

R4 616

MONDAY, OCTOBER 29, 1990

VOLUME 25, ISSUE 22

# excalibur

A fire-side chat with two York presidents on pages 6-7



## OFS and CFS win 75% of vote

by Jeannine Amber

**E**arly Friday morning, a group of tired and anxious students gathered in the senate chambers to hear the results of last week's OFS/CFS membership referendum.

Wild applause followed the announcement of a 76 per cent vote in favour of OFS membership and a 74 per cent vote in favour of CFS membership.

"I am extremely excited," said YFS president Jean Ghomeshi, who gave a short speech after the victory was announced.

"Support came from a massive group of students who fundamentally believe in strength in numbers," said Ghomeshi, responding to the allegations

that the YES-Coalition did not accurately represent the student body. "They have unequivocally voted for change."

The coalition, of which Ghomeshi is a member, rigorously campaigned for the YES vote.

Two thousand nine hundred and fifteen students cast votes despite a "don't vote" campaign launched during the referendum.

"I couldn't take a stand on anything until I went to my college, explained Shelly Becke, president of Calumet college. "And they decided they wanted to [support the YES-Coalition]."

Becke said that the support for the YES-Coalition did not reside exclusively with the "student elite."

Other YES coalition members, who gathered to celebrate the victory, included members of the Women's Centre Collective, York International Socialists, Political Science Students

	OFS	CFS
Yes	2218	2148
No	574	623
Spoiled	123	144
Total	2915	2915

Unofficial results of OFS/CFS referendum Oct. 23-25

Association, as well as representatives from a majority of the colleges and Osgoode law

school.

Kate Collins, Vanier college representative, explained that as a member of the OFS, York students will have the support of a provincial lobbying group to effect change.

Collins cited rent control, a pertinent issue for students in residence, as something she would like to see dealt with by the OFS.

"York can't do it alone. Something of that magnitude can only be handled by a provincial wide effort," Collins said.

Members of the coalition said the input of the student body will be crucial in determining the position York representatives will take at the OFS/CFS meetings.

continued on page 3

YORK UNIVERSITY'S COMMUNITY NEWSPAPER

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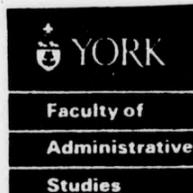
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October 30, 1990  
Room 171 South Ross  
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#### Sweden: Umeå University

Denmark: University of  
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October 31, 1990  
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# YES-Coalition comes under attack

By Jeannine Amber

Last week's OFS/CFS membership referendum began amid an outburst of controversy.

On Tuesday, the first day of the referendum posters appeared on campus urging students to "Vote No." Flyers telling students not to vote were also distributed around campus.

Hand written posters warned students that if they voted yes "York's money would go to promote: abortion, homosexuality, socialist principles and tribalistic ideals." The posters were hung anonymously.

"A broad-based coalition that runs an effective campaign runs the risk of a backlash," said Jean Ghomeshi, YFS president and member of the YES-Coalition. "But slanderous information on the day of the

vote is uncalled for, unfair and sleazy."

Up until the day of the referendum, there appeared to be only one side campaigning. The YES-Coalition spearheaded by student representatives Ghomeshi, Kate Collins and Rob Centa had launched a massive appeal for votes.

Peter Merrick, former VP external for the CYSF, said the sudden opposition to the YES-Coalition was inevitable because of the one-sided nature of the campaign.

"Students were not presented with the facts," Merrick said.

Ghomeshi, who lobbied extensively for the YES side, said that "our intention has never been to not put information out there."

Ghomeshi stressed that 12,000 pamphlets, 23,000 leaflets and 21,000 Up York handbooks, all explaining the role of

the OFS and CFS had been distributed to students on campus and mailed to their homes.

"If people have not received information, I feel terrible. I wish we could do it all again and do it better," said Ghomeshi.

Anger was also generated over the council's endorsement of the YES-Coalition.

"The YFS should have represented a more neutral side," said John Fisher, a second year arts student. "They are supposed to be representing students, but if they don't know what the students feel then how can they be representing us?"

"We are the people who have the most exposure to the OFS and the CFS. Why should we be neutral?" responded Ghomeshi, "If we take the position of neutrality then we could take no position on any issue. We represent the students and it is our responsibility to say we support the OFS/CFS."

## Jubilant YES partisans



The YES-Coalition celebrates announcement of OFS/CFS referendum results.

continued from page 1

According to Rhys Bowman, president of Winters college, York students will be able to see the results of their participation in the OFS and CFS, in the November 21 national day of action against racism on campus.

Many students complained

during the referendum that they did not feel adequately informed about the issues.

"We were, in a lot of ways, fighting against apathy," said Martha Kanya-Forstner, a member of the York International Socialists. "So a logical extension of that is that we will continue to try and inform the

students."

"This wasn't just about the referendum, it was about building a student movement at York," Ghomeshi said. "I think that we cannot stop here, a vote for OFS and CFS means nothing. The only way that it means something is if we carry on the avenue that we took."

## Hedgerow marked for termination

by Suzanne Crnic

A hedgerow at the south end of the York campus will be destroyed to make room for a new co-op building.

"The trees are dying anyway," said the president of the co-op board, Mike Copeland. "The level of the land has to be raised five to six feet, this will hasten the death of the trees and the roots will be damaged during the construction."

The hedgerow, which consists of trees ranging in age from 20 to 80 years, is also the site of York's oldest oak tree.

One hundred and twenty apartment units, including a day-care centre and 38 townhomes are to be built on the approved site.

The Harry Sherman Co-operative Board decided in September that the hedgerow would be removed to provide space for the co-op.

"There are enough open areas to build where development can happen while still protecting natural features such as hedgerows, wetlands and wildlife," said Jean-Marc Daigle of the Green Campus Project (GCP).

Donna Havinga, another GCP member, does not see the hedgerow as a development versus environment issue. The GCP's goal is to cooperate with the developers.

"I am in favor of the co-op but want to see them (the co-op board) incorporate the trees into their plan," Havinga said.

