your listening pleasure. On **Alibis** (RCA) Laure sings songs by lover Lewis Furey, and demonstrates that beauty is never skin deep.

Elliott Lefko



Film fest

Ronald Ramage

Five films produced by the upper year students of York's prestigious film program will be screened for the student body and general public on Wednesday, November 7, at 3:00 and 8:00 p.m. in Curtis Lecture Hall "L".

The program is headlined by Alan Crevier's film "Hey, Where's Everybody Going?", this year's winner of the Kodak Ltd. Grand Prize at the CNE Film Festival.

"Streetcry" by Karen Hall and "For Elizabeth" by Richard Zywockiewicz are also worth vidding.

Other films to be screened are "Ziggy" by William Kucheran, and depending how things fall out, either "Blue Hills" by Valerie Schwartz or "7 Steps to Freedom" by Robyn Rogers. Admission is free, but remember, you get what you pay for.

Time warp art

Michael Korican

York's Fine Arts IDA Gallery is currently showing **Tenses**, an exhibition of contemporary work by Giuseppe di Leo, Michael le Blanc and Darci Schuler-Mallon. Each signifies a separate time-span but within this theme pursues very divergent directions.

Di Leo is consumed by past visions. His finely-structured pencil drawings evoke the era of their subjects and their Italian heritage. He uses his art to interpret the past and its ramifications—sometimes, as in **A San Nicandro, Si**, in an overtly religious manner.

Schuler-Mallon's work is firmly anchored in the present. Her drawings so accurately mirror the instant that they almost become Polaroid snapshots. The high contrast technique she utilizes allows facial expressions to dominate and express their individual personality. In **Toasted Danish**, the sunlight radiates harsh and distinct shadows.

Le Blanc takes a futuristic stance, satirically reporting on the now and the near now. His busy work is very statement-oriented, going so far as to write on the canvas of **Testing Ground**: "it was a good gadget, but yesterday a woman came in and looked at the Atomic Pile Cleaner and she asked whether a pad that size could really absorb all the radioactivity."

All three use or draw photographs to create their work, yet transcend these as mere pictures, fashioning images with inherent meaning and a past, present and future.

Tenses runs in the IDA Gallery through Saturday, 9 to 5 daily.



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Atwood surfaces at York

Karen Tully

“There seems to be a lot of debate as to what I really am,” complains Margaret Atwood.

“She’s really a poet and she writes novels,” some say, while others argue that “she’s really a novelist and she writes poetry.” Certainly she is both.

On Tuesday, Margaret Atwood appeared at York to read from her new novel, *Life Before Man*. The reading was the second in a series sponsored by the York Women’s Centre to raise money for the True Davidson Collection Fund. Introduced by June Callwood as “practical” and “common sensical”, Margaret Atwood shyly addressed an audience of greater numbers than she might have anticipated.

The witty and perceptive text was affectionately received, as was Atwood. *Life Before Man*

differs from her previous novels in structure. Written from three viewpoints, rather than one, it prevents readers from assuming that it is an autobiographical account.

The question and answer period revealed Atwood’s superior knowledge of English literature. A rather inane question from the audience prompted her to deliver a mini-lecture on the structuring of a novel.

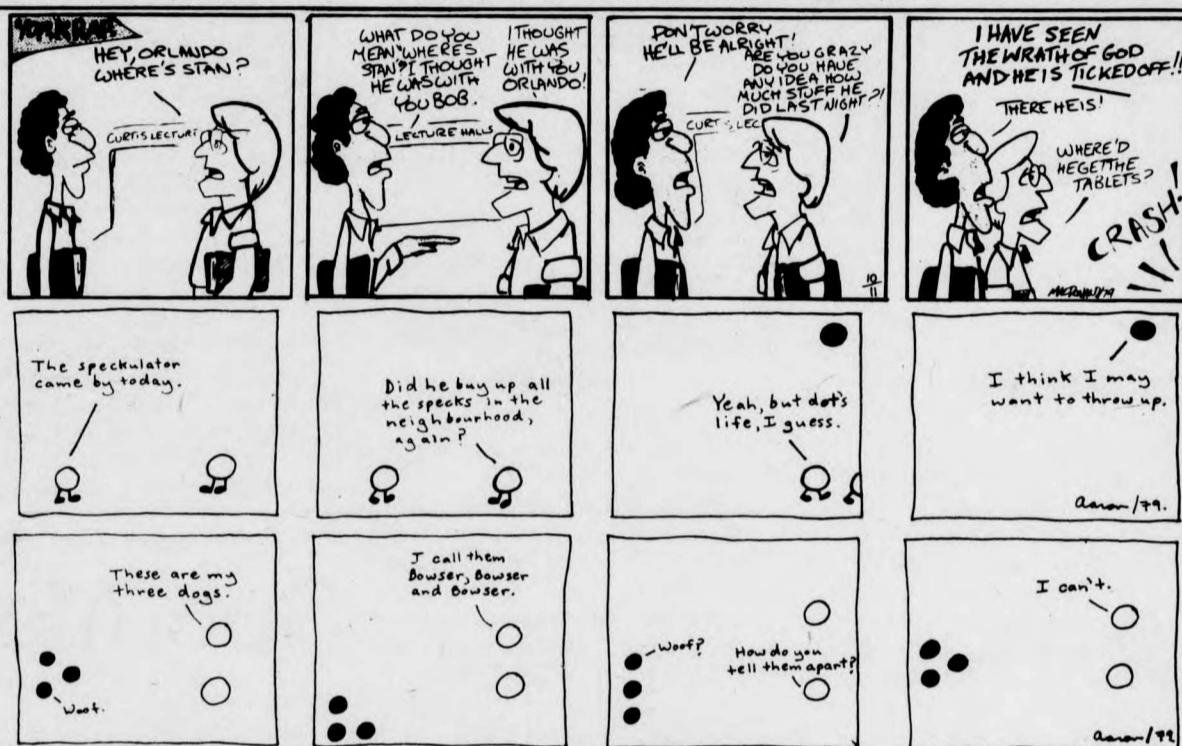
“Very basically, there are two kinds of novels. There is one in which John and Mary have problems and throughout the story they work them out, and one in which John and Mary are blissful and something comes from the outside to threaten them.”

