

R4
6/6

**Changes to
Exam Schedule**

**Bomb threat at CYSF office,
p. 3**

**Winter/Summer
1st Term Exams**

**Five kittens found in heat
register in Winters'
cafeteria, p. 11**

**Jim Russel's nightmare:
watching *The Lord of the
Flies*, p. 17**

THURSDAY, MARCH 22, 1990

16,000
copies

VOLUME 24 ISSUE 37

excalibur

CYSF SCANDAL

alleged assault

alleged threats

see p. 3

accusations of racism

attempted impeachment

pending criminal charges

YORK UNIVERSITY

1989/90

FINAL EXAMINATION SCHEDULE

FACULTIES OF ARTS, EDUCATION, FINE ARTS AND SCIENCE

Please note the following changes to the examination schedule dated February 20, 1990 (reprinted March 1, 1990).

COURSE NAME/NUMBER	DAY/DATE	TIME	BUILDING/ROOM
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ADDED TO EXAMINATION SCHEDULE

BIOLOGY

SC/BIOL 4000 .03	Monday, Apr 16	5:00pm	THESIS DUE
SC/BIOL 4000 .06	Monday, Apr 16	5:00pm	THESIS DUE

ECONOMICS

AS/ECON 3620 .06A	Monday, Apr 9	9:00am-12noon	Stedman B
AS/ECON 4080 .03N	Monday, Apr 23	3:30pm-5:30pm	Curtis A

PHYSICS

SC/PHYS 4040 .03	Friday, Apr 6	10:00am-1:00pm	Petrie 312A
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CHANGE TO READ

CHEMISTRY

SC/CHEM 1010 .06 LAB	Monday, Apr 9	10:30am-11:30am	Curtis F,I,L
SC/CHEM 3150 .03	Friday, Apr 6	8:30am-11:30am	Ad. Studies 031

ECONOMICS

AS/ECON 3250 .03M,N	Friday, Apr 27	12noon-2:00pm	Curtis I
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HUMANITIES

AS/HUMA 2300 .06A	Friday, Apr 27	12noon-3:00pm	Stedman B
AS/HUMA 3670 .06A	Tuesday, Apr 24	8:30am-11:30am	Ice Rink

MUSIC

FA/MUSI 1200 .08	Wednesday, Apr 25	12noon-3:00pm	McLaughlin 050
FA/MUSI 2220 .08	Monday, Apr 23	3:30pm-6:30pm	Winters 023
FA/MUSI 3350 .06	Friday, May 4	8:30am-11:30am	Winters 023

DELETED

ENGLISH

AS/EN 4250A.06	Wednesday, Apr 25	8:30am-11:30am	Curtis G
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GEOGRAPHY

AS/GEOG 3180 .03M	Wednesday, Apr 18	12noon-2:00pm	Curtis A
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MATHEMATICS

AS/SC/MATH 3130 .03M	Thursday, Apr 19	3:30pm-6:30pm	Curtis B
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MUSIC

FA/MUSI 1051 .08	Friday, Apr 20	8:30am-11:30am	Curtis B
FA/MUSI 1510 .06	Friday, May 4	12noon-3:00pm	Stedman F
FA/MUSI 2051 .08	Friday, Apr 20	8:30am-11:30am	Curtis B
FA/MUSI 3059 .08	Friday, May 4	8:30am-11:30am	Ross South 102
FA/MUSI 4059 .08	Friday, May 4	8:30am-11:30am	Ross South 102

PHILOSOPHY

AS/PHIL 2200 .03M	Friday, May 4	8:30am-10:30am	Ice Rink
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POLITICAL SCIENCE

AS/POLS 3260 .06A	Thursday, Apr 19	3:30pm-6:30pm	Curtis D
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SOCIAL SCIENCES

AS/SOSC 1140 .060	Thursday, May 3	12noon-3:00pm	Stong 303
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YORK UNIVERSITY

WINTER/SUMMER 1990

FIRST TERM

EXAMINATION SCHEDULE

COURSE NAME/NUMBER	DAY/DATE	TIME	BUILDING/ROOM
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APPLIED COMPUTATIONAL/MATHEMATICAL SCIENCE

SC/ACMS 1030 .06	Wednesday, Apr 18	3:30pm-6:30pm	Ross North 203
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BIOLOGY

SC/BIOL 1010 .06	Thursday, Apr 12	12noon-3:00pm	Curtis D
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CHEMISTRY

SC/CHEM 1010 .06	Thursday, Apr 19	12noon-2:00pm	Curtis I
SC/CHEM 1010 .06 LAB	Friday, Apr 20	1:00pm-2:00pm	Curtis D

COMPUTER SCIENCE

AS/SC/COSC 1020 .03A	Wednesday, Apr 18	12noon-3:00pm	Curtis A
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ECONOMICS

AS/ECON 1000 .03A	Thursday, Apr 19	3:30pm-6:30pm	Curtis I
AS/ECON 1000 .03B,C	Thursday, Apr 12	3:30pm-6:30pm	Curtis F,I

ITALIAN

AS/IT 1060 .06A	Wednesday, Apr 18	3:30pm-6:30pm	Ross South 105
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MATHEMATICS

AS/SC MATH 1300 .03A,B	Thursday, Apr 12	8:30am-11:30am	Curtis F,I
AS/SC MATH 2560 .03A	Friday, Apr 20	12noon-3:00pm	Curtis F

PHYSICS

SC/PHYS 1010 .06	Friday, Apr 20	8:30am-11:00am	Curtis B
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SOCIOLOGY

AS/SOCI 1010 .06A	Friday, Apr 20	8:30am-10:30am	Curtis I
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SOCIAL SCIENCES

AS/SOSC 1000 .06A	Wednesday, Apr 18	12noon-2:00pm	Ross South 203
AS/SOSC 1410 .06A	Thursday, Apr 19	8:30am-11:30am	Ross South 137
AS/SOSC 1411 .06A	Thursday, Apr 19	8:30am-11:30am	Ross North 203

Forum a 'mud slinging brawl'

by *Letitia Tendentious*

The first Excalibur mascot elections Open Forum on the issues yesterday degenerated into an ugly mud-slinging brawl. Nobody was hurt, but the cost of cleaning the East Bear Pit could run as high as \$30.

Personal dry-cleaning costs were too high to estimate.

The all candidates forum started slowly, with the candidates mapping out already familiar positions. The mouse, for instance, made another impassioned plea for rodent representation on York's Board of Governors. Fortunately, when the chipmunk snidely remarked, "Have you been to a BOG meeting lately?" the mouse refused to take the bait.

The fish complained about the lack of streams on campus, suggesting that people leave the taps running in the washrooms as a protest, but most students thought he was all wet. And, of course, everybody came out in favour of hibernation, which seems to be the motherhood issue of the campaign.

The trouble began when a student in the audience shouted "Vive le Glendon Libre!" The student was subdued by being forced to listen to extracts from Pierre Trudeau's latest book, but a loud shouting match ensued. In the confusion that followed, the fish, who has made no secret of the fact he is a member of the York Young Liberals Association (although he isn't very popular there), seized the mike in order to explain his position on Constitutional Reform.

"The Meech Lake Accord is a bad deal," he shouted. "For Canadian wildlife! It shows a definite mammalian bias, with no protection for groundhogs... silverfish... beavers. There's no protection for beavers! By his unwillingness to reopen talks on the Constitution, the Prime Minister is threatening a sacred national..."

At this point, the fish was pelted with mud by a member of the audience. Undaunted, the bear tried to rebut the fish's position, warning that if the Meech Lake Accord wasn't accepted *in toto*, Quebec would rip itself out of Confederation. She was in the middle of graphically illustrating the ripping process when she was hit with mud from all directions.

Mud soon flew throughout Central Square. Due to an unfortunate scheduling conflict, the Open Forum was being held at the same time as Eyes on the Stys: Advanced Hog Breeding Symposium '90, so there was plenty of mud to go around.

The candidates overturned benches and took cover in front of the Post Office, returning the students fire. The perezosa, an intramural softball player in her spare time, was particularly effective. Chief Rodent Officer Ira Nayman ran through the chaos shouting, "Alright, people. Settle. Settle, people. Come on, now, settle!"

All in all, the Open Forum was a great success.

The pelican, home sick with the flu, was unavailable for comment.

OFFICIAL EXCALIBUR MASCOT ELECTIONS

RULES FOR VOTING

- BEAR
- CHIPMUNK
- FISH
- MOUSE
- PELICAN
- PEREZOSA

1. Put a check or "x" in the box next to the name of the candidate of your choice. Ballots with more than one mark will be disqualified unless they are very amusing.

2. Mail your ballot or drop it off at the Excalibur office, 111 Central Square, by 12:01 am, April 1, 1990. Results will be printed in the April 5 edition of Excalibur.

3. All decisions of the Chief Rodent Officer are final.

excalibur

Vote early! Vote often!

CYSF pres to lay charges as attempt to impeach vp fails

by Nancy Phillips

A motion to impeach CYSF vice-president (finance) Franco LoFranco was defeated at last Wednesday's council meeting and CYSF president Peter Donato says he will now press criminal assault charges against him.

of acting in faith with Franco." LoFranco did not speak at the council meeting.

Donato called Merrick to be a witness to the assault. Merrick said that LoFranco alleged that Donato cut his buttock as a result of tripping over boxes, but Merrick and Donato had taken all of the boxes out of Donato's office two days be-

by bringing forth the motion.

Donato said a Metro Police officer will lay assault charges against LoFranco after the officer receives written testimonies from people, including Merrick, who are either witnesses or have been threatened. He hopes to have charges laid by the end of the week.

should have got his deal with LoFranco in writing, and that "it takes two to tango. Franco is the easiest person to pick on that Merrick 'wouldn't make it to the tribunal.'" Merrick told *Excalibur* that he is not comfortable in the CYSF office now and that he does all of his work at home, and that he has witnesses to the threat.

Merrick also told *Excalibur*, "I have been threatened by another presidential candidate and this can be backed up." He would not say who the candidate was or why the threat was made.

Vice-president (programmes) George DiPede said, "This fiasco has been going on for a long time. Peter shouldn't have waited so long" to bring this to

council.

Vanier representative to council, Morley Conn, said he could not support Donato's motion because that, in effect, would be "voting that the president's version of the story was right, but there was no one there."

Only three council members voted in favour of the motion to impeach LoFranco. The rest of council voted against it.

Internal commissioner Tina DeLuca said she voted against the motion because Donato waited too long — two months — to bring it forward. "If it was important," she said, "it should have been dealt with right away. The budget could have been done [without LoFranco]. There's always a way."

"This fiasco has been going on for a long time. Peter shouldn't have waited so long"

Donato tabled the motion in response to an alleged assault against him by LoFranco on January 10 and subsequent threats allegedly made by LoFranco against vice-president (external) Peter Merrick.

Donato filed an official complaint with the university after the alleged assault in January. Although no one was present, Donato claims that LoFranco assaulted him in the CYSF president's office. He claims that LoFranco caused welts on his neck and a gash on his right buttock.

LoFranco says, "I didn't touch him. I'm smarter than that... Donato is making allegations that aren't true." The university will hold a tribunal on the matter on April 20.

At the council meeting, Donato said that he had an agreement with LoFranco that LoFranco would resign after he tabled the revised budget at the February 22 council meeting in exchange for Donato dropping the charges with the university. Donato said LoFranco had originally asked for the deal, but then did not resign, and so the charges were not dropped. Donato told *Excalibur*, "I made the mistake

fore the alleged assault.

Merrick also alleged he was subsequently threatened by LoFranco, who allegedly said because he has a temper. But that doesn't mean he's violent."

DeLuca added that Donato had circulated a memo before the council meeting to all council members except for LoFranco, outlining his motion and why it was being put forward. Donato said he did not give LoFranco a copy "because I knew he'd see it anyway. What is formal with regards to Franco LoFranco? What's the point?"

Donato said he's lost faith in a lot of his council members because of the motion's defeat. He said DeLuca was the person he had the most faith in because he was expecting her to support his motion.

DeLuca said this was just an assumption on Donato's part. She does admit, however, that she did see a mark on Donato's neck after the alleged assault.