The two objectives of the GCP are to create an educational arboretum and to present proposals to the York administration.

Their requests to attend a meeting concerning the hedgerow was not granted.

A couple of proposals were suggested in order to save the hedgerow.

One proposed by Mary Lynn Reimer, the campus master planner, was to invert the co-op building and the south side townhouses, thus leaving the hedgerow intact.

On Sept. 13, the York administration, president Harry Arthurs and the Harry-Sherman Co-operative Board met to discuss Reimer's optimal proposal, but it was declined because it was too late for changes.

The Co-op Board estimates that approximately \$200,000 would be needed for redesigns and that they might lose funding if they were to accept Reimer's proposal.

"As far as the administration was concerned it supported the Co-op development and wanted to promote the project but also wanted to save the hedgerow," Reimer said. "We were alarmed to learn at the end of August that none of the hedgerow was to be saved."

The university administration believes nothing more can be done to save the hedgerow.

The GCP acknowledged that construction does damage to the landscape, however, they believe that the trees are healthy enough to re-generate themselves.

According to Copeland, the area was once wetland but due to rapid construction over the last decade water tanks underground have been disturbed and drainage patterns have changed.

The GCP hopes for "sensitive development" on campus in the future. "I have not seen evidence that there has been any improvement yet in the sensitivity to the landscape," Havinga said.

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## EDITORIAL

Now that the referendum is over and York "belongs" to OFS and CFS, you're either thrilled at the final result or you're bitter about the whole process.

This referendum has raised some ethical problems about our voting practices. Although the 75 per cent margin of victory for the YES side is indisputable, many students would argue for changes in future referenda to avoid repeating the chaos of October 1990.

First and not as important, York students should have photo ID cards. Otherwise, there is nothing to stop us from voting as many times as we like by borrowing friends' ID cards and walking to different polling stations on the sly.

Second but more important, those nasty campaigners (on both sides) should be removed (through friendly persuasion or York security if necessary) if they harass voters on voting day. (Let's have some peace and quiet for a change.)

During the three-day referendum, there were dozens of reported infractions where pamphleteers invaded the 20-metre "safety radius" of each polling station to promote their views. Hell, there was politicking right at the stations from the poll clerks themselves as they provided "helpful advice" to undecided voters.

Just because the Board of Referenda's constitution does not necessarily prohibit campaigning during ballot days, this does not make it an ethical practice. Perhaps, it's time these guidelines were changed.

Assailing voters on their way to balloting stations only serves to aggravate them. It's common decency to allow people a 24-hour grace period before they have to cast their ballots, the kind of courtesy and fairness that was lacking during this referendum.

The Don't Vote side (a.k.a. Students for True Representation) claim they had to campaign on voting days to balance out the barrage of propaganda from the YES-Coalition. Fair enough, I like a good argument too, but a sabotage of the democratic apparatus is something else.

Even a disorganized NO side had three weeks in which to speak out against OFS/CFS membership. It wasn't that difficult to make some clever photocopies and parody the "official" YES literature. Or were these people waiting for some imaginary anti-OFS and anti-CFS groups to provide them with funding.

The strategy on the Don't Vote side was to nullify the referendum on lack of quorum by turning potential voters away.

So, if the YES-Coalition was guilty of unethical practice, so too was the NO-Don't-Vote-Choose-Apathy League.

Even with all this controversy, when the results came in Friday morning, York had experienced its highest voter turnout ever (with the exception of last year's CYSF elections): almost three thousand ballots cast.

Normally, this might not seem exceptional, but considering the amount of disinterest generated by the Apathy League, it's downright surprising.

For those of you who voted — cheers. Next time you try it, hopefully you won't be tripped up, seized, and brow-beaten by overzealous pamphleteers on the way to the station.

"Let go, I got him. No, you let go, I got him first . . . No. Yes . . . No! YES!"

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Excalibur is York University's community newspaper. We publish twice-weekly, and distribute across York and Glendon campuses and various locations within the North York community.

Excalibur is an autonomous corporation with a mandate to inform, educate and provoke thought among York University's diverse population.

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

Final editorial responsibility is retained by the Editor-in-chief.

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### Correction:

In our October 24 issue, Excalibur printed a letter that was not for public consumption. It had originally been addressed to a university committee. Excalibur apologizes for any confusion that may have resulted.



## LETTERS

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

### Referendum undemocratic

To the editor,

The recent student referendum to decide membership for York in the OFS (Ontario Federation of Students) and CFS (Canadian Federation of Students) was inherently undemocratic.

The YFS (York Federation of Students) had the money and resources to give themselves an unfair advantage over any "NO" forces that might have wanted to organize.

In a democracy full debate on both sides of an issue must take place. How else can an informed decision be made. Therefore in the future, YFS should grant equal funds (with presentation of receipts) to a group wishing to advertise the "NO" side. Anything less is undemocratic and unacceptable.

Sincerely,  
Michael Sullivan

### Political harassment not welcome

This letter is directed to Mr. Ghomeshi,

There is political lobbying and there is political harassment. Unless you were unaware that this difference does in fact exist, please allow me to show you the fine line between the two.

Political lobbying is an act of

persuasion that is directly related to political issues. This is done in strictly confined areas so as not to impose upon people who are disinterested or not participating. This means students who are going to point B cannot be followed around campus if they choose not to vote or to disclose their political status at the university.

Just because point B happens to be close to a polling station does not give any political lobbyist the right to follow someone to inquire about such information.

Political harassment means to continuously trouble and/or annoy. This can result in repeated attacks or questions that I feel are an invasion of one's privacy. If someone gives a reason for non-participation even if it isn't acceptable on your terms, it is nevertheless a reason.

I hope that this is understood by you and your associates. The pursuit of political awareness is admirable and this was achieved quite readily with the posters and through the school newspaper, but political harassment only impedes the issue. It doesn't help it

Nicola Inwood

### No time to waste, just wasted time

To the editor,

No Time to Waste is a real waste of time. Perhaps people should find out more about nuclear generating plants before they target them. Greenpeace and the

Toronto Disarmament Network are opposed to the existence of nuclear reactors and their expansion. At the same time, however, they want to reduce the amount of carbon dioxide being emitted. This is simply impossible.