When questioned about her reading style, Atwood retorted,

“I’m not an actor”, and then went on to explain the differences between an author reading her own material and actors who feel they must enhance the text with their individual presence.

To the obvious question, “Do you hate men?”, Atwood replied with a smile, “I’m not too keen on Hitler, but then I’m not mad about Margaret Thatcher either. The big secret about men,” she revealed knowingly, “is that they are individuals, a fact we’ve been trying to get across about women for years.”

Soon, it was time to end, and a substantial crowd gathered at the bookstore to purchase autographed copies of *Life Before Man*, a work that will probably induce Atwood’s public to regard her as a novelist first—that is, until they are bewildered once again with some future works of poetry, or criticism, or...



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Boos for booze

Maureen Brown

York Yeomen football coach Frank Cosentino doesn't want students drinking at athletic activities. He said the University has a policy that states no consumption of alcohol is permitted on the University grounds outside the regular licensed drinking areas. "The Physical Education department has thought that perhaps we should live up to those regulations," he stated.

Cosentino said that the drinking in hockey, football and rugby games "at times leads to unruly behaviour." He added, "it's a problem which is there and could continue to develop."

"It's a University policy so it's the University's final responsibility, but at the same time we're hoping that students would say 'there's a time and a place for drinking and the time for drinking is not necessarily at sporting events'."

Cosentino observed that some universities have students in charge of large crowd occasions. He said, if it comes down to enforcement of the regulation, "I would think that the University would prefer that the students police their own activities."

"Either the rule should be enforced or it shouldn't be. Our department is subscribing to University policy and we're asking that the people who attend our athletic competitions co-operate in not bringing alcoholic beverages to our games. All

we're asking for is co-operation from the student body," he said.

Dave Turner, president of the Men's Inter-university Athletic Council (MIAC) reiterated Cosentino's concerns. "There are more than enough places on campus to get drunk. You don't have to get drunk at sporting events."

Turner recalled that bottles had been hurtled onto the ice at hockey games last year. "We haven't had any bad incidents yet," he said. He hopes the potential problem of someone being hurt doesn't arise.

Football all-stars

Gary Cohen

This week three York Football Yeomen were selected as members of the Ontario-Quebec Intercollegiate Football Conference's western all-star team for 1979.

Making the team were offensive tackle Steve Shubat, a 240 lb., 6'2" junior out of Don Mills, defensive end Rick Lyalls, a 225 lb., 6'2" senior from Willowdale and Angelo Kioussis, a 175 lb., 5'10" junior who plays at the defensive halfback position.

Kioussis, Yeomen's team captain, had been previously selected to the team in 1976 and 1977, but missed the chance at an all-star berth last season due to a broken ankle.

Gymnasts eye Moscow

Three York gymnasts earned themselves berths on the team which will represent Canada at this year's World Championships to be held Dec. 2-9 in Dallas, Texas. The selection process, which began last March, ended this weekend at the Etobicoke Olympium where Danny Gaudet placed fourth, Marc Epprecht sixth and Frank Nutzenburger eighth. Tom Zivic, York's head coach, was also selected as one of the two coaches who will accompany the team.