Donato added, "Frank has done a great job of intimidating people on council, including Peter Merrick."

LoFranco told *Excalibur*, "It's all a joke. Donato showed irresponsibility as president"

Donato explained that he waited because he wanted to keep the issue out of the public eye to preserve the image of the CYSF.

DeLuca also said Donato

Frat clears racism charge against Merrick

by Nancy Phillips

Before last Wednesday's council meeting, CYSF president Peter Donato circulated a letter to council members which stated that he went to a Sigma Alpha Mu fraternity meeting. Donato said vice-president (finance) Franco LoFranco was trying to discredit vice-president (external) Peter Merrick.

Merrick and LoFranco are both members of Sigma Alpha Mu.

President of the fraternity, Derek Reingold, said fraternity brother and vice-president-elect (finance) Brad Abrams put forward a motion to have Merrick thrown out of the fraternity for inciting racism. Reingold

said he was shocked by the motion and that it seemed to come down to nothing more than personal problems between individuals. "There was no proof, no factual evidence and I threw the whole thing right out," said Reingold.

Abrams would not say why he brought the charge of racism against Merrick and said he feels the matter should remain an internal fraternity issue.

Donato told *Excalibur*, "Franco was trying to get Merrick kicked out of the fraternity. It all had to do with Franco trying to get fraternity members to vote for Brad Abrams and Joe [Dematteis]." (Dematteis and Merrick ran for president in the recent CYSF

election and they both lost to Jean Ghomeshi.)

"Merrick thinks that I was behind everything," said LoFranco, "but Brad and Tommy acted on their own. Why Peter [Merrick] mentioned me I don't know."

LoFranco blames the problem on misunderstandings.

Donato said that at the meeting LoFranco was talking about LoFranco's alleged assault on him and Donato went there to tell his side of the story. Donato alleges that LoFranco assaulted him in the CYSF president's office on January 10, but there were no witnesses. LoFranco denies the allegation.

Merrick would not comment.

Woman calls in bomb threat to CYSF office

there are about 1,000 bomb threats a year in Metropolitan Toronto

by Sid "Midnight" Tyson

The security control centre received a bomb threat for the CYSF office last Thursday. An anonymous female telephoned the centre at 5:55 p.m., saying, "This is a bomb threat for the CYSF" and then hung up, according to the Major Daily Security Incidents reports of March 16.

Four uniformed security officers arrived at the CYSF office shortly after the call, and asked everyone in the office if they had made a phone call to security, said Tina DeLuca, CYSF internal commissioner.

"The response was no, so then security asked if anyone knew the CYSF offices well," she added. DeLuca told the officers that both she and vice-president (programmes) George DiPede knew the offices quite well. Security asked everyone else to leave except for former CYSF president Tammy Hasselfeldt and Chief Electoral Officer Garry Choo, and began the search, said

DeLuca.

"We were not told we had to help, but were asked if we would [help search the office]," said DeLuca. Both she and DiPede agreed and were warned not to disturb anything that looked suspicious. Hasselfeldt and Choo, who were working in the rear offices, also joined in the search, said DeLuca.

All eight people began a detailed search of the premises. DeLuca stressed that security told the students they could leave if they so desired, but all four students chose to stay. While the search was going on, about 10 people gathered outside the glass door of the CYSF office.

Metro Police arrived at 6:40 p.m. and conferred briefly with York security, said DeLuca. Satisfied that all was in order, both the Metro Police officers and York security officers left. No bomb had been found and the CYSF returned to normal, said DeLuca.

Choo's only comment on the bomb threat was, "Security handled the situation poorly." Choo

said there should not have been eight people searching for the bomb and that security should have moved people away from the glass door. "But Metro Police [officers] were even worse. They were pathetic. I feel sorry for the people of this community." Choo would not elaborate.

Eric Pond, assistant director of security, said security handled the situation properly, although "it was not a good idea" to let people stand around the door. He added, "Until you find the bomb, there is really no danger. The more people present who know the office, the faster the search will go."

According to Constable McMahon of Metro 31 Division's Bomb Squad, the procedure when receiving a bomb threat is to allow those most familiar with the area to look for anything suspicious. A sergeant and an officer are dispatched to the local security's command post and wait for the search to be concluded. If nothing is found, the officers file a general occurrence report and the matter is closed. If something is found, McMahon said the police officers would step in, clear the area and proceed from there. McMahon noted that there are about 1,000 bomb threats a

year in Metropolitan Toronto.

McMahon also said that if members of the bomb squad saw people at the CYSF door, they would have been frank with the spectators and asked them to leave. For the glass door to actu-

ally blow out, the bomb would have had to been right next to the door, he added.

McMahon said York security acted within proper safety parameters. Security was unavailable for comment.

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OF APPLIED ARTS AND TECHNOLOGY

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Enough, already!

This year's student council's behaviour can only be described as ridiculous. From alleged assault, alleged threats, alleged and overt racism, sexism, attempted censorship, attempted impeachments, admitted election improprieties and now the possibility of criminal charges, the CYSF has managed to drag its own name through the mud.

Last year, President Peter Donato promised in his campaign platform that the profile of the CYSF would be raised this year. We offer our congratulations as council has been very successful in this endeavour.

There is no point in dissecting all of this in an editorial. Council is a mess because of selfishness, personal interests, miscommunication, power-tripping and hypocrisy. All of this overshadows any good the CYSF may have done this year. And no one can claim innocence.

We wish CYSF president-elect Jean Ghomeshi luck with his council next year. We hope that this year's embarrassment will not be repeated.



letters

This is the list of eligible voters for the 1990-91 *Excalibur* editorial election. If your name does not appear on this list and you feel it should, talk to Nancy and Heather.

Jeannine Amber	Shaun Lacob
Roslyn Angel	Linda Lake
Trevor Burnett	Donna Mason
Frank Cameron	Stephen Mitchell
Jennifer Crane	Ira Nayman
Paul Gazzola	Stephen Perry
Brian Gold	Josh Rubin
Kristy Gordon	Riccardo Sala

Andrew Goss	Jennifer Salter
Michele Greene	Jason Schwartz
Tania Hewett	André Souroujon
Mary Jankulak	J.A. Stephen
Howard Kaman	Susan Vanstone
Jacob Katsman	Daniel Wolgelerenter
Anton Katz	Mark Wright
Jeff Kippel	Toby Wunch

We will publish, space permitting, letters up to 500 words. They must be typed, doubled spaced, accompanied by the writer's name and phone number. Libellous material will be rejected. Deliver to 111 Central Square during business hours.

No room for Popichak's anti-Semitism

Dear Editor:

It seems that in attempting to make his point regarding the Sasakawa affair, Steve Popichak has done his best to offend as many ethnic groups as possible. His first letter (February 20) left the reader with the impression that: "The Jews run the school and make all the decisions here." While Popichak's anti-Semitism was suspected in his first submission to *Excalibur*, it was crystal clear in his letter of March 8, when he took the opportunity to declare his belief in "the strength of the Jewish lobby and influence at York."

This assertion is totally unfounded and based on the traditional European anti-Semitic canard describing a worldwide Jewish conspiracy aimed at consolidating their power in order to dominate the world. This premise that developed out of phobias and ignorance in the 19th century, was used to cultivate the notion of "Jews as scapegoat" for all the world's problems. Indeed, the theme of "Jewish influence" is prominent in Hitler's own *Mein Kampf*, in which he clearly spelled out what would be the best way to deal with the problem.

There is no room in our pluralistic society of the '90s for the overt prejudice that Popichak has

exhibited in *Excalibur*. As university students, we should have the insight to go beyond our established bigotry. This, sadly, Popichak has not done.

E. Thomas

Atkinson dean defends college's actions

Dear Editor:

A report in the March 13 issue of *Excalibur*, and an editorial in the same issue, address Atkinson College's recent action in cancelling courses scheduled for the coming summer session. I should like to correct a couple of false impressions which your report may inadvertently have left your readers.

Whatever may be said to the contrary, the combination of the budget cut schedules for 1990-91 which Atkinson has to share with all other faculties, and the unexpected decision to curtail the growth which it has been confidently anticipating, did offer the prospect of very serious financial difficulty indeed for the college. The central administration insisted that action be taken to prevent this, and "froze" certain parts of our budget to emphasize its anxiety. We did not enjoy cancelling courses, but we were between the proverbial rock and the hard place. Had we not cancelled courses, action of some kind would have been forced upon us, and the chances are that it would not have been dissimilar from our own, with the important difference that its effect would have been potentially more damaging.

In the event, an arrangement was worked out which enabled us to decide ourselves to reinstate

all but four-and-a-half of the cancelled summer courses. This arrangement does indeed include the possibility of a little more growth for the college, but it has other important elements as well. The important thing, however, is that it enabled the college to reinstate the summer courses. This was a source of great relief to all of us, and I remain convinced that had we not taken the action of cancelling the courses in the first place, the outcome would have been far more damaging to our students.

We have been criticized for taking our action at the last minute, and too late for any alternative arrangements to be made. Your readers ought to be aware that the crisis did not erupt until the last minute — my records show that matters became critical on Friday, February 23, only 10 days before summer registration was scheduled to begin, and five days before the first available meeting of the college committee charged with advising on such matters. We searched assiduously for alternatives to cancelling courses, but under the circumstances there was none available.

Finally, no one at Atkinson, least of all its dean, deliberately shirked contact with the media. Our position was adequately stated, however, in our note to students and, to ensure that this formed the basis of our comments, all calls that came in when I was unavailable were routed to two members of the Atkinson community who were briefed to take such calls.

This has been a miserable episode that has distressed all who have been involved. The interest of *Excalibur* in our difficulties is much appreciated, as is the hospitality of your columns in correcting the record.

Yours truly
Stephen Griew
Dean, Atkinson College

EXCALIBUR

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CUEW urges Arthurs to reconsider scholarship

The following was sent to York president Harry Arthurs from the Canadian Union of Educational Workers, Local 30.

Dear President Arthurs:

We would like to draw your attention to a policy motion which was passed at our last General Membership meeting regarding the so-called "Graduate Fellowships for Academic Distinction." Please note that we do not consider the cosmetic name-change to be an acceptable solution, and we have committed our union to disseminating information to eligible students about the source of the funds and their role in Sasakawa's personal legitimization project.

WHEREAS chronic government underfunding of Ontario universities increasingly forces graduate programmes to rely upon non-government funding to provide adequate student financial assistance, and

WHEREAS to be consistent with the goals and aims of the university and its commitment to the broader community, the acceptability of funding from non-government sources must be assessed in light of their moral, social and political implications, and

WHEREAS Ryoichi Sasakawa remains a self-declared fascist whose documented activities show contempt for the principles of freedom and tolerance, and

WHEREAS the recent agreement to conceal the source of the funds through a cosmetic name change to the scholarship fund makes no difference to the substantive issue.

BE IT RESOLVED THAT CUEW/SCFTE, Local 3 will work to inform both current and incoming graduate students of the source of the funds, and

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED THAT CUEW/SCFTE, Local 3 reaffirms its commitment to adequate government funding for accessible post-secondary education.

We urge you to consider the extent of the constituency represented by our members, and hope that this will lead you to reconsider your position on this issue.

Sincerely,
DL Simmons
Secretary

Reader quite happy to be different

Dear Editor:

Thanks for "The Human Condition" in the March 15 edition of *Excalibur*. It's a great step towards increasing the visibility of lesbians in the York community.

However, in the writer's attempt to shed some light on lesbianism,

she seems to have fallen prey to a tactic common among liberal heterosexuals: to promote the view that gay people are just like straight people, except of course, for how they express their sexuality.

Well, many lesbians and gay men are no doubt just like straight people — some are even Tories! — but many of us are quite happy to be different. The writer may not be a militant, hairy-legged, phys-ed major, but what if someone is? And who is she or anyone else to say that's not sexually attractive or to isolate her because of what she is? Straight people will have to accept us how we are — in all our diversity — otherwise it's not acceptable.