In Toronto, we barely gave enough electrical power to supply our needs. In fact, we get occasional blackouts here at York.

We get our power from one of three ways: coal, nuclear or hydroelectric. If we were to build another station it would have to be nuclear or coal. All other present methods such as wind and solar are impractical given our climatic conditions.

Coal-fired generators are more expensive than nuclear and are extremely harmful to the environment, contributing to global warming. The only other source is our CANDU reactor. The reaction takes place around heavy water instead of the graphite used at Three Mile Island and Chernobyl. The result is the safest and most efficient system in the world.

A nuclear generating station is not a bomb which needs to be disarmed but a safe, controlled reaction.

I suggest that these groups take another look at electrical generation. You can not have both the absence of nuclear stations and carbon dioxide created by coal-fired generators and still turn your house lights on at night.

Perhaps the real topic should be conservation of electricity which the government and Ontario Hydro are already advocating.

Sincerely,  
Mark Rose

OPINIONS

## 2 million Jews eager to escape life of fear Soviet Jews' freedom threatened

by Alan Grad

**W**ith the rise of nationalism and greater freedom in the Soviet Union, the lives of Soviet Jews are being seriously threatened. The Soviet Union's economy is in a shambles and Jews find themselves in the familiar position of scapegoats for a country's problems.

Already there have been street rallies, marches by uniformed guards, individual acts of violence against Jews and threats of pogroms.

Cries of "This wouldn't happen in Hitler's time" were shouted at the trial of a Pamyat society (a Russian nationalist society) member who was later convicted of inciting inter-ethnic hatred in the Soviet Union.

Now that the Iron Curtain has opened (who knows if it may shut again), Israel is doing all it can to bring these desperate Soviets to Israel. In attempting to help 1.5 million Soviets who have requested exit visas to Israel, this human rights issue has unfortunately been turned into a passionately political one.

One of the basic freedoms of democracy is freedom of movement. To deny Soviet Jews the opportunity to move to Israel would be a strong negative signal sent to Jews the world over.

The Holocaust at the hands of the Nazis very much continues to shape the mindset of Jews. Still fresh in their minds is the fact that many democratic countries, and especially Canada, closed their doors to Jews during the war and this contributed to the murder of

six million Jews in Europe.

With acts of anti-semitism and grave desecration increasing all over Western and Eastern Europe, Jews themselves must realize that Israel is invaluable as a homeland for Jews who face danger in other countries.

Israel accepts this responsibility and has already brought in 90,000 Soviets of Jewish heritage. (One is considered to be Jewish if they had one Jewish grandparent — this is parallel to the Nazi blood laws). However, another 2 million Jews remain in the Soviet Union eager to escape their life of fear, intimidation and economic upheaval.

The costs of transportation and absorption, however, are prohibitive. Once they have been brought to Israel, they must be provided with food, clothing, shelter, job retraining and lessons in Hebrew.

Aside from funds, the greatest barrier to this immigration is its effect on the Palestinian/Israeli issue.

Palestinians claim that this immigration is part of Israel's plan to settle the West Bank with a Jewish majority. Palestinians fear that their hopes for a Palestinian state in the West Bank are harmed by this immigration. Prime Minister Shamir's choice of words did not help matters when he spoke of a "bigger Israel."

Israeli figures, however, indicate that less than half a per cent of the Soviets settle in the Gaza Strip and West Bank (not including annexed eastern Jerusalem, which Israel considers a part of Israel as much as Tel Aviv.)

To further assuage those who may view the immigration as anti-

Palestinian, it is important to point out that most of these Soviets are accustomed to living in urban centres like Moscow and have no desire to live anywhere but in Israel's major cities.

Furthermore, the impression they have of the territories is one of great violence. Having been deprived of much religion while living under Communism, they also do not carry fervent Zionist religious beliefs of settling "Biblical Israel". As a result, few have any desire to settle in the disputed territories.

In fact, many are apprehensive about moving to Israel altogether. More than anything, these Jews just want to leave the Soviet Union before it is too late. Israel, having already demonstrated its dedication to freedom in secretly getting Jews out of Ethiopia, must be held as an example to the world of putting human rights ahead of economics, in this regard.

With Jews still trapped in Ethiopia and also in hostile Syria, and the suffering of many religions the world over, there is no time to wait.

We must pounce on every opportunity to free a group of people in need and political beliefs must take a back seat until this is accomplished.

All who believe in freedom of movement, freedom of religion and the rights of these Soviet Jews to live a life without constant fear, must support the cause of "Operation Exodus."

However, with the threat of a Gulf war hanging over the heads of Israelis, Israel requires financial help to absorb these immigrants without jeopardizing its own existence along the way.

## YFS recognizes diversity

by Sue Pennypacker

When I was in public school, I always thought of university as a place where people joined together to share different ideas and views. This included visions of protests, rallies and activism.

I envisioned university as a place where idealists (like myself) would fight against the status quo and the kill-or-be-killed mentality which seems to define our society.

My first few years at York were a real disappointment. Although there were students who involved themselves in organizations which strive to improve our society, the majority of students just didn't give a damn. This attitude was not at all improved by the student governments. York's entire identity was apathy.

Finally we have a student government which recognizes the diversity of the York population. Take a look at this year's student handbook. It's a refreshing way to begin the year.

The subjects covered in the handbook pay special attention to women, racial minorities, gays and lesbians. It's not a party, party handbook which panders to the media-inspired image of the typical university student (male, blonde, blue eyed athletic bozo — see beer ads). Instead, real issues are raised and discussed.

For once, York students are being treated like adults with legitimate concerns and complaints. Hopefully, this year's student

government is an indication that York students really do want to make a difference.

One of the goals of the YFS is to fight racism, sexism and homophobia on campus. As the purpose of a student government is to represent and protect the interests of students and student groups, this goal is not very radical. Considering the records of past student governments however, the objectives of this year's YFS are both needed and welcome.