This year's World Championships are particularly important as they will be the qualifying meets for the 1980 Olympics. Only the twelve best teams will be allowed to compete in Moscow, and because Canada is currently ranked fourteenth, it means we must improve or else be eliminated. Coach Zivic is confident that can be done. "I feel that this is the best team we've ever assembled," he enthused, "and I believe we can place as high as ninth or tenth."



Gary Hershorn

Love-in

Zivic is also very happy that York took three out of the top eight places. Of the other team members, one comes from B.C., two train in California and two are from Montreal.

Before departing for a two week training camp prior to the Worlds, the three York gymnasts will be competing here in York's second annual contest with the U. of Michigan, Saturday, Nov. 10. Also competing will be David Steeper, who trains at York, and Nigel Rothwell from Michigan, both of whom were at the meet this weekend but missed the top eight. Last year, Michigan barely squeaked by York for the win, but this year York is the favorite. In any case, it promises to be an exciting, high-level competition with some of Canada's best gymnasts, marking the start of the varsity season.

Pat Green

York's Dianna Dimmer was defeated by U of T's Pam Gollish, in a very exciting match, at the OWIAA tennis singles final, held at the Mayfair Club West on Oct. 27. Gollish overcame a first set loss to capture the final two sets to one. York placed fourth in overall team points.

Coaches Nancy Doherty and Vivienne Strong commented on this year's season: "Enthusiasm has grown substantially each year and aspiring tennis team candidates turned out in droves in September. The 1979 players finally chosen were Dianna Dimmer, Julie Farber, Debbie Martin, Debbie Shuter, Ruth Arnold and Sharon Jaundoo."

Despite the brevity of the season, the player selection and heavy workload provided York with a quality tennis programme this year.

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Sports and Recreation

Rugby Yeomen scuttle Brock



York's rugby Yeomen clinched first place against Brock

Steve Church

On Saturday past, the Yeomen Varsity Rugby team defeated a stubborn Brock team by a score of 20-3. This clinches first place for York and assures them of home field advantage for the OUAA final on Saturday, November 10 versus either Guelph or Queen's. This will be the sixth time in eight years that the Yeomen have been in the final.

In the game, York scored three of their four tries in rather rapid fashion. The first of these was scored, after ten minutes of play, by forward Bill Johnston, as the result of a pass off a loose ruck from about fifteen metres out.

The second and third tries were very similar in nature. Both were scored by fly-half Jonathan Bell and both tries were the ultimate result of a series of rucks that the Yeomen had gone the length of the field to score upon.

In the second half, the Yeomen, in a state of complacency, played a defensive, sustaining type of game. With the relative ease that they enjoyed in the first half, there was no real attempt to

run up the score on Brock in this half. The only points scored were by Johnston, with his second try of the day, on a twenty-metre scuttle, and a penalty goal by Brock, rounding out the score at 20-3 for York.

Other notable occurrences in this game were the critical loss of two Yeomen players. Doug Austrom was sent off the field late in the game and will have to sit out the match against R.M.C., although, luckily, he will be back for the final.

The other loss of a player occurred after fifteen minutes of play when winger Steve Dunn made a diving tackle at a Brock player's knees and suffered a slight concussion in the process. "Can't say how it exactly happened. It made me very foggy, though," said Dunn, in a state of lapsus memoriae.

In the second game, the Yeomen II finally broke the ice! — they won their first game of the season, in rather convincing style, by defeating Brock II 14-0.

Actually, this score was misleading. Because York won most

of the ball throughout the game, and Brock was constantly making errors in ball handling, the score could have been considerably higher. With the aggressive leadership displayed by Alan Voves, in the forwards, and slick, fluid play-making by scrum half Mike Dinning, this Yeomen II side was blessed with talent that they perceived to be incredible. Says Dinning, "I'm simply astounded that I survived the game. It is just like a second childhood!"

Points scored were tries by centre Lee Colby, on a twenty metre dash, and player-coach Voves, as the result of a push-over try, in the first half.

In the second half, Steve (Sam) Sneyd catapulted over for a try to cap the scoring.

Other strong performances came from Basil Tambakis, Joe (Captain Coma) Mucci and Pete Salome.

Next game is Saturday when the Yeomen travel to Kingston to encounter R.M.C. in the final regular season match.

Hit men kill Blues

Jonathan Mann

Last Friday night, York's Volleyball Yeomen easily defeated University of Toronto Blues in three straight games of competent but uninspired play. With more than fifty in attendance, York beat U. of T. 15-8, 15-8, and 15-11, in a string of games aptly described by York Coach Wally Dyba as "slow."

The tone of the Tait McKenzie contest was one of confidence. York's squad, going into this season opener with a record of twelve pre-season wins and no losses, was rarely challenged in the course of the evening.

Hitter Mark Ainsworth found that the lack of real competition was a major factor in the

Yeomen's unexceptional performance. Remarked Ainsworth, "The game was pretty hard to get up for. We're a lot better than U. of T., and we would have played better against a better team."