In the meantime, we will have to continue to fight to make a social space for those of us who do not look like or have sex like what is considered the norm (the norm of a homophobic, sexist, racist and money-grubbing society. I might

add).

So, on behalf of all the shaven-headed, leather-clad dykes and the effeminate, punk-rock sissy boy faggots, let me just say: we are proud to be queer!

Sincerely

Someone you would expect

Cycling article neglects helmet information

Dear Editor:

Being an avid recreational cyclist, I was pleased with the front page coverage devoted to the sport in the March 15 issue of *Excalibur*.

Although it was a generally informative article, it neglected to mention the one cycling accessory all cyclists should have: a helmet.

Modern helmets are neither heavy nor uncomfortable in warm weather. Granted, helmets do cost money, but the benefits of an intact skull outweigh this. It takes only one severe crash to pulverize the sharpest of minds. Almost all of the cyclists I know own and use helmets. Personally, I'd rather wear a helmet than risk scrambling my brains on the bumper of some Mack truck. I wouldn't ride without seatbelts, jump out of a plane without a parachute or go to bed without a . . . er, you get the idea.

The article in question also neglected to mention that affiliated with the CYSF is the York Cycling Club. (Here comes an unabashed plug). The club has both on and off-road cyclists of all abilities and both sexes.

Anyone interested in joining the club for hard core road training, gonzo mountain biking or relaxed spins, can contact the York Cycling Club through the CYSF. Give us a call even if you just want more information on the topics covered in the March 15 issue of *Excalibur*.

Alan Choi
President,
York Cycling Club

Excalibur has received many letters to the editor without phone numbers. We regret that we can't track you all down, and so we will not publish your letters.

cont'd on p. 6

INFORMATION ON THE PROPOSED GST AND STUDENTS.

■ Under the proposed GST* most students will qualify for the GST Credit and will be better off than they are now under the present Federal Sales Tax.

■ NO GST charged on fees by publicly-funded colleges and universities if the courses lead to diplomas or degrees.

■ NO GST charged on lab courses and mandatory computer courses leading to a diploma or a degree.

■ NO GST charged on compulsory student-association and athletic program fees.

*The GST legislation is currently being considered by Parliament.

Goods and Services Tax

Information for Students

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■ NO GST charged for occupational skill courses such as secretarial schools, trade schools and business colleges.

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Department of Finance
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Canada

letters

cont'd from p. 5

Shift focus from disability to ability

Dear Editor:

I am writing in response to a letter which appeared in the March 15 issue of *Excalibur*, in which George Rappos takes it upon himself to exemplify the epitome of ignorance towards DIFFERENTLY ABLED people. I realize that it is not entirely his fault that he does not understand those who are not as physically able bodied as they might like. Some blame must be put onto media that is always portraying people with disabilities as inspirations or someone who we should feel pity for. In his letter he makes several ridiculous and plainly stupid assumptions about what it must be like as he puts it to be confined to a wheelchair.

Those who require the assistance of a wheel chair are not confined. They are as free as Mr. Rappos or anyone else. Rappos reports that the man he was staring at was definitely a paraplegic because he had obvious troubles with his arms. Let me inform you, Mr. Rappos, in the first place paraplegics do not necessarily have trouble with their arms. Secondly, I have limited use of my arms, however, I am not a paraplegic.

Mr. Rappos lists a number of things this man cannot do, such as leap hurdles, answer the call to battle and enjoy sex. I don't know

anyone who would agree on the last point. Furthermore, he has no foundations to base his assumptions on other than the mere presence of a chair. This constitutes ignorance.

As a student trying to start an organization here at York to support the needs and concerns of people who need some help, I must take this opportunity to try and set the record straight. Instead of seeing all the things that this man can not do, why not concentrate on all those that he can. My goal in writing this is not to blast Mr. Rappos, but rather to help him see the man and not the chair.

We must shift the focus from the disability to the ABILITY.

Ron Pethick

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meeting today
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opinion

The Berlin Wall

"the world should look at the new situation with great caution"

by Derek Polcyn

Derek Polcyn is an economics student at York. He was born in Krakow, Poland and studied at university there. He lived in Sweden for two years and has travelled extensively through Europe and the Soviet Union.

Perhaps the opening of the Berlin Wall should not signify the end of the Cold War but rather a beginning of a complicated, unpredictable future for the two Germanies and for the rest of the world. German reunification is a very broad and complicated issue. My aim is to briefly show the uniqueness of German society and culture and the implications this uniqueness may have in the future.

As the new face of Europe emerges, national chauvinism remains a part of the European spirit which has retained its character over the last 500 years. There have been times, throughout European history, when this chauvinism has been one of the predominant factors from which wars and conflicts have ensued. The German nation was renowned for its extreme patriotism in the past. History has its value in understanding how past trends influence present and future trends. How much is the past different from the future?

Some historical facts are worth mentioning in order to gain an historical perspective of the German reunification and its possible consequences. Before 1850, Germany did not exist as one nation, but as 39 independent states. Due to Bismarck's policy of "blood and iron," Prussia managed to unite these states into one country. During this time, Prussia was a highly militaristic state. Attitudes in Prussian society towards the military at the beginning of the 20th century were recorded by the historians of the period as being:

"After God the Father comes the cavalry officer, then his mount, then nothing, nothing, still nothing, then the infantry officer. Very far behind come the civilians: first the reserve officer and at last ... the remainder."

Germany prepared for World War I by strengthening its army. However, at the end of the war, Germany was defeated and signed the *Versailles Treaty* in which it was to return Alsace-Lorraine to France, and pay unbelievably large war reparations to the victorious Allies.

Although the Allies installed the democratic Weimar Republic, German society was dissatisfied with the outcome of World War I. In 1933, Hitler, with the largest existing political party, assumed

power during Germany's economic crises. He managed to push Germany into nationalistic frenzy. Hitler used the violation of the rights of Germans living in neighbouring countries as an excuse to invade those countries.

Germany lost World War II, and was divided into East Germany (mostly old Prussian territory) and West Germany. Also, it lost some of its territory to Poland. After the war, the U.S. was financially assisting its ally, West Germany.

Faced with the Communist "Iron Curtain," it was a tactical move on West Germany's part to "superficially" embrace Western culture. Historically, the German nation has never held a Central European position, being neither Eastern or Western in its cultural characteristics. Thus, West Germany was never truly receptive to the Western political and social institutions due to the strength of its own culture.

There still remained groups of Germans living in other countries, such as Poland, Russia and Romania, after World War II. These groups were discriminated against by the governments of these countries. During the following years, these Germans instigated attempts to obtain minority rights. For instance, one group organized in Poland to fight for the right to emigrate to

cont'd on p. 7

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TALES FROM LOON RIVER U.



It was time for Spring Break. And for Loon River U student Billy Joe MacBride, not a moment too soon. Especially since that unfortunate incident in Chem Lab. It was time to get out of town. So he collected what meager funds he could and took Voyageur's Mid-Week Student Special far, far away. You can, too. Travel any Monday to Thursday excluding statutory holidays, and go for 1/3 off our regular fares. Unless you want to spend your spring break in Fort Loonerdale.

Voyageur



Is TM really the "miracle cure"?

by Phyllis Boosalis

Feeling overworked, stressed-out or nervous?

Every student wants a sure cure for stress and a relaxation technique that works. Late nights, boring classrooms and social pressures cause unnecessary stress for many of us.

Transcendental Meditation (TM) has the miracle cure for all these problems for a mere \$155. You'll be more attentive, more focused and have more energy after those late nights. If it sounds too good to be true, it is.

The TM organization has had two introductory lectures at York. One was January 30 (with about 15 people in attendance) and the other was February 1 (only three people showed up).

TM is a non-profit organization, yet they charge \$400 for adult memberships, \$155 for university student memberships, and \$85 for high school students memberships. Does it really cost that much to teach TM, especially when over three million people have joined and all they each go through is a seven-step process?

According to TM representatives, the learning process is easy. Anyone can learn TM, regardless of their political, cultural or religious beliefs. (There are many contradictions found within TM literature. For instance, the claim that TM is not a religion even though it stems from the ancient Veda tradition.)

Scientists hired by the TM organization claim that it helps to slow and even reverse the aging process. It improves physical and mental health, relieves tension, anxiety and stress. Also, it supposedly helps to improve job and academic performance. It is inter-

esting to note that the scientific data in support of TM is usually done by the group's own scientists.

However, other studies have been done by scientists, who do not work for TM, which have had negative findings (refer to Michael A. Persinger's *TM and Cult Mania*). These statistics won't be found at any TM lecture.

The Council on Mind Abuse (COMA) carries literature stating that TM causes memory loss and erratic behaviour in individuals who practice it. (For more information call COMA at 944-0080.)

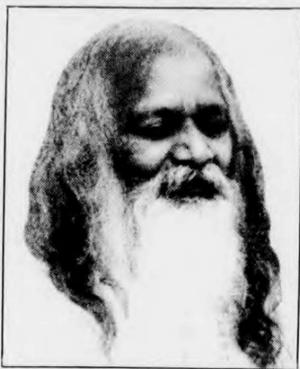
According to Marilyn Pepper, the TM instructor at the February 1 seminar, the activity of the mind becomes more peaceful and settled during the meditation state, and afterwards you are more alert and energetic. Those in attendance were told that TM could not be learned from a book because every person responds differently. Therefore, a teacher must be there to help the individual handle the TM experience.

There are seven steps to joining TM. The first is an introductory lecture, where the programme is sold to the eager and stressed out student who wishes to improve his or her existence. Scientific findings showing the advantages of doing TM are brought to the lectures. The data is very impressive, with creative charts and surveys of people who practice TM. One chart suggests that persons who have been practising TM for quite a while are much healthier. An added benefit (which is praised by the TM organization) is cheaper health and life insurance.

At the second lecture, the Preparatory Lecture, the teacher was very evasive and questions such as, "What is the sound (mantra)

that is given to individuals?" were avoided. The instructor did not answer the question, other than telling the audience to wait until he or she registers for the fourth class: Personal Instruction in the TM Technique. At this point, a fee of \$155 is collected and an initiation ceremony takes place.

According to the instructor, the student is required to bring fresh flowers, fruit and a new white handkerchief as part of the ceremony. Again, the teacher would not elaborate on why and how these "presents" (as she called them) are going to be used. If this organization is not religious, and if what they say is true, then why the ceremony? Anyone interested in TM should question the initiation process, and if they find that the teacher avoids answering, the individual should question the validity of an organization that does not have answers.



The TM founder, Maharishi Mahesh Yogi.

The teacher hand picks an appropriate sound for each individual to suit the individual's personality and needs. A TM teacher has the foresight to pick a sound

in a couple of minutes, however, a trained psychologist may take months of therapy to diagnose an individual's personality. How can a teacher of TM, who has only gone through three years of training with the movement's founder and leader, Maharishi Mahesh Yogi, be able to evaluate a person's personality in a short interview? The audience was informed by Pepper that teachers are not at liberty to disclose their training, but she did urge everyone to practice TM. In other words, put your faith blindly in their hands and allow a complete stranger, with a training you know nothing about, to lead you down the road to recovery.

There have been studies done which show that the same effects caused by TM can be achieved by a constant repetition of a single word. A "special" sound is not needed. (Refer to Persinger's book mentioned above.) TM's uniqueness should be questioned by any individual thinking of becoming a TMer.

In addition, an individual is asked to sign a contract with TM upon joining. TM's contract stipulates that a person is not to reveal his or her sound, nor try to teach anyone else how to do TM unless he or she is a qualified teacher of TM. Why is it so important that this "sound" is kept a secret?

How does this sound work? Well, according to a TM representative, the mind is structured in layers. At the bottom layer of the mind is the transcendental, the pure consciousness. The Maharishi Mahesh Yogi believes that this source of thought has a great amount of energy and creativity. The intelligence found here is infinite. Through TM, a person transcends to this lower state of

consciousness, using his or her mantra to relax and reach a state of tranquility.

If there are as many positive aspects as TM claims, then why all the secrecy? Perhaps it is because the first two lectures were free, and after all, \$155 will get you all the answers. (Such a small price to pay!)