So far this year, the YFS has committed five thousand dollars to the Women's Centre. Jean Ghomeshi, the YFS president says that this large amount of money has been allocated to address the lack of funding which the Women's Centre has faced over the past three years. He also noted that the "door is not closed" on the women's groups that need addi-

tional funding. It seems that York is taking a step in the right direction.

Attending York must be an experience of total education. Our degrees are not the only things with which we should graduate. The exchange of ideas and attitudes must also become a part of our educational career. What better place for a human rights movement that an institution of higher learning?

We have the skills and opportunities to change our communities. For this reason, we must educate ourselves about the social ills of sexism, racism and homophobia. Progress cannot be made unless we challenge the existing order and think of the alternatives.

A student government which encourages confrontation and gives us the tools for change can only lead to improvement.



### QUOTE OF THE WEEK

It's a quarter moon; lie low.

Ray Cook

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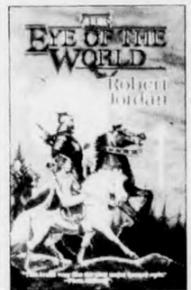
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# President's Choice: the interview

## Jean Ghomeshi, president of York Federation of Students

by Peter Stathis

### In brief, what is your background?

I'm a fifth year political science history double major, and a woman studies minor. I've always been interested in politics on campus and off campus. Activism is something I've been drawn to whether it's in the performance field or on campus — you know entertainment, the York New Democrats, the Pro-Choice Network.

### What are your outside interests and activities?

I'm a political junkie and a musician, particularly musical theatre. My life is, and has been for awhile, a paradox between academia and musical theatre. I originally came to York for theatre. I ended up in political science and history. I've always wanted to be a political science prof and study the political economy of the media and/or Middle Eastern politics. At the same time, I'm still very active in musical theatre. Because I'm so interested in these two significantly separate areas, I've always felt like a jack-of-various trades, master of nothing. It's difficult because I feel if I just chose something and went with it, I could be really good at it. I fear that I'm just waffling around with the aforementioned paradox.

### What is the idea of a university in your opinion?

A place for discourse, a place of information, a place for community, but most of all the beacon of change. I would say that where every change has happened around the world, the university has always been the focus. That's why, when there's a revolution, the first thing they do is close the universities because that's where change manifests.

### How does York fulfil or neglect this mandate?

Well, generally, quite poorly. But I don't think that that's specific or unique to York itself. In fact, York is a little more on the edge of change.

What conservatism means is an idea of a university as a place for people to enter, told what they need to be told, and then leave with a piece of paper that will help in the "real world." This is compounded by the notion of a university being a business which manufactures consent among students. This ethos is not too far off the way that York functions right now, but I want to make it clear this is not a York-centred problem. At the risk of some ludicrous patriotism, we are better than other campuses in the sense that there are many interesting and new ideas coming out of York.

### Do you feel responsible for York in all regards? Where does your connection end?

I happen to like York, and some of the people here and even some of the buildings. I have a stake in defending and addressing concerns that are brought up at York. I believe people have a responsibility to be active and to change things or to address issues that they have problems with.

My community is York university right now so I talk about administration making undemocratic decisions, or the styrofoam in the cafeteria or racism on campus, but that doesn't end at York. Wherever I am, I'd like to work at that community and addressing the same sort of concerns.

### Should there be censorship at a place where people come for the free exchange of ideas?

No. I don't believe there should be censorship. There should be jurisdiction, I think there should be broad guidelines around libelous statements and around hate literature and things that offend the public good. I wouldn't censor somebody for something in the halls, but if that person is inciting people to kill each other, then that's a different question, right? In terms of censorship in general, however, absolutely not. What there should be though is a strong enough community to address what people may find offensive or difficult.

### What do you see as the mandate of a university newspaper?

To be challenging, to provide a critical analysis of decisions made at the university that affect students, to allow a forum for dissenting opinion and to keep a check on those who wield the power at the university. It should also expose the

unfair or what the newspaper may perceive as anti-democratic decisions that are made by those in power.

### Do you believe there's a credibility gap between students and administration here at York? If so, what are the solutions?

There are a lot of people who disagree with me, but I think students would generally be foolish to trust the administration. The administration is not what they purport to be.



Andre Souroujon photo

**There are many out there that think we're completely out of line, that this is some sort of leftist revolution and that student government has no place making the kind of decisions we're making. I think that's untrue.**

There are many other interests that they serve, be they business interests, corporate interest, and/or the interest of those who wield the power to make decisions. We are the best people to make decisions about ourselves. We are the best people also to judge what we may consider to be unfair.

The solution is that students need to mobilize opinion, we need to start informing each other as students and with the campus press.

The faculty has a union, so does the staff. I think that as students need a strong collective voice also.

I don't think we need to go into every meeting as enemies, but I think we need to fundamentally realize our interests are not always the same.

### How can York continue to be accessible to students in light of the provincial government's financial negligence?

I think that this is an area that once again York is not alone in. Government underfunding is affecting universities all across the country and accessibility to education is being jeopardized by increases in tuition, lack of appropriate government assistance programmes, and systemic and institutional discrimination.

One place where Harry Arthurs and I completely agree is that we think that the provincial and federal governments, through transfer payments, should be putting more money into post-secondary education.

What we disagree with is not only our tactics on how we're going to regain that funding, but on how it should manifest itself in terms of accessibility to education. We're not just talking about funding from the government to York, we're also talking about how York uses the funds that it gets.

Harry Arthurs and I met several weeks ago at which point I suggested that he take out a full page advertisement that both of us can sign, students and administration working together calling for a freeze on tuition fees. He said he didn't believe in a freeze in tuition fees and I argued that there is a correlation between tuition and accessibility to education. He disagreed. There are two students, our former equality commissioner and the person who is going to be our bilingualism coordinator this year, who both had to leave York because of the cost of education. That's directly correlated to the cost of tuition.