Coach Dyba's outspoken remarks after the game best reflect the team's optimism and high morale. Declared Dyba "We're awesome! We walked all over U. of T. We're a notch above everybody in the league."

Blues' player-coach Tiit Romet did not seem particularly surprised by the evening's defeat. (U. of T. hasn't beaten York in four years.) Romet blamed his team's inexperience for their fate at the hands of the

Yeomen. A squad of eleven with seven rookies, Romet felt the Blues were at a definite disadvantage because of York's "wealth of experience." "York," explained Romet, "is a little steadier than we are, and their serving is a lot better than ours." When asked about his team's chances this season, he replied, "We'll be competitive."

The three games were surprisingly free of tension or suspense. The Yeomen had set a pre-game goal of holding the Blues to eight points a game, and were disappointed only once. Key men in this effort were Mark Ainsworth and spiker Lino Girardo. Ainsworth led the team in serves (tying Brian Rombough with a rating of 58 per cent), kills (12), and serve receiving (with an exceptional rating of 96 per cent). Girardo was the evening's best attacker (with a rating of 82 per cent), and had a kill percentage of 82 per cent, the team's highest.

York's finely-honed fighting machine will play next on Saturday November 3 at Waterloo.

Women spikers team to beat

Gary Cohen and Sharon Clayton

The Yeowomen Volleyball Team, Ontario's number one ranked university squad last year, seems to have picked up from where it left off. The women took the opportunity to display their abundant talents by registering impressive performances at their first two competitions of the year.

On Oct. 10 the team sojourned south for the Michigan State University Invitational Tournament (Oct. 11-13). Despite the fact that the competition marked the first time that the team had played together this season the players distinguished themselves by advancing to the semi-finals, where they finally met defeat in a close match with Kellogg Community College.

Last week (Oct. 21) the Yeowomen once again took their show on the road, this time to the Brock Invitational, where the team successfully defended its title. Even without Marla Taylor, the team's starting setter (she was competing at the OWIAA track and field championships), Yeowomen were able to completely dominate the tournament, with rookie setter Jane Young doing a splendid job replacing Taylor in her first start of the season.

York went undefeated

through the round-robin segment of the tournament, beating Guelph 15-3, 15-7; Queen's 15-1, 15-12; Buffalo 15-3, 15-12, and Brock 15-9, 15-6.

In the semi-finals the team was led by veteran hitters Ellana Mckendry, Fiona MacGregor and Kim Ronson, as York's offense demolished McMaster 15-2, 15-3.

The final, against the Scarborough Titans, saw York fall behind 6-0 in the first game before rallying to win 15-10. The second game was never in doubt as York won 15-4, capturing the match and the tournament title.

Coach Merv Mosher, former assistant coach of the Canadian national women's volleyball team, is approaching the season with a sanguine outlook. "We have a good team," said Mosher, "comprised of a keen bunch of kids who are working hard. We'll be facing tough competition in our division this year, but I feel we are still capable of finishing at the top in Ontario."

In analyzing the competition Coach Mosher cited two formidable opponents. "Ottawa should be very strong this year. They have recruited five players of senior and junior national calibre. And Western should continue the consistently strong

play they have shown over the past few years."

Compared to their two principal rivals, the Yeowomen exhibit one glaring weakness, their lack of size. But Coach Mosher contends that his team,

built around a solid core of six veterans, will be able to compensate through the stress that he has placed on defense.

The team's first home game will be against Ottawa on Nov. 16 at 7 pm

Soccer hopes get the boot

Gary Cohen

Coach Eric Willis and his Soccer Yeomen are looking forward to next season. Unfortunately, after Sunday's 2-0 defeat at the hands of Western dashed York's playoff hopes, that's all that the team has to look forward to.

Yeomen entered the weekend facing two must-win situations in their home matches against McMaster and Western. On Saturday the team rose to the occasion, scoring a decisive, in-the-clutch 3-1 victory over McMaster. York scorers were Paul Berkhuisen, Ernie Cicchi and Enzo Casullo.

But lightning was not to strike twice. Sunday's crucial loss to Western was marred by controversy and inopportunism. Yeomen played valiantly, but a missed penalty kick and a disallowed goal, which left Coach

Willis fuming, combined to seal their fate.

The loss left Yeomen in fifth place, only one point behind Queen's, who captured the final playoff spot. Ironically, the Yeomen had defeated Queen's during the course of the season, making one reflect upon which

team rightfully deserves the playoff spot.

Nonetheless, the team's performance this year marked an improvement over last year's sixth place finish. And, with a large group of returning veterans, circumstances auger well for the team's future.



Soccer Yeomen fall short of playoff in Western game