

How African students died for democracy

Heather Green's year in Cameroon's conflicts • Feature, page 9

excalibur

INSIDE

Marijuana festival comes to Ontario Place • p.10

Student life costs more after OSAP cutbacks • p.8

Harry's diatribe dissected • p.5

excalibur



Goddess of Democracy enlightens Student Centre food court • Photo by Andrew Brouse

Statue angers Chinese official

by Gina Hanlon

A new visitor to the Student Centre is causing a stir.

The "Goddess of Democracy," a plaster statue, was inspired by the statue that became the centrepiece of the June 1989 Tiananmen Square protests in Beijing.

The York statue was carried through Toronto by 5,000 Chinese-Canadian protesters in a June 1 march for Chinese democracy. It is now situated on the first floor of the Student Centre, adjacent to the art gallery.

Most of its student designers refuse to speak to the press, even anonymously, because they fear reprisal against themselves or their families from the Chinese government.

The statue's installation on May 31 immediately drew the ire of the Chinese consulate.

Consul General Tang Fuquan wrote to York president Harry Arthurs, that "some elements are currently conspiring to erect somewhere on your University campus a statue of the so-called 'Goddess of Democracy'."

"The plot, according to the reports, is being single-handedly woven by a certain organization hostile to China, its ulterior motive and ill intention being obvious," Tang added, claiming this would both "damage the Sino-Canadian" friendship and "hurt the feeling of the Chinese people including the Chinese young students."

In response, Arthurs reminded Tang that the Student Centre is independent of the university administration and he is in "no position to intervene."

Student Centre manager Rob Castle said he sees "no reason why we should take it down."

The "conspiring elements" responsible for the statue are the Toronto Association of Design for Democ-

racy, a group that has designed props for pro-democracy marches for the past three years.

Another Toronto Design for Democracy piece was recently vandalized — a large bronze sculpture at University of Toronto, opposite Hart House.

The statue consists of a bronze Chinese bicycle crushed and covered with tank treads and student footprints. An English and Chinese plaque dedicating the statue to the students who died June 4, 1989 has been removed, apparently with a crowbar, damaging the concrete it was mounted into.

Bruce Parsons, the Fine Arts professor responsible for suggesting the installation of the 'Goddess of Democracy' at York, believes the defacement of the U of T statue was politically motivated.

Parsons said the students in Design for Democracy "just wanted people to remember that there are still students in jail, still no free speech in China — no more than that."

Graduate council office padlocked

by Pat Micelli

Graduate students in need of emergency loans and services from the Graduate Student Association will have to look elsewhere for the summer.

The association's offices are padlocked and the organization is in chaos in the wake of conflicts between its executives and a recent theft of office documents.

Opposing GSA members are in dispute over the re-election of Alan Jones as president.

In an April 27 meeting the 1991-92 GSA executive voted to suspend the election of Jones and appoint a committee to investigate the actions of its members.

"Alan had done a number of questionable things," said Kim Bird, outgoing Secretary.

Vice President-elect Eduardo Garay is the acting president.

A week after the meeting, records of GSA meetings for the last two years were stolen from its student centre offices. York security has since padlocked the office, giving a set of keys only to Garay.

Jones called the executive's actions a "which hunt" and said the problems

Space university could split York

by Doug Saunders

Critics are calling the proposed International Space University a high-tuition, elitist school that could divide York's science faculty and students into an upper and lower caste.

If a York-based group wins its bid to build the home campus for the International Space University (ISU), the proposed school would offer 200 graduate students a deluxe education, complete with small classes, leading-edge facilities and plush residences — all for \$25,000 a year, far above the limits set by the Ontario government for other graduate schools.

"There is no mention at all in the bid of how this very differently-charactered institution will fit into the existing York campus. It's a very elitist institution," says Jan Newson, a York sociology professor who studies the relations between universities and corporations.

Newson, along with about 20 other professors and students, formed Members of the York Community Concerned About the Future of York in April to lobby against the ISU bid.

High tuition isn't the only thing unusual about the proposed university. According to the 190-page bid, a copy of which was obtained by Excalibur, ISU would be an independent corporation — but would use resources and grant degrees from York, and would potentially have votes on York's Board and Senate.

The York-based Institute for Space and Terrestrial Science (ISTS) is competing against five other groups worldwide (including a coalition of four Montreal universities) for the lucrative campus contract. The Ontario government has offered \$11 million in capital funds plus \$3.5 million per year to fund ISU's operations.

Supporters of the bid say the space university deserves special treatment because it will attract valuable aerospace jobs and top-rank faculty to Ontario.

"ISU is a very unique and special international organization. It is going

to add to the critical mass and be a catalyst in bringing top-flight people to Toronto," says Peter Mueller, an aerospace consultant and spokesperson for the bid team. Mueller works out of the ISTS offices on Keele St.

"Despite the significant tuition fee it's a magnet and a vision," adds Mueller, who claims that any student with suitable academic credentials would be able to attend.

Opponents say the presence of a 'higher-class' school on campus would hurt York.

"It's not accountable to York university," says physics professor Stan Jeffers. "We'll have a private university here that's going to draw the best students away from York."

Mueller is quick to counter that ISU would not be established as a private university, but as an "affiliate college" of York.

In April, Ontario colleges and universities minister Richard Allen told the Toronto Star he would only

continued on page 2

Just who are these space cadets?

"Space — the endless frontier," Councilor Troi intones from the deck of the Enterprise. "Someday in our future explorers and adventurers may