President Arthurs says tuition has nothing to do with accessibility and we're going to spend thousands of dollars building an entry pavilion so that York students know how to get into the Ross building. We're talking about aesthetics and image and that's money not well spent.

### What will be your focus in the upcoming year?

Making changes within the YFS and also with the role of student government in this university. Providing more information and asking more questions. Building broad-based coalitions (Clubs Coalition, Envision York), opening funding and recognition to all groups on campus for the first time, including political clubs this year. Generally distributing the budget so that it works in the interests of all students. Taking money out of things such as the president's discretionary fund and putting it into places like the Women's Centre. And trying to get people talking about real issues like racism and sexism on campus, and the environment which student government in the past at York have not addressed.

There are many out there that think we're completely out of line, that this is some sort of leftist revolution and that student government has no place making the kind of decisions we're making. I think that's untrue. We're doing what we should be doing instead of planning parties and spending money in areas that don't benefit real student issues.

### Finally, where is York and Canadian post-secondary education headed in the next decade?

I have noticed a shift in people's thinking (people in the outside community) about York. Back when I was in high school, York was a joke in many cases, but I get a sense that this has really changed. York is finally beginning to get the credit it deserves as an academic institution.

I worry that too much of the administration's time and resources are concentrated on our image and putting York on the map. I would sooner concentrate on the basis of what York was founded on an open and accessible education and a place that encourages freedom of expression.

The decade of the 80s was the decade of academia based not around general education, but around preparing people for business careers. I came here that's what it's all about.

But I see things are changing. Ideas in society in general, people are moving away slightly from the ethos of the 80s — the emphasis on self and monetary solutions to happiness.

Five years ago when I entered York, it was the peak of cynicism about liberal education, but I see that changing. As a lifelong cynic, I'm optimistic.

by Peter Stathis

### In brief, what is your background?

I'm a law professor. I started teaching at Osgoode in 1961 before Osgoode was part of York. I was one of the principle people that brought Osgoode onto the York campus. I was dean of the law school from 1972-77 and my whole career has been that of an academic.

### What are your outside interests and activities?

You mean there is something outside the university? Whatever they are, this is a job that takes 110 per cent of whatever you are prepared to give.

I spend all of my working time on the university and what's left over is invested in my family life.

I love to go to movies.

I try to keep up my general reading — novels, history — that sort of thing. All those outside activities have shrunk to the time I can give them.

### What is the idea of a university in your opinion?

From the perspective of the student, the university is a place where education is available. Even that immediately breaks down because some people have a very focused view of their education. It's their ticket to economic advancement or social advancement. Others have a more open-ended, liberal view of their education and it has something to do with whatever exposures they've had prior to coming here, different images of the university defining their expectations.

Secondly, from the perspective of faculty people, they see themselves, of course as purveyors of knowledge and the intellectual skills that enable people to use knowledge. They also see themselves as generators of knowledge. It is a place where knowledge is stored and is also produced. That creative element is very important.

Most people say the university is supported by public funds and should be responsive to public needs. There's some truth in that, but I think it's also a problematic position.

In a certain sense, the university serves the public best by doing what universities do in the long run, which is to focus on the education of the students.

Attempting to respond to short term expedient requirements as the guiding principle for a university would be a mistake.

My job as the president is to try to harmonize what is legitimate in all these positions. Obviously the students are being radically short changed if they don't get a good education.

Likewise, if the faculty members couldn't pursue their creative ambitions we just couldn't attract good faculty.

### How does York fulfill or neglect this mandate?

I think different parts at different moments of time are reasonably fulfilled.

We take our teaching responsibilities fairly seriously. I wouldn't argue for a moment that every instructor at every hour is superb, that would be unreasonable. I think people do care about their teaching by and large. We try to invest considerable resources in improving the quality of teaching.

On the research side, I would say our record is up and down. For a period of time we were struggling to establish ourselves. However, in the last few years, the atmosphere of York as a research institute has improved considerably.

When people identify universities which are the engines of the economic and technological process, York isn't too often on the list.

I think any serious university tries to have adequate representation of all branches of human knowledge so that serious intellectual exchange will occur.

York's very small scientific community needs to be bolstered, and is in the process of being bolstered. I think over a period of time, we will have a profile, a distribution of disciplines which more nearly resembles that of most universities.

### Do you feel responsible for York in all regards? Where does your connection end?

If the question is, am I responsible until I go to the grave, the answer is no. My position runs until 1994.

While I'm in office, I will certainly give it all I've got. I've deliberately avoided becoming involved in other activities, professionally or scholarly. I just try to retain a little respect

## Harry Arthurs, president of York University

as a scholar, it's very hard to do and I just don't get involved in outside activities. The time I have I give to the university.

### Should there be censorship at a place where people come for the free exchange of ideas?

No. I've never believed in censorship.

I've been a very active civil-libertarian in my time, presently with the Civil Liberties Association of Canada, and I find it very difficult placing myself in the position of being a censor. I hope there are other ways we can fight racism and

interest to take a position that is predictably anti-administration.

Issues should be approached on their merits, when we do things that are wrong we should be criticized, when we do things that are right, we should get congratulated and supported.

### Do you believe there is a credibility gap between students and administration here at York? If so, what are the solutions?

I think that at any university, students are naturally skeptical about the administration.

First of all, if they weren't, they wouldn't learn the first lesson of being students which is to always ask questions, to be skeptical and never take on faith what is given to you.

Secondly, I think most students would not have comprehensive knowledge of most issues. They only have a knowledge that comes to them via the media.

Students only know what they read in the papers, like anybody else, and what they read in the papers is partial. You can't expect to be comprehensive.

Students don't have a long historical memory, that is to say people who were present at certain events, even a year or two ago, may well have graduated. The people now expressing the students' perspective wouldn't know the background except in unusual circumstances.

I do believe very strongly that major academic policy issues should be publically ventilated, with full information and support. Other issues and forums should be equally ventilated. I try to operate in that fashion.