According to Debbie Glass, assistant director of special services at student affairs, the TM organization is not an official York club yet, but an application form to apply to be one has been picked up. TM supporters will only need 10 student signatures to become a recognized organization at York. The advantages of being an official York organization, as stated on the application form, are as follows:

- access to university space/facilities;
- ability to apply for contributions from university funded sources;
- listing in university publications; and
- ability to use the name of the university or one of its sub-units.

Furthermore, it will sound very official if TM recruiters could tell York's students that TM is recognized by York University. Student affairs can only slow down the process of TM's access to York, said Glass.

As a concerned student, it is important that other students become more aware of the negative aspects of TM before such an organization infiltrates our campus. Our library contains many books that praise TM, all written by person's practising TM. But to every positive, there is a negative: a fact that most TM followers fail to admit.

German nationalism spawned by intolerance of other cultures

cont'd from p. 6

West Germany. This group ceased to exist when all the organizers received their passports and left the country.

Recently, there has been a trend towards setting up German schools and institutions on foreign soil rather than leaving. This new policy is being promoted by Jan Krol from Gogolin, Poland. Since the recent political changes in Eastern Europe, new governments are looking more favourably at such minority group actions.

During the last two decades, West Germany has taken in a large number of immigrants. Nevertheless, German nationalism is being spawned, in part, because of the intolerance for other cultures. An example of this is the treatment of immigrants in West Germany. For instance, immigrants are obligated to remain within a specific city or town for about two years while their applications for residency are processed. If an immigrant is fortunate enough to get this residency permit, he or she still has to wait for additional five years in order to apply for German citizenship. However, even after 15 years in West Germany, it is highly unlikely that citizenship will be granted to an immigrant or his or her children, even if they were born there.

Sometimes immigrants attempt to get even with the German system. One instance of this retaliation can be found in the city of

Bochum near Bonn. In that city, one huge apartment building has been designated to house immigrants from all over the world. Due to the high cost of electricity, most German apartment buildings look dark at night. One exception is this immigrant's apartment building, which is always brightly lit and has consequently earned the name "the burning tower." This building can also be distinguished as an immigrant's residence during broadcasts of popular soccer games on T.V. Cries in support of the German team come from Germans living in the area, but not from the "burning tower." Instead, the immigrants living in the "burning tower" cheer for the opposing team.

The resurgence of the neo-fascist and anti-immigrant groups in West Germany is worrying many segments of the population. Nowhere else in Europe have similar extreme groups received such strength in the polls. Since West Germany has these groups which do not, in such strength, exist in other countries, one must be concerned that they may have a stronger impact on West German politics in the future.

Historically, Russia and Germany have often reached agreements over military and political issues. The U.S.S.R., at present, appears to be moving away from communist ideas, yet is reluctant to embrace capitalism while searching for some new, third

option. Gorbachev has indicated that the U.S.S.R. does not wish to adopt the Western style of government but it does desire Western technology. Today, the reunification of Prussia with West Germany could work as a catalyst that might stimulate changes in the rest of Europe.

Quite often in the past, Russia has had a strong impact on the political events taking place in German society. Thus, the U.S.S.R.'s (and Eastern Europe's) search for an alternative to orthodox socialism and capitalism could also become Germany's. Already, an indicator of Germany's political unpredictability (according to Western standards) is becoming evident through the strength of the Green Party in the West German polls.

Before the opening of the Berlin Wall, an East German citizen could not travel to any Western country unless he or she was over 55 years old. Gorbachev's new travel policy, through the East German government, is one of the best indications that the Cold War is over. Now, through reunification, the East Germans have a democratic system of government.

In the past, the German question had been a nightmare to France, Great Britain and Poland. Recently, East Germany's former chancellor Helmut Kohl's hesitation to guarantee the Polish west border indicates that the Germans have not yet come to terms with the loss of those territories.

Presently, West German business bestrides its European partners and the West German mark has the most powerful influence of all the European currencies. The European partners want to see a unified Germany as a European Germany, not a German Europe.

I have noticed a sense of

euphoria in the general public over the opening up of the Berlin Wall. Perhaps this euphoria should now be replaced with extended caution over the prospect of a reunified Germany. It is true that this process is inevitable, but it is also true that the world should look at the new situation with greater caution.

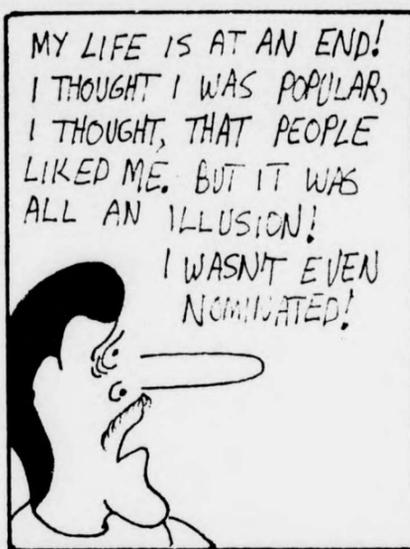
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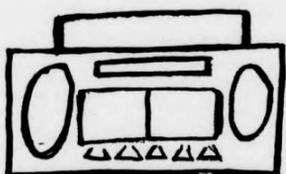
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Revenue Canada produces a variety of special guides for people with different income situations. There's an employment

expenses guide, a guide for pensions and one for new Canadians, to name a few. Check the list in your General Guide. If there's one you need, contact your District Taxation Office or call the special "request for forms" number listed there.

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Check your General Tax Guide. It has most of the answers you'll need. If you still have questions, contact your local District Taxation Office by phone or in person, and talk to the people at Revenue Canada Taxation. They're People with Answers.

PEOPLE WITH ANSWERS



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Next year's CYSF to assess election expenses

By Anton Katz:

The consequences arising from the increase in allowable campaign expenditures from \$500 to \$1000 for presidential candidates in the recent CYSF elections will be assessed by the new executive.

President-elect Jean Ghomeshi said he "fully supports" lowering this year's limit of \$1,000 and will press for a cap of about \$750 for next year. Ghomeshi said the excess of student posters was not aesthetically pleasing and would not have occurred had last year's campaign limit been retained.

Ron Kelly, who placed last in

the presidential election, said the "frenzy to get elected" got out of control, necessitating that posters

CYSF president Peter Donato defended the increase, saying it did not deter people from running.

"Two times the money equals two times the posters which equals two times the problems."

be guarded from unlawful removal. "Two times the money equals two times the posters which equals two times the problems," said Kelly. He added that the new limit excluded people on the basis of financial limitations, meaning that certain people couldn't run a good campaign, or run at all.

He said that six candidates ran for president and three for vice-president (external), reflecting an increase of one in each category over last year.

Donato said he had found the \$500 limit restrictive for his 1989 campaign. He added that the increase in funds was needed to extend advertising in the soon-to-be-completed Student Centre and Calumet College.

Donato didn't agree that this year's election was primarily a poster campaign. He said despite greater publicity, issues were important this year, and students voted based on them.

The recommendation for cam-

aign increases, by Chief Electoral Officer (CEO) Garry Choo, was passed in a 7-2 council vote on January 10. Specifically, presidential candidates could spend up to \$1,000 and vice-presidential candidates could spend \$500, while candidates for other positions could now spend \$400 as opposed to last year's \$200.

He acknowledged that \$1,000 was a more appropriate amount than \$500 but expected candidates to find a middle ground between the two. Candidate Peter Merrick spent the most, using \$974.07, while Ghomeshi claimed expenses of \$884.82. By contrast, Collins needed the relatively low amount of \$477.91 to secure second place in presidential elections.

Choo fined Merrick, Ghomeshi and Student Centre student-at-large Chia Yi Chua \$50 each for poster in prohibited places.

Choo said poster wars are nothing new and that higher

expenditures meant greater awareness for elections and candidates. 3,910 votes were cast this year, more than twice last year's amount. Choo said candidates relied heavily on posters but he had hoped candidates would devote more time to other forms of advertising.

He said the CYSF would be wise to consider taking charge of supplying and charging for posters. In this way, candidates would be limited to a specific number of posters. Choo said this would require candidates to talk to more people, a positive thing.

Donato said he liked the idea of a limit on posters, as it would force candidates to become more imaginative in their campaigns.

According to a CYSF ruling, candidates securing between 30 and 50 per cent of the vote will receive a proportionate reimbursement of campaign expenditures. This proportion will be equal to the percentage of total votes achieved.

Security



BEAT

A disposal truck, upon entering intersection #1, failed to yield the right-of-way and forced a second vehicle to collide with it March 8. Estimated damages \$4,500.

A garbage truck backed into a parked car at the Behaviourial Science Building loading dock, causing an estimated \$2,000 damage March 9.

A male was evicted from Stong Residence March 9 and issued a trespass notice after having fraudulently retained a guest room key to gain access to the room for sleeping purposes.

A patrol noticed that all but the door windows to the parking kiosk in lot 3B had been broken March 9. Repair cost \$889.99.

A driver, when moving forward out of a parking space in lot DD, applied the breaks but, due to extreme ice, hit a parked car March 9. Estimated damage \$1,000.

A driver, while driving into a parking space in lot 3A, struck a parked car which was forced into a third parked car March 9. There were severe ice conditions in the lot. Estimated damage \$500.

A driver, when entering a parking space in lot 5A, struck a second car which slid against a third car March 9. The driver then departed the scene but not before his license number was recorded. Metro Police were called in. Estimated damage \$2,600.

Security responded to a report that two males were fighting in Founders College lobby March 10. They found six persons in the area, none of whom would initially identify themselves. In the ensuing disturbance, it was noted that a door window in the immediate vicinity had been broken. Metro Police were called when the suspects refused to identify themselves, swore at the officers and attempted to run away. One male was later detained and issued a notice of trespass but not before he caused bodily injury to a security officer.

Founders' resident tutor informed security March 10 that the suspect in a large number of harassment phone calls, known as the "nylon man," was continuing to make calls even though he has been identified and confronted. The matter is being investigated by Metro Police.

A student reported that she took exception to feminist writings which were painted on the construction hoarding located across from the Behaviourial Sciences Building March 13.

Photo of the Week:



Jason Schwartz' "Genuflecting for Mary Poppins."

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Decision making flip-flop for CYSF

Ghomeshi frustrated by no fault stance

by Josh Rubin

The CYSF has voted 7-3 in support of a resolution condemning the provincial government's proposed no-fault car insurance legislation.

The resolution, made the day after an open forum on the topic, was introduced by CYSF vice-president (external) Peter Merrick.

The CYSF's decision came despite prior refusals to take a stand on political issues not directly related to universities, most notably on abortion. That left some students, including

CYSF president-elect Jean Ghomeshi, both frustrated and angry.

"There is certainly a conflict here. I find it interesting that the bill was introduced by the same people who were the most opposed to the (CYSF) taking a stand on . . . political issues," said Ghomeshi.

The open forum on no-fault, (where an accident victim's right to sue is limited to instances of permanently debilitating injuries) was attended by several members of the CYSF executive, including Merrick and CYSF president Peter Donato.

Also joining the forum were

several members of Fair Action in Insurance Reform (FAIR), a lobby group opposed to the current no-fault legislation.

During the forum, the provincial government was slammed by litigation lawyer Saul Levinter.

Levinter said the government at Queen's Park is trying to pass a bill which would give insurance companies savings of \$143,000,000 next year alone.

Levinter was referring to provisions of the bill which eliminate major stumbling blocks for automobile insurers. Gone are both an annual lump sum payment by each insurer to OHIP and also an insurer's income tax

on premiums.

Levinter's figures were disputed by Stanley Griffin, a spokesperson for the Insurance Bureau of Canada.

Griffin told *Excalibur* in an interview that FAIR members are "fighting for their own interests. They are driven by a core group of prominent litigation lawyers, who would have a lot to lose if this bill was passed."

FAIR is also spreading misleading information, according to Griffin. "It claims to represent any group that comes forward to testify at the government's hearings into no-fault."

One of those groups, said Griffin, is the Consumers' Association of Canada (CAC), which publicly censured FAIR after CAC's name was advertised in a list of

FAIR support organizations.

In a later interview, Donato agreed that lobbying groups such as FAIR are often not really interested in those they claim to be protecting. "They're playing a political game."

Donato also said, in answer to questions about whether or not council should take stands on political issues, "We decided that we should."

Across Ontario

compiled by Donna Mason

Students Mark Their Own Exams

About 225 students who wrote a physical education mid-term marked each other's papers because the professor said she did not have time to mark them. The multiple choice and short answer exam was worth 30 per cent of their final mark.

Shauna Thomson, a student, said they had an hour to write. Then they were told to pass their exam to the person behind them. "People were stunned. There was a lot of opportunity for people to look at their textbooks and the only proctor left the room before the exam was over."

The professor, Jan Colwell, said she has used the method

before at other universities. Thomson said people were uncertain if they were marking the exam correctly. The phys. ed. undergraduate chair has met with the dean and Colwell, but nothing has been decided.

from *The Gazette*,
University of Western Ontario

Laurier Faculty May Strike

The second step towards a Laurier faculty strike was taken by the Wilfrid Laurier University Faculty Association (WLUFA). WLUFA president Edcil Wickham informed Laurier president John Wier that the faculty was applying for conciliation.

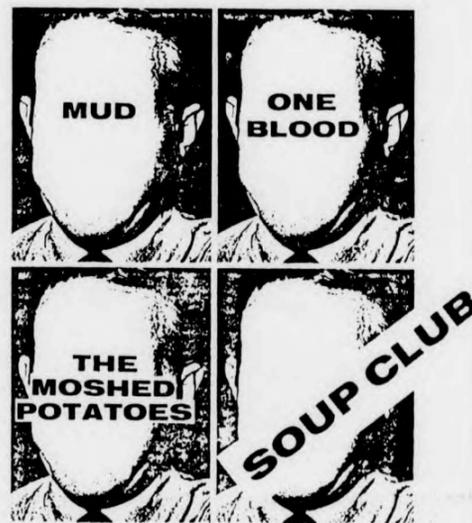
Once the conciliator is appointed, there are 14 days in which to work with the two

sides. If the conciliator cannot work things out, then the Minister of Labour is notified and a no-board report is issued. Approximately 16 days after this report is mailed, the bargaining unit is in a legal strike position.

The two sides have agreed on a percentage wage for the 1988-1989 and 1989-90 years but have yet to decide on the 1990-91 increase. The WLUFA team wants the 1990-91 increase to be equal to its counterpart's at the University of Waterloo; but if they could come somewhere in the middle of other Ontario university salaries, this might be acceptable.

from *The Cord Weekly*,
Wilfrid Laurier University

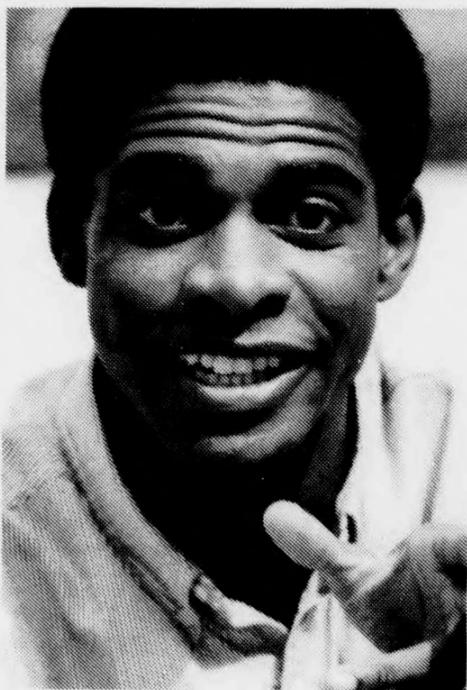
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Anti-Semitic messages scratched onto car

"... There is a racism problem on campus, but it has not become any worse than last year."

by Michele Greene

Anti-Semitic messages were scratched onto the side of a York student's car February 24. The car was also broken into and its interior was destroyed. The same car was broken into February 6 and the stereo was stolen.

The owner of the car said that along with the words, "Die Jew" and "Jew Fuck," the interior looked like it was destroyed with a crow bar.

The car had been left in reserved lot AA from 10:00 a.m. to 11:00 p.m. The owner said he felt secure about leaving his car parked in one of the more expensive lots but now he feels helpless.

Since this incident, the owner says he has conducted his own patrols on campus. He says he has not seen any security patrols other than the escort van and is disappointed, since he feels security has the resources to do this.

Bob Stevens, security's investigations officer, says his department is aware of the situation and is taking measures to improve it. He says frequent in-car and on-foot patrols are conducted on campus and in the parking lots "consistent with resources." However, he says the department has limited funds.

Although the Race and Ethnic Relations Centre has not received an official complaint

about this event, the centre is aware of the increase of incidents of this nature, says co-ordinator David Trotman.

Trotman says there is a racism problem on campus, but it has not become any worse than last year. He says these incidents have to be taken into context. There is a greater awareness in society of racism now than in the past and so more incidents are being reported.

Trotman has observed that racist incidents go in cycles. If one particular group holds an event on campus, then immediately after, there are incidents of racism against that group.

Claire Sookman, director of the Jewish Students Federation, would not comment on this particular incident, but said that the Jewish community at York is not being singled out for racist demonstrations. This incident is representative of a larger problem of racism on campus, she added.

Stevens said Metro Police is aware of the break-in problem at York and that York security is following some leads. He said the number of break-ins during the period from November 1989 to February 1990 has increased in comparison to the same period last year. Reported incidents of

a racist nature have decreased slightly during the same period.

Stevens has observed a new phenomenon in the pattern of car break-ins. They normally occur at night, he explains, but during the last four months more incidents have taken place during the day. Some parking lots are hit more than others. Stevens says the lots near the Track and Field Centre and the ice arena as well as the Assiniboine Road lots are broken into regularly.

Stevens suggests that, when possible, drivers park in well-lit areas close to an entrance of a building to reduce the chances of a car break-in.

Atkinson College's election based on parliamentary system

by David Tompkins

Only 12 voters elected the new Atkinson College Student Association (ACSA) executive council February 17.

Anna Segal, the new ACSA president, explained that the structure of the association is different from other colleges because, "not all Atkinson students are eligible to vote."

Andrew Roberts, ACSA elections officer, said the association is based on the parliamentary system. Each class is a riding, and each riding may elect two class representatives to vote.

Further, Segal said honorary members (members of the assembly) may vote. And, there are approximately 20 to 25 assembly members.

Although only 12 people voted, Segal said it is probable this is a representation of a much greater number.

Of the seven positions available on the executive, two positions were left empty after the election. The position of director of internal affairs was subsequently filled at a March 17 by-election and there is one candidate for the position of director of community relations which will be decided on in April.

Atkinson College is for part-

time students and, said Segal, "Most part-time students do not have the time" to take an interest in student government.

She added, "It would be nice to have more students become involved in the assembly," but in many cases, this is not feasible.

Atkinson holds classes in Ottawa, Barrie and two hospitals in Toronto. Each of these classes is eligible to send representatives to vote, yet it is unlikely that this happened.

Segal and Roberts both expressed confidence in the present system of government, yet both said they wish for greater student involvement in the ACSA.

Kittens found in Winters cafeteria

by Sid "Midnight" Tyson

Staffers at the Winters college cafeteria got a big surprise yesterday during the lunchtime rush.

A day shift employee in the midst of the busiest hour of the day was startled to hear what seemed to be a kitten's meow coming from one of the cafeteria's heat registers.

Closer inspection of the register led to the discovery of one mother cat and five of her kittens.

Cafeteria employee Byron Hatt estimated the kittens' age at four weeks. "They were awake, but their eyes were still closed."

According to Hatt, the stow-away felines were rescued from the heat register with the aid of those indispensable kitchen tools, a pair of tongs.

Minutes later, the kittens were carted off by concerned students who carried the friendly furballs away in a large cardboard box.

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York University approval, but this is expected by the Spring, 1990.

Georgian journalists share political insights with *Excalibur*

David Imedashvili, regional chief of the Novosti news bureau in Soviet Georgia, and George Sigua, editorial board member of the newspaper *Tbilissky Universitet* published at Tbilisi University, brought part of their culture with them on an editorial exchange with *Excalibur* this past month. The exchange, initiated by *Excalibur*, was sponsored by the CYSF, the provost's office, the president's office, York International, the vice-president of finance and administration's office and the Novosti Press Agency of the U.S.S.R. embassy in Ottawa. *Excalibur's* Jacob Katsman, who helped organize the exchange, reflects on the Georgians' two-week experience.

In the past five years, international newspapers have focused their attention on the Soviet Union and the new image of Mikhail Gorbachev. Despite this tremendous media blitz, many York students interested in the Soviet Union don't seem to have a basic understanding of its new constitution.

As Imedashvili explained in guest lectures to York students, the Union of Soviet Socialist Republics (U.S.S.R.) is made up of 15 nominally autonomous republics: Armenia, Lithuania, Ukraine, Azerbaijan, Estonia, Georgia, Turkmenistan, Uzbekistan, Moldavia, Latvia, Tadzhikistan, Kirgizstan, Kazakhstan, Byelorussia and Russia.

Russia is the largest republic and contains most of the U.S.S.R.'s landmass and even two-thirds of its population. Despite its political and economic control of the U.S.S.R., Russia theoretically has the same constitutional rights as the other republics. "It is, therefore, wrong to refer to all Soviet citizens as Russians," said Imedashvili. There are over 100 nationalities living within the borders of the U.S.S.R.

Some republics, such as Georgia, have cultures and traditions as old, if not older than those belonging to Russia. In Georgia, 68.8 per cent of the population is Georgian while its two major ethnic minorities, Armenians and Russians, make up 9.7 per cent and 8.5 per cent of the population respectively. In Russia, the Russian majority makes up 83.5 per cent of the population while its two largest minorities, Ukrainians and Kazakhs, make up 7.11 per cent and 4.31 per cent of the population respectively.



A campus building at Tbilisi State University

David Imedashvili

According to the Soviet constitution, all constituent republics have the right to secede from the U.S.S.R., said Sigua. In keeping with more current events, Sigua could mean that, therefore, Lithuanian nationalist actions towards independence are not illegal.

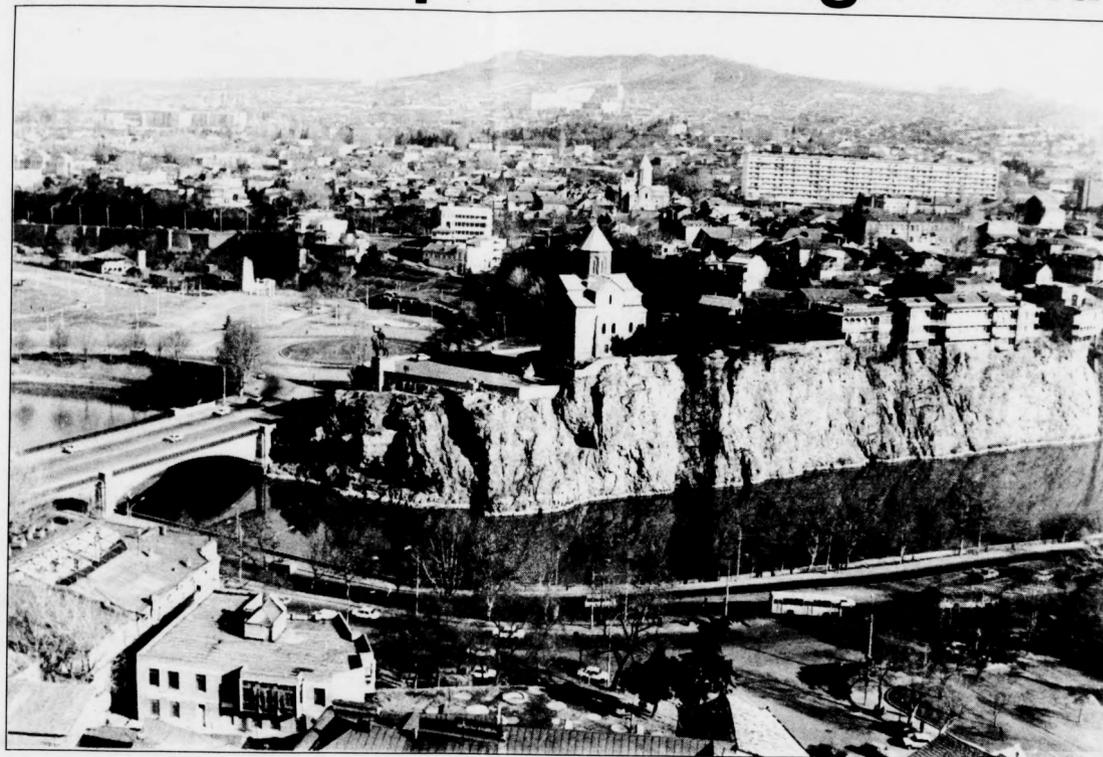
Sigua, also the vice-president of the newly formed Georgian New Democratic Party, said the Communist Party calls some of the new political organizations "informals." "This is ironic in itself, since there are no laws in the Soviet constitution regarding party formation. If any party is informal, then the first informal party was the Communist Party, which took power through an illegal revolutionary overthrow," Sigua explained.