### How can York continue to be accessible to students in light of provincial government's financial negligence?

For the past 15 years, universities have dropped lower and lower as a percentage of provincial spending. Compared to all the other provinces in Canada, Ontario does worse even though it's the richest. The decision was made to cut back on universities as a priority. The result of this is that accessibility has been maintained right up to today, but quality has gone down.

Essentially you're spending less money on more people, less per capita. This causes a deterioration of everything from faculty-student ratios, to books in the library, to quality of the equipment we work on in the lab; the list goes on and on.

York, more than any university in the province, has borne the brunt of accessibility. Between 1975 and 1985, we have taken a third to a half of the expansion of the system. In 1985 when I became president, we only received 80 cents for every dollar that other Ontario universities got, for example, a second year history student. The government has maintained its verbal commitment to accessibility but it is trying to discourage it.

As a result of a rational argument and a good deal of foot stamping, we managed to move 80 up to 90 cents. Various other things have brought it up to 93-94 cents. We are now engaged with other universities to bring it up to a dollar. The justice of the case is inarguable.

### What will be your focus for the upcoming year?

I've got three or four things that are quite important. First of all we've got a very big construction programme. I would like to complete the buildings we've got and implement our master plan.

In the area of academic planning, we've just gone through a very important cycle in taking those plans out and implementing them.

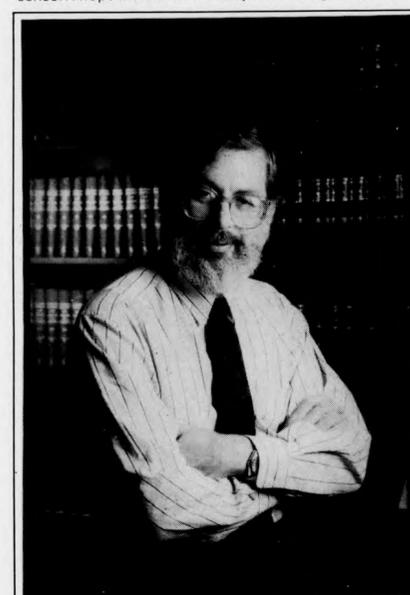
Associated with that, I've been working on a first draft of a discussion paper which will be coming out this fall and will be widely exposed for comment.

### Finally, where is York and Canadian post-secondary education heading in the next decade?

I have to see York in terms of the big picture.

I would say a year ago, we were approaching a turnaround point for higher education: we had sunk as low as we could go and sooner or later someone would get the message and our fortunes would rise. I'm less confident of that now.

Sooner or later it will happen, but I don't know when. These are very cyclical issues. We ride largely with the system. If the system as a whole flourishes, we will be a part of that flourishing. If the system withers, we will wither with it.



Andre Souroujon photo

**I think that at any university, students are naturally skeptical about the administration... if they weren't they wouldn't learn the first lesson of being students which is to always ask questions, to be skeptical and never take on faith what is given to you**

sexism without being at odds with the basic notion of free discourse which characterizes a university.

**What do you see as the mandate of a university newspaper?** I think the proprietor should define the mandate. From my perspective it's not a question of a mandate, it is a question of good professional journalism.

I hope that all journalists, in universities or elsewhere, will feel a professional obligation. That would be checking your facts, offering some opportunity for exposure of a variety of points of view.

Beyond that, I think we have to put ourselves in the hands of people who are prepared to exercise responsibility.

I certainly don't think it's your obligation to whip up enthusiasm for the administration, that's certainly not why you're in business. Equally, however, I don't think it's in your

## ARTS

## BLACK CHILLS AND THRILLS

by Sally Teodoro

**THE WOMAN IN BLACK**  
adapted by Stephen Mallatratt  
directed by Peter Moss

*The Woman In Black*, based on the novel by Susan Hill, opened October 10, at Young People's Theatre on Front St. East. While the audience waited to see if the play would live up to its reviews, my biggest worry was whether I was in the right theatre. Thankfully, I was.

*The Woman In Black*, a chilling Victorian melodrama, opens in a small theatre where

an aging solicitor, Mr. Kripps, hires the services of a young actor to coach him in retelling—thus re-living—a ghostly event which he experienced many years before.

Mr Kripps, with no theatrical flare, mechanically starts to read directly from his script.

The unidentified actor, mostly out of pity, takes on the role of the younger Mr. Kripps. While the other characters are played by the older Mr. Kripps.

The younger actor is then sent north, by his London based firm, to a remote town called Crythin Gifford, to settle the estate of the late Mrs. Alice Drablow, an 87 year-old

widow.

The story itself is fairly simple, but the overall performance and direction of the play (by Peter Moss) is extremely well done. He uses the entire theatre and recorded sounds, such as flowing water and blood-curdling screams to create chilling effects.

John Ormerod, making his first appearance with YPT, brings enthusiasm and excitement to the characters of "the actor" and as the younger Mr. Kripps. The shift from these two characters is extremely well executed.

Roger Rowland, who recently moved from England and makes his Canadian

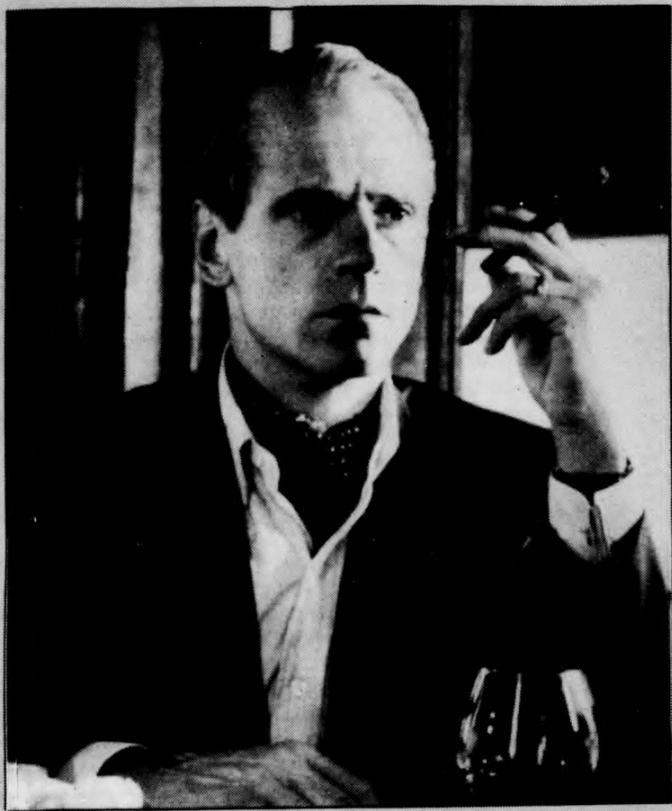
debut in *The Woman in Black*, is excellent in his portrayal as the old Mr. Kripps, as well as the other characters he portrays. Rowland effortlessly moves from one character to another and gives each one its own personal identity.