Both Sigua and Imedashvili agreed that with the openness of *glasnost*, Soviet journalists have finally been given the freedom to write critically. "When the first exposure of Stalin's crimes appeared in the press, the public could not believe their eyes," said Imedashvili. "But after reading day after day about Stalin, one journalist wrote, 'Enough writing about those who are dead, let's write about those who are still alive,' and so we did."

With their newly acquired freedoms, the Soviet media exposed government corruption and environmental hazards that were kept quiet for years. With these changes, according to Imedashvili, the position of ideology censor in newspapers became vacant and, in Georgia, the editor of *Molodezhe Gruzii* (Georgian Youth) deleted the 70-year-old slogan "proletariat of the world unite" from the front cover of his newspaper.

As proof of this openness, Imedashvili brought Georgian and Russian newspapers. Pointing to a centrefold photo feature in *Molodezhe Gruzii* depicting casualties of the ethnic confrontation between Azerbaijanis and Armenians, Imedashvili exclaimed before Professor Bernie Frolie's Soviet politics graduate class, "You see, here is the proof, articles and photos like this were freely published all over the country."

Imedashvili and Sigua were the first Soviet journalists to be hosted by a Canadian university. Both



A bird's eye view of Georgia's capital city — Tbilisi

David Imedashvili

visitors hoped this exchange would be as a first step to wider co-operation and collaboration with York University.

During their two-week stay, Sigua and Imedashvili met with York students, president Harry Arthurs, vice-president (finance and administration) Bill Farr, Osgoode's director of the Centre for Public Law and Policy Marc Gold and other York officials. Some of the meetings resulted in letters of intent to co-operate and establish closer ties between the two universities.

Both Sigua and Imedashvili were very interested in the Canadian secondary and post-secondary educational system. Imedashvili hoped to learn how to deal with problems of academic dishonesty back in Georgia from the "honest Canadian educational system." He noted that throughout the Soviet Union there is a big problem of parents buying their children high school gold medals and university degrees. Some of the problems have been corrected, but there is still much to be done, said Imedashvili. University entrance exams no longer have the applicant's family name on the cover of the exam paper, but people are still finding ways to slip money under the table with their son's or daughter's application to medical school or other competitive faculties.

Imedashvili added that many courses dealing with Soviet history and the ideology of Marxism-Leninism have been cancelled. Final exams for these previously mandatory courses have also been done away with and classes titled Sociology of Marxism, Philosophy of Communism or Sociology of Atheism were renamed as, simply, Sociology or Philosophy.

"The teachers who were instructing these courses, however, are forced to revise their teaching approach to various issues. For some, this is a very difficult task," he added.

Sigua said there are plans to build an International Free University in Tbilisi. It will be mostly concerned with the regional priorities of the Caucasus (a southern region of the Soviet Union) and the Near East. It will have pragmatically oriented departments like agriculture, applied biology and biotechnologies, ecology, civil engineering, infor-

mation, medicine, political science and law. The departments will also be of interest to Western students, as courses in Caucasian studies, Russian studies, arts and cinema, Soviet structure and economics will be offered. The formation of this university is dependent on international support from other world universities, funds, firms and private corporations.

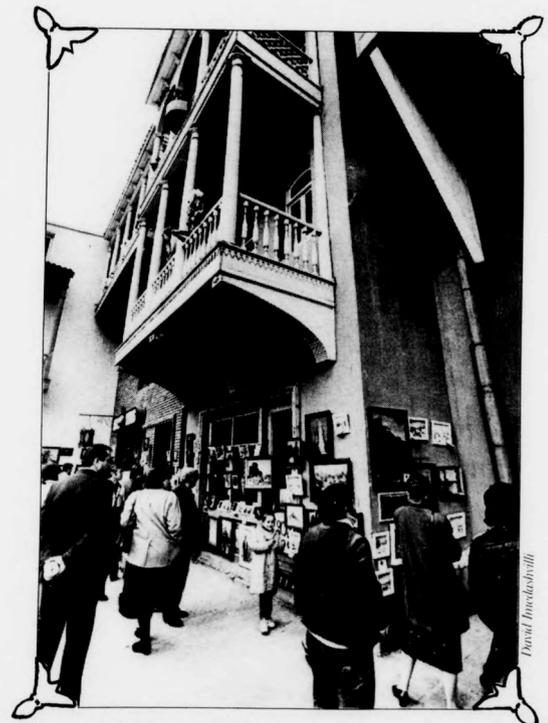
Today, post-secondary education in the Soviet Union is free, if you don't count *vzytky*, (money paid under the table which makes entrance exams so much easier). "But this is soon to change," said Imedashvili.

"We are currently trying the system of paid education in some parts of the country," he added. "With the general trend to democratization of our economy, specialized education may soon come under the control of co-operatives. Moves are already being made in this direction."

As for student movements and organizations, both Sigua and Imedashvili agreed that Soviet youth are now largely disorganized. "The central communist youth organization, *Komsomol*, has lost its authority and respect," said Sigua. Students are now in the process of forming new organizations. There is a growing concern about the environment and the Green Party is strongly supported by students.

Excalibur will meet with Tbilisi university students, faculty, newspaper editors and political leaders at the end of April 1990 to conclude the editorial exchange. *Excalibur* will also visit students in Moscow, Leningrad and Kishenev.

York students will be able to learn more about Soviet university life in September 1990 when *Excalibur* will publish diaries of the trip. For more information about the exchange contact Jacob Katsman at *Excalibur* 111 Central Square, 736-5239.



In the streets of Tbilisi

David Imedashvili

Logan is shut-out

by Ira Nayman

A few years ago, I mentioned to a friend that I wanted to win a Stephen Leacock Award for humour. He asked why. I told him that the Award was one of the few given for humour, and the

only one given specifically for Canadian humour.

"Yeah," my friend responded. "But, look at some of the people who have won it."

He had a point; neither of us regarded past winners very

highly. For one thing, winners were chosen because they wrote in Leacock's gentle style, ignoring 50 years of advances in comedy. For another, all those *ersatz* Leacocks invariably missed the social criticism in his work; for instance, a book like *Sunshine Sketches of a Little Town*, in its gentle way, mocks the pretensions of small town Ontarians.

This is my way of explaining why all the hype about Paul Quarrington as Stephen Leacock Award winner (for the novel *King Leary*) didn't impress me. In fact, I wondered what Quarrington, whose earlier novel *Home Game* was pretty entertaining, had done to deserve such a dubious distinction.

Logan in Overtime, Quarrington's latest novel, ex-

plained everything.

Logan in Overtime is about a very minor league hockey game that turns into a national sensation when, through the efforts of extraterrestrial and supernatural agencies, it breaks the record for most overtime periods, with no end in sight. The game turns on a goaltending duel between Logan, a washed up former NHLer with knees like nothing on this planet, and Bram Ridout, a snotty kid with superhuman reflexes.

A lot happens, but little of it is particularly interesting. Characters are not especially well motivated. The fantasy elements seem familiar (too familiar; W. P. Kinsella did this kind of story much better in *The Iowa Baseball Confederacy*.)

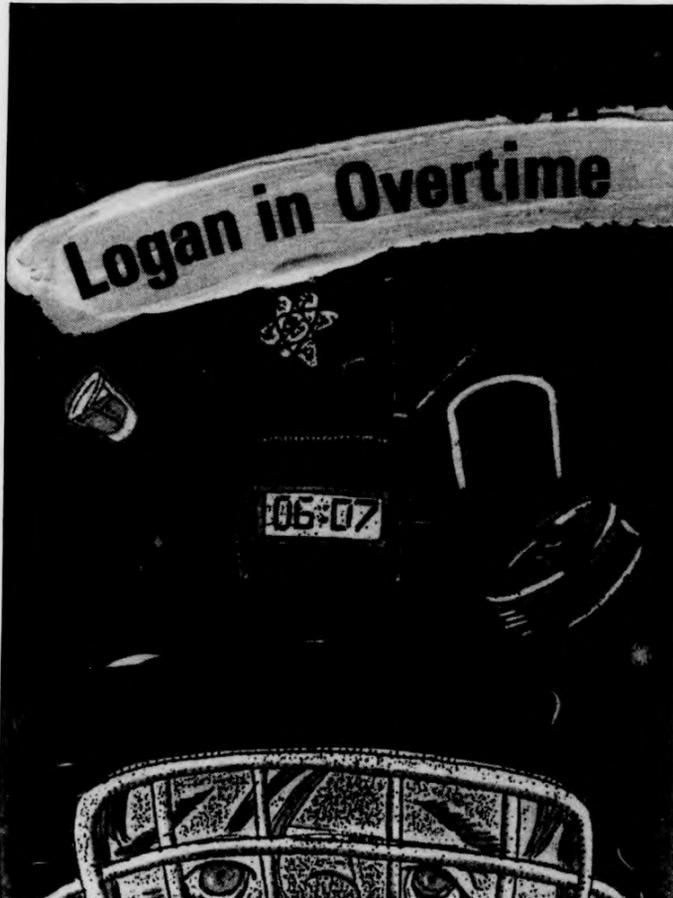
But, worst of all, the writing is, for the most part, simply not funny (unless you think Mindfuckers from the Dog Star Sirius are funny). While the reader will find some elements amusing (I liked Hockey Night

in Canada commentators Don and Dan, for instance), they seem few and far between.

In order to bring his style into the '90s, Quarrington has thrown in a couple of sex scenes and some vulgarity. This tends to work against the gentle pace he tries to maintain. Moreover, it misses the point: adult books deal with mature themes as well as mature subject matter. *Logan in Overtime* doesn't have an idea in its wonky head.

The failure of *Logan in Overtime* may be because of the subject matter. Baseball, with its slow rhythms and building tension, seems a natural subject for romantic myth-making; hockey, on the other hand, is violent by nature, making it a far less likely subject for poetic treatment.

Perhaps sensing how lightweight the book is, Quarrington refers to it as "one for a rainy day at the Lodge." I would add, "be sure to get all your chores done first."



artscalendar

compiled by Kristy Gordon

Be at Calumet College March 26 at 8pm for an interesting mix of "food" and music. **The Strawberry Jam**, some of Toronto's hottest musicians, will be jamming at York. Phone 736-5549 for info on the musicians.

On March 23 at 12 noon in DACARY Hall (050 McLaughlin) the **Student Chamber Concert** will feature a classical guitar ensemble, sax quartet, flute ensemble, brass quartet and others.

If you're interested in an afternoon of music, set aside March 27. At 3pm, **Annemarie Mazzafarro** will perform a flute recital featuring works by Le Clair, Debussy and Mozart. At 3:30pm, **Valerie Magnan** will perform a piano recital with works by Bach, Schubert, Debussy and Schumann. The day will conclude with an 8pm clarinet recital by **Junichiro Suwa** performing works by Glick, Brahms, Mozart and Debussy. All of these recitals will take place in DACARY Hall.

The IDA Gallery (first floor Fine Arts Building) presents **Sandra Gregson's** MFA thesis exhibition featuring sculpture and drawing. The display runs until March 30 and is open weekdays from 10am-5pm.

What do you have planned for your weekend? This Saturday (March 24) at the Apocalypse Club (750 College Street), **Lillian Allen and the**

Revolutionary Tea Party and Fijahtive will perform a benefit for El Salvador's Radio Farabundo Marti, the voice of the Salvadorean People in Struggle. Tickets are \$17 at the door. Sponsored by CKLN, CIUT and the York Women's Centre. For more info call 531-8497.

Come to the **Arts and Crafts of Africa** sale in the West Bear Pit (Central Square) March 27 from 10-3pm. Sponsored by the Association of African Students at York University.

Three Men In A Lounge: Fourth Exhibition of silver photography by David Smith Theo Bennink and Stephen Haines. March 26, 3-7. Purple Lounge (2nd floor, fine arts phase II).

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atkinson explores malraux

by Michele Greene

The spirit of France is coming to York. On March 23 and 24 York will be hosting the Andre Malraux Conference in the Atkinson Fellows Lounge.

As a French novelist and politician, Malraux was active in both the culture and literature of France, as well as international affairs. He became France's minister of cultural affairs in 1959 and, during his term, promoted national museums and supported regional cultural centres known as Maisons de la Culture. In international affairs, Malraux played an important role in establishing relations between China and Western democracies. In 1933, one of Malraux' best known novels, *La Condition Humaine*, was published.

The conference was organized by Assistant Professor Sergio Villani through the Etudes Francaises et Langue Moderne at Atkinson College. Many knowledgeable speakers from around the world will be present to discuss Malraux' accomplishments, including Villani who will speak Saturday at 9:00 a.m. on "L'Aquarium dans L'Espoir," one of Malraux' books.



and influential individual, hosted by York, says Villani. It will be a "unique opportunity for our students to listen to knowledgeable speakers of a modern novelist." He added that everyone is invited to participate free of charge.

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Canadian Premier

Arts cont'd

love too small

by Ira Nayman

Love at Large
directed by Alan Rudolph
Orion Pictures

"The search for love . . . perfect love . . . prompts the strangest reactions. Everyone is either in love, out of love, desperately in need of love or busy denying the existence of love."

Alan Rudolph

What director Alan Rudolph (*Choose Me, Trouble in Mind, The Moderns*) didn't mention about love was that film-makers make incredibly dumb movies about it. *Love at Large*, Rudolph's latest feature, is a case in point.

The film centres around Harry Dobbs (Tom Berenger), a down on his luck private eye, who is hired by a sultry woman (Anne Archer) to follow her boyfriend. She suspects him of cheating on her or voting Democrat or . . . well, we're never quite sure what,

but the woman is constantly reminding us that he is DAN-GEROUS.

Berenger follows a man out of the Blue Danube nightclub and finds out that, yes, he is leading a double life. Unfortunately, Berenger is following the wrong man. Then there is the woman (Elizabeth Perkins) following him, and then — movies this pointless should be taken out back and shot.

Love at Large does have some screamingly funny lines, but not enough to sustain an entire film. The suspense it does aim for is undercut by the fact that we know from the start that Berenger is tailing the wrong man; everything else seems anticlimactic.

Furthermore, for a film about love, *Love at Large* doesn't seem to have anything original to say on the subject. "Love is waiting," Berenger and Perkins come to agree, ignoring compromise, mutual respect and shared experience. Having Berenger do a double take every time he walks

by a couple kissing in public seems somewhat less than profound.

Rudolph is a good film-maker, with a quirky, personal vision. Some of his trademarks appear in *Love at Large*: the film is drenched in bright primary colours (particularly red and blue, and the secondary characters are wonderful. (Like his mentor, Robert Altman, Rudolph works with large ensemble casts to great effect.) Unfortunately, they're not enough.

So, why make a film like *Love at Large*? In interviews, Rudolph has candidly admitted it is his most commercial film. If commercial success translates into such a dumb film, Rudolph must have a low opinion of his audience.

The foregoing notwithstanding, I sincerely hope *Love at Large* makes Orion Pictures and Alan Rudolph a lot of money. Perhaps then he'll go back to making the kind of films of which he is capable.



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6 the PAGANS	STREET WHERE NOBODY LIVES	RESONANCE
7 Ignition	The Orafyng mysticle of . . .	DISCHORD/CARGO
8 Various Artists (C)	Oh God! My Mom's on Channel 10	Nardwaur
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a nightmarish lord of the flies

by Jim Russel

Lord of the Flies
directed by Harry Hook
Columbia Pictures

The morning after the press screening of *Lord of the Flies*, I awoke at 2 a.m. to

find my fingers clutched tightly around the "neck" of my pillow. "You bloody bastards . . . You ruined it . . . you ruined it!" I shouted over and over until the sound of my voice snapped me out of my homicidal rage. I got out of bed and stumbled toward the

bathroom. The cold water I splashed on my face calmed my spirit but couldn't rinse away the sense of remorse. Why couldn't I . . . why couldn't someone have prevented them from butchering *Lord of the Flies*?

I staggered back to the bedroom and, upon reaching the foot of my bed, dropped to my knees, clasped my hands together and raised my eyes upward. "Oh please Mr. Golding," I pleaded. "Don't let them make another movie from your book . . . Tell them to leave it alone! I loved *Lord of the Flies* . . . It was wonderful . . . it was terrible . . . it drove me to the greatest heights . . . it plunged me to the depths of despair . . . Mr. Golding . . . the film-makers took the guts from it! They murdered it with wooden spears ripping it open with their greedy fingers and devoured it. Then they cut off its head and left it impaled on the end of a stake, a sacrifice to the god of 'Net Profit.' It must never be allowed to happen again. Thank you for listening . . . goodnight Mr. Golding."

No, this isn't the first time film-makers have attempted to capitalize on the success of Sir William Golding's 1954 classic novel. In 1963, Peter Brooks tried it and, to a large degree, succeeded. Granted, Brooks' film was shot with the dexterity (and budget) of a home movie, and granted the acting was wooden to say the least, but Brooks still managed to retain the underlying evil, tension and despair that ran



through Golding's book. Mr. Hook, however, though blessed with decent acting, credible photography and a budget of \$11 million, came up empty handed.

Gone from the beginning of the story is the nuclear explosion that implied, to the boys and to the reader, that the world was in the grip of a nuclear holocaust. Gone is that initial sense of hopelessness that rescue might not be imminent. Gone is much of the tension that existed between Ralph, who represented "civilization" and Jack, who represented savagery. Gone is Piggy's wisdom. Gone is the mystique surrounding the beast and gone is the sanctimonious British naval officer, dressed in his starched

white uniform, a savage no less evil than the children he has come to rescue.

"I should have thought that a pack of British boys . . . would have been able to put up a better show," the officer mutters as he surveys the death and destruction wrought by the boys who were so easily stripped of their flimsy togs of civilization.

I would have thought that a pack of big-time Hollywood types would have been able to make a better movie than this. As it stands, however, *Lord of the Flies*, version number two, is TV fare for a lazy Sunday afternoon and nothing more . . . pity.

I give it a two out of 10 — buy the book instead.

trite tale of brotherly love

by J.A. Stephan

Coupe de Ville
directed by Joe Roth
Universal

If you have any interest in seeing *Coupe de Ville*, save a few bucks and wait for this lackadaisical film to pull into your nearest video store. Word of mouth should cause it a quick death at the theatres.

The screenplay originated from a family yarn of three alienated brothers brought together by their dying father to drive a sparkling new, baby-blue Cadillac from Michigan to Florida for their mother's birthday. However, this trite tale of brotherly bonding on the open road never manages to mesh comedy and drama. Comedic touches are clever but conventional; dramatic confrontations wilt under the predictability of their outcomes. Real life is not necessarily the stuff of great movies.

The brothers include Bobby, a teenage troublemaker (Patrick Dempsey); Marvin, an overbearing air force sergeant (Daniel Stern); and Buddy, a lovesick college graduate (Ayre Gross). Their adolescent discord has matured into adult animosity aggravated by the circumstances of the mission.

Bad feelings turn petty disagreements into major confrontations, making the trip especially torturous. As the battle rages, the trio are often driven to distraction by mishap. Intercepted by Southern cops, dented by a street sign and marred by an obstructing cow, the *Coupe* becomes their shared nemesis. If the boys fail their father, they will be defeated as brothers.

Upon arrival in Florida, Bobby, Marvin and Buddy attempt to salvage their relationship and the car. To raise the repair money, they go from begging their uncle to risking Bobby's coin collection at the greyhound races. The hardship demand that the brothers work together, thereby strengthening their bonds and reunifying the family.

Director Joe Roth's exploration of family relations remains uninspired throughout the *Coupe's* journey. The sorry character development of first-time scriptwriter Mike Binder is partly to blame. His dialogue is ordinary. The audience struggles to stay involved in an emotional void.

Lazy pacing exacerbates an already wanting situation. Because the happy ending is a given, anticipation is lost. The story is not intriguing enough to make up for the deficit.

Although a period piece, Roth's recreation of the early '60s is visually bland. He choose 1963

because that year was "the apex of New Frontier optimism" for the nation. An optimism adequately represented by the family, but missed in their surroundings. The soundtrack is one bright exception. Gold like "Louie Louie" and "Transfusion" liven up the trip.

Just as spirited are the performances. Dempsey, currently suffering the box office blues, manages well as a sensitive youth at odds with his siblings. Stern transforms smoothly from overblown to sympathetic. Gross' sappy look fits the role of the brothers' peacemaker, but as a "Romeo" he falls short. A typecast Alan Arkin confidently conveys both the warmth and the surliness of the father. The actors work well to overcome the limitations of the script.

Coupe de Ville stresses the importance of forgiveness within a family. It is a little message which gives birth to a little film.



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Arts cont'd

lowe lacks depth . . . surprised?

by Melissa Di Marco

Bad Influence
directed by Curtis Hanson
Triumph Releasing

Bad Influence, a psychological thriller starring Rob Lowe and James Spader, has the potential for real adventure and emotion. But, instead of erupting, it has a plot that sleeps on the volcano.

The story calls for character Michael Boll (Spader), a socially integrated yuppie, to compete for position of youngest senior market analyst at a firm. He is a successful executive acquiring all the accoutrements he thinks he needs. But, a shady character, Alex (Lowe), enters his life and strips away his fiancée, his security at work and all his possessions.

Alex is an amoral drifter. No ties. No past. No attachments. No rules. He introduces Michael to the underground L.A. clubs, and a friendship develops from shared hangovers, late nights and women. From an overbearing fiancée to a dishonest business rival, any obstacles Michael encounters are easily eradicated by Alex.

The plot is entertaining and easy to follow. However, a significant element of motivation is missing. Alex has no reason to destroy Michael's life, and Michael presents no reasoning for being so easily coerced into Alex's world.

On the road to ruin, the bad influence and dirty deeds flash by; they are never explored or relished.

The action is a menage of segments that only stroke the surface: glancing at the drug scene, skimming through partying lifestyles, breezing over dry sexual encounters and, through it all, bumbling over its inability to engage us emotionally.

The characters, however, are the dynamic of this skeleton. Alex, upon first impression, appears to be an easygoing confidant who is concerned with Michael, and who Michael easily invites into his life. His dark nature manifests itself slowly: from all night partying, sex, drinking and drugs to murder.

One can't deny this role provides Lowe with much character flexibility and is distinctively more villainous than any of his past roles. His waxed charm and his mild, displaced humour make him the perfect approachable



Rob Lowe (l) and James Spader (r) play bad boy and good boy respectively in Curtis Hanson's psychological thriller *Bad Influence*

stranger. But, he lacks conviction as the sociopathic terror. These moments are delivered with script

in hand.

Spader, however, is addictive. Where Lowe acts through his

lines, Spader doesn't need them. From being a stressed, competitive worker to the inebriated

robbery accomplice in a rabbit's mask, Spader's intensity and realism result in a powerhouse of sincere emotion.