This year marks the 25th anniversary of Young People's Theatre with *The Woman In Black* as the opening play.

The brilliance of Moss, blended with the brilliance of Ormerod and Rowland gives the audience a deliciously frightening and memorable experience that should not be missed.

The play runs until November 11, 1990.

## Dead Skin, Toxins and Ice Water



Did he, or didn't he? von Bulow contemplates life behind bars

by Jim Russell

**Reversal of Fortune**  
by Jim Russell  
directed by Barbet Schroeder  
produced by Warner Bros.

When I go out to eat, I don't want to be served Kraft Dinner. When I go to movies, I don't want to be shown television.

*Reversal of Fortune* is pure television, and bad television at that.

A cross between *Welcome Back Kotter* and *Lifestyles of the Rich and Disgusting*, this story is more suited for the movie of the week than the big screen.

A blend of a lot of fiction and a pinch of fact, *Reversal of Fortune* examines the story of Claus von Bulow (Jeremy Irons), a European aristocrat with ice water running through his veins, and Sunny von Bulow (Glenn Close), his self-centred, pill popping wife.

The story opens with Sunny's spirit taking us on a tour of the hospital that has custody of her brain-dead body.

That was ok, but when she begins the Vincent Price narration, I began to snicker.

Sunny explained, with words dipped in suspense, the circumstances that led up to her present condition.

The von Bulow case, which occurred in the late seventies, monopolized the pages of every tabloid in North America, and set many tongues a waggin'. Mrs. von Bulow, who accidentally, or otherwise, ingested enough toxins to kill off the population of most of the free world, never recovered from her second, final "suicide attempt."

Husband Claus, was tried and convicted of her murder and sentenced to a lengthy prison stay.

*Reversal of Fortune* picks up the story after his conviction and follows the effort of Harvard law professor and attorney Alan Dershowitz as he pulls out all the stops to overturn that conviction on the grounds that much of the initial evidence was fabricated by Mrs. von Bulow's children, who had no great love for their step-daddy.

Irons is stunning as the man America loved to hate, portraying the arrogant, amoral, sinister von Bulow with chilling

effectiveness.

*Reversal of Fortune* is supposed to be multiple choice whodunit.

It presents the "facts," and we, the viewers, are left to pick an answer.

I refused to play. Either Sunny killed herself deliberately or accidentally, through self-abuse or by her husband. Either way, the two of them are such unlikeable characters that nobody cares who did what to whom!

The technical level of this soap opera is dismal.

Either the cinematographer was in a real hurry to complete the photography or he got his camera operator's licence from a correspondence school.

The skin tones rarely came close to resembling live tissue, several scenes, including the opening "credit over" scene, were badly underexposed and his choice of camera angles was enough to cause a cessation of brain activity amongst the audience.

Unless you're a regular soap opera fan or a devoted reader of supermarket tabloids, give this dog a pass.

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## Yard under too many shadows

By Bruce Adamson

**Skin Yard**  
*Fist-Sized Chunks*  
Cruz Records

Ever since Soundgarden attracted big label interest, Seattle has become a hotspot for underground grunge-o-matic garage rock. The latest band to rise from Washington state's sonic quagmire is Skin Yard, whose third LP, *Fist-Sized Chunks* is loud, nasty and occasionally seizure-inducing.

Guitarist/producer Jack Endino, who turned the dials on early Soundgarden sessions, is the guiding presence behind the Skin's dark music.

His playing is intense and oddly atmospheric given his affection for his trusty old distortion pedal. It also sounds a heck of a lot like the guitar approach of his former employers. Whether this is a part of the "Seattle Sound", or merely bandwagon jumping is open to question (although the inclusion of a telephone message from an A&R rep regarding Soundgarden would point to the latter).

The nasty twangin' gets solid support from bassist D. House



Chunking Down

and new drummer Norman Scott. The grooves are generally slow, hypnotic doom-and-gloom dirges which lean more towards early Sabbath than Metallica.

Ben MacMillian's vocalizing is pretty angst ridden, to say the least. His otherworldly yowl is a neat meld of John Lydon, Ozzy Osbourne and Lemmy, sans the

cognac-and-cigarette party damage. It's a great combination for a while, but MacMillian's five note range gets old fast. In addition, his lyrics are virtually unintelligible, due to the chaotic mix.

*Fist-Sized Chunks* is an interesting bash but falls a little too neatly under Soundgarden's shadow. For genre fanatics only.



## SPORTS



Following their second straight loss to UofT, the Yeomen were dropped to fifth place nationally, down from third spot last week.

Robert Cabral photo

## Soccer Yeomen hit Blue wall

by Kerim Gomleksiz

The unlucky Soccer Yeomen got robbed by the UofT Blues last Wednesday.

Bad luck combined with terrible finishing and a not so kind referee gave York a 1-0 loss to the Blues.

With the win, the Blues clinched first place in the OUAA

East and get home field advantage in the playoffs.

York dominated UofT and proved that they're the more talented side. This was one game they should have won.

The Yeomen simply couldn't capitalize on countless scoring opportunities throughout the match.

As York coach Eric Willis put it, "we played well but couldn't put

the ball in the net. . . If we scored one, we would have had three, it was that kind of game."

In the first half York's Manny Rapone hit the crossbar, and defenceman Kevin Greig hit the post on a beautiful shot from far out.