The sets and lighting create a somewhat monochromatic palette, avoiding primary colours to get the flavour of black and white while shooting in colour. Faces shadowed by venetian blinds set the mood but quickly become redundant. In addition, a video camera becomes a resourceful plot and action device.

Scenes are never savoured and we are given minimal insight into the characters. The environment is never digested. The ensemble involved in this film, director Curtis Hanson, producer Steve Tisch and screenwriter David Koepp, seem to mistake vagueness in character and plot for intrigue and elusiveness.

This film is about an attraction of opposites, but it's all excitement and no impact. There is no real struggle, loss or invasion; just some uneasiness. After a few parties, two petty robberies, some sex and a murder, where else can the story take us? Just as easily as he entered into Michael's life, Alex leaves it. But, by this point, no one cares.

The naked truth of this 'little thriller' is that "no one is innocent." Thanks for the revelation.

flawed film about love

by Ira Nayman

Trop Belle Pour Toi
directed by Bertrand Blier
Cine Valse

How can we explain the workings of the human heart? *Trop Belle Pour Toi* (*Too Beautiful For You*) is a film that raises this important question. And, writer/director Bertrand Blier has taken a new, entertaining approach to a highly familiar story.

Unfortunately, the film's major weakness is that it makes only the slightest effort to answer the question it asks.

Trop Belle Pour Toi is the story of Bernard (Gerard Depardieu), who finds himself drifting into an affair with his temporary secretary. The twist is that his wife (Carole Bouquet) is devoted, intelligent and very beautiful; his mistress, Colette (Josiane Balasko), is frumpy and shy. From the start, Blier works against our expectations.

By reversing the expected connection between physical beauty and attractiveness, Blier calls into question just what it is that makes people fall in love. But, aside from the occasional reference to needing more than perfection, Blier doesn't give us any answers or direction.

He does, on the other hand, suggest that our ideas of love and beauty are deeply ingrained. There is an exquisite scene (reminiscent of Bunuel's *The Discreet Charm of the Bourgeoisie*) in which Bertrand is taken to task by his friends at their regular dinner party for disappointing their expectations.

Depardieu (who can also currently be seen in *Camille Claudel*) gives his usual polished performance as the central character; he seems as confused as everybody else. There are a few actors (Michael Caine or Gene

Hackman) who seem to appear in every other movie; but, no matter how bad their films are (and Caine and Hackman have been in their share of stinkers), they will be worth attending for the pleasure of watching an excellent actor ply his craft.

If Philippe Noiret (who is currently starring in *Cinema Paradiso*) is the French equivalent of Hackman, Depardieu is Caine's counterpart. And, between them, Noiret and Depardieu have starred in far fewer bad films.

Balasko's portrayal of Colette, the unlikely temptress, is marvellous. She manages to invest a seemingly ordinary character with tenderness, humour and humanity. Bouquet isn't nearly as impressive as Bernard's wife, Florence, although the thinness of the part likely started with the writing.

The supporting cast is often charming and funny. Unlike North American films with their mostly bland secondary characters, many European directors like to take a few seconds of screen time to establish minor characters. This makes for a much more interesting film.

Director Blier has used a num-

ber of New Wave (or postmodern) techniques in *Trop Belle Pour Toi*, with mixed results. The camera is frequently moving towards, away from, or around characters, as if it is trying to get inside their minds. But, then characters are often shot through glass windows and partitions, suggesting that there are barriers the camera will never be able to get through.

Characters talk to themselves, which is annoyingly unrealistic. On the other hand, the punchline of the film (dealing with a running joke about the depressing nature of the music of Franz Schubert) is hilarious despite the fact it is delivered directly into the camera.

There are also a number of short dream/fantasy sequences dropped into the narrative without warning. Although amusing, they are just as frequently confusing. This is especially true in the beginning of the film, when the characters haven't been established well enough for the audience to know if they would behave in the way they seem to.

Trop Belle Pour Toi is a flawed film. Despite this, it is more entertaining than most North American films on the subject of love.



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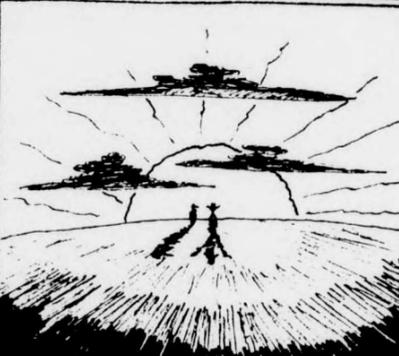


Cyranos
By: F.N. Cameron.

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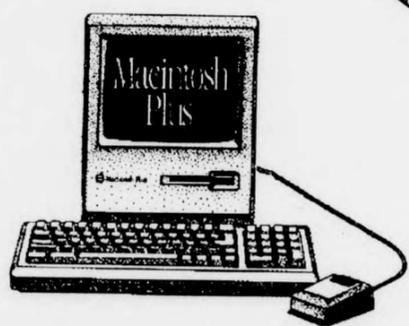
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Sports

Funding pinch for gymnastics Yeowomen

by Katarina Gulej

It is an accepted fact of life in CIAU women's gymnastics that teams from Western Canada are stronger than those from the East.

This is not because Ontario does not produce good gymnasts, but rather, many Ontario gymnasts who do excel obtain gymnastic scholarships to U.S. institutions. Since Canada does not offer any sort of scholarship

programme, the top Ontario athletes are often lost to our southern neighbours.

The Yeowomen, as is the case with other athletic teams at York, suffer a continuous lack of funding. If next year's national championships are held out West again, for example, the Yeowomen won't be able to afford the trip.

Although the team does receive some financial support from the women's athletic programme at York, the majority of their budget is raised through team events such as yearly high school meets, clinics for high school coaches, team exhibitions and moving equipment.

According to head coach Natasa Bajin, this is simply not enough to sustain the expenses of a competitive team.

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The Fall/Winter 1990/91 Lecture Schedule containing Voice Response enrolment instructions is available from your home Faculty.

**Office of the Registrar
March 19, 1990**



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Football search winds down

by Riccardo Sala

On April 4, the football Yeomen will meet their new coach.

The announcement will come at a press conference more than two months after a search was initiated to find a replacement for departing coach Nobby Wirkowski.

The search committee was headed by former Yeomen head coach Frank Cosentino.

Refusing to disclose any names garnered from the national search, Dinning did say that those in the running for the position are all Canadian. With that, Dinning put to

rest any rumours of former Argo head coach, Bob O'Billovich, gaining the position.

For Dinning, the appointment of a new coach goes beyond the filling of a vacant position. It also reflects a commitment to the football programme, which has come under intense flak in recent years for its performance.

This year's winless season has left the Yeomen at the bottom with nowhere to go but up.

Dinning sees the new coach as a focal point for the rebuilding of the football programme, and is looking ahead to April 4. "It is going to be a big evening."

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Gymnastics juggernaut grabs CIAU gold

by Katarina Gulej

The gymnastics Yeomen struck gold to capture their 15th national title in 16 years at the CIAU championship meet in Calgary March 9 and 10.

Both head coach Tom Zivic and his assistant Masaaki Naosaki were pleased with the Yeomen's results. "The gymnasts proved again that they are definitely the best in the country," said Zivic. "If we had to compete with the U.S.A we would probably be on top."

According to Zivic, the team's success is due to its youth, talent and size. Team veterans work with the younger gymnasts to ease them into university competition.

The competition's first day determined the team championship, all-around individual championships and the qualifiers for the individual event finals. The event finals determined the individual event championships. One strong performer for the Yeomen was Scott McDonald, who came away with three golds, four silvers and one bronze. "McDonald did not perform his best but was very consistent which brought him his high place standing," said Zivic.

"J.P. Kramer did exceptionally well on high bar [where he tied with McDonald for gold]," said Naosaki about another strong York performer. Kramer also took home another gold, a silver and a bronze.

In the all-around individual championship, York's George Zivic was leading four events until an error on the floor exercises dropped him into third place.

Competing in his first national championships for the Yeomen was Colin Hood. Hood earned no



The Yeomen celebrate their O.U.A.A. win earlier this year.

individual medals but gave a solid performance on floor, parallel bars and high bar. "It was a positive surprise the youngest member of the team, Colin, had his best competition," said Zivic. "Nobody expected him to place in three finals."

York's Mike Hood earned a bronze medal on the parallel bars but at the same time injured his ankle, giving him a difficult time on the floor exercises and the vault which followed.

Another injured Yeoman gymnast was Richard Smith who, despite his injuries, managed to win a bronze medal on rings.

Team captain Jeff Sweeney did not compete but acted as team manager at Calgary.

Naosaki was satisfied with the gymnasts' tough and successful year. "I was very happy the gymnasts worked hard throughout the year; six days a week," Naosaki said. "Based on our facilities we must train three to four times a week in Newmarket but no gym-

nasts complained."

Zivic agreed. "The facilities provided by the Newmarket Gymnastics Academy are absolutely essential for that high level of gymnastics. Regardless of the problems with the administration and the physical education department, Naosaki and I are determined to continue our winning style for quite a few years to come."

The Yeomen hope to host next year's CIAU championships.

The Yeowomen placed a discouraging sixth at their CIAU meet, held in conjunction with the men's championship. They were, however, only five one hundredths of a point behind the fifth place team.

"Realistically our spot was second place," said head coach Natasa Bajin. The women were in third place standing up until their final event — bars, which took them down to sixth.

According to Bajin, the team was hurt by the absence of their star, Risa Litwin. Also hindering

the Yeowomen's chances were Becky Chambers' two falls on beam and bars. "If Risa was there and Becky had a better day, we would have been in second place. We did quite good but the key performers were not there," said Bajin.

Despite the unsatisfactory results in the weekend competition, Bajin was generally happy with the results of the whole season: the Yeowomen won all of their previous competitions this year including their 15th provincial title.

Bajin looks forward to another progressive and competitive team next year. "The first year students that will be coming back is encouraging," Bajin hopes to recruit two elite gymnasts to York, one being a national team member.

Experienced veterans Risa Litwin and Linda Stewart plan to compete for another year. Fourth year veteran Leanne Grant and freshman Cari Borenstein will be leaving the team.

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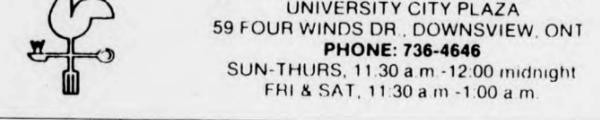
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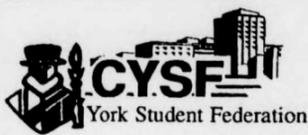


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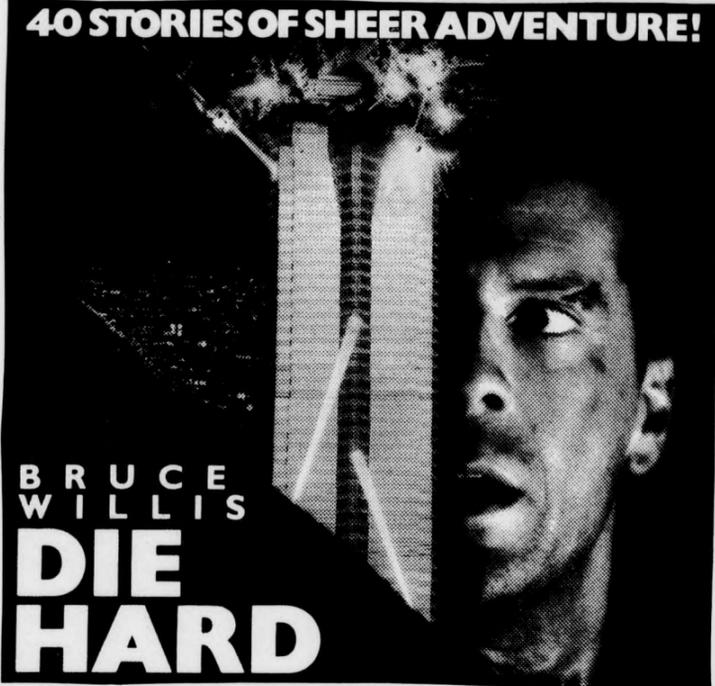


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7:00PM CLH-L 9:30PM

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