In the second half, the Yeomen proved it just wasn't their day, missing chance after chance.

York's offensive stars played

the whole game as if the ball were glued to their shoes. Gino Pollastrone, Tony Pigniatello and Hunter Madley all held on too long, even at close range.

One bright spot for the Yeomen was goalie Paolo Peschildio, who had no chance on the game's only goal, scored by ex-York student Drew O'Neil.

Lopsided penalties also played

a part in this one: York drew three yellow cards in the game to UofT's one.

Although at printing time, the results of the Yeomen's battle for second place has not yet been decided, Willis didn't seem concerned about the loss.

"Now we have to put this loss aside and concentrate on our next game and the playoffs," said Willis.

## Hockey men crushed by Laurier

by Josh Rubin

If Hawks lay eggs, then the men's hockey squad from Laurier must have made one out of gold.

Despite losing six of last year's twelve forwards, the Golden Hawks gave the York Yeomen a convincing 8-4 thumping in both teams' regular season start last Thursday.

The Yeomen, coming off a victory at a UofT tournament, were never really in this one. Laurier captain Mike Maurice scored the first of his eventual hat trick on the night just 4 minutes into the first period.

The Hawks added one more just before the end of the period, but the Yeomen were lucky Willie Popp was having a good game. Their third-year netminder stopped all but two of the 16 shots sent his way in the opening frame.

In the second period, the York offence picked up a bit, but the defence was still left on the ground, and Popp gave up a couple of goals on traffic in front of the net.

After Kevin Bonello pulled the Yeomen to within a pair, the Hawks added one more late in the second period to make it 6-3

Laurier.

York coach Graham Wise finally took pity on the beleaguered Willie Popp and pulled him out before the third period, replacing him with Ted Mielczarek. Explained Wise afterwards "It wasn't in any way a reflection of how he played."

With Mielczarek between the pipes, the York defence mysteriously tightened up, and gave the Yeomen a chance to get back in the game.

Despite pulling the gap to two goals with ten minutes left, the Yeomen just couldn't finish off the task.

Laurier left winger Kevin Smith notched an empty-netter and then Mike Maurice rounded out the scoring with his third goal of the night with just 34 seconds left.

After the game, Laurier coach Wayne Gowing, who led his team to the CIAU championship game last year, hinted that more can be expected of the Yeomen as the season wears on.

"It's still really early, and they've got great speed and size," Gowing said.

Next up for the Yeomen is this weekend's jaunt to Quebec, where they meet UQTR Friday evening, and then travel to Montreal to take on the McGill Redmen this Saturday.

Working  
out the  
glitches

by Riccardo Sala

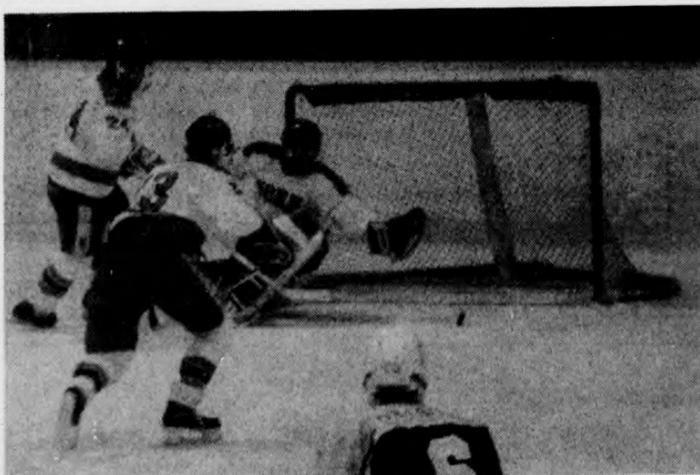
With the regular season only a week away the hockey Yeowomen have been keeping their skates sharpened in exhibition play.

Last Wednesday night the Yeowomen played the A division Mississauga Chiefs at the Ice Palace.

Despite dominating much of the match, the York side came away on the bottom end of a 4-2 score. Scoring for the Yeowomen were Cindy Murray and Karen Moffitt.

"I think that we outplayed them, we had more shots on goal," said York coach Debbie Maybury. "They (the Chiefs) took advantage of some weak defensive plays," she added.

The Yeowomen see pre-season action again this Wednesday. After that, they host a tournament at the Ice Palace this weekend, then on to the regular season November 6th.



A helpless Willie Popp watches the puck head in.

Emmanuel Papachristou photo

**YORK VARSITY ATHLETICS  
SCHEDULE FOR OCT. 29 - NOV. 4**

**Tuesday October 30**

**SOCCER**  
OUAA Division Semi-finals

**Wednesday October 31**

**BASKETBALL**  
Yeomen at Western, 8:00pm  
**ICE HOCKEY**  
Yeowomen Exhibition at Ice Palace,  
7:30pm  
**WATERPOLO**  
Yeomen at UofT at UofT Pool, 7:00pm

**Friday November 2**

**BASKETBALL**  
Yeowomen at UofT Invitational (Nov. 2-4)  
at UofT Sports Gym  
Waterloo at Yeomen at Tait McKenzie,  
8:00pm  
**FIELD HOCKEY**  
CIAU Championships (Nov. 2-4) at Uni-  
versity of Alberta  
**HOCKEY**  
Yeomen at UQTR, 7:30pm  
**ICE HOCKEY**  
York Invitational (Nov. 2-3) at Ice Palace  
**SOCCER**  
OUAA Division Finals  
OWIAA Championships (Nov. 2-4) at  
Carleton  
**SWIMMING**  
OUAA/OWIAA Relays at Brock  
**VOLLEYBALL**  
Yeomen at Ryerson Invitational (Nov. 2-4)

**Saturday November 3**

**HOCKEY**  
Yeomen at McGill, 3:00pm  
**TENNIS**  
OWIAA Individual Championships (Nov.  
3-4) at Western  
**WRESTLING**  
Yeomen at McMaster Open, 11:00am

**Sunday November 4**

**SOCCER**  
OUAA Championship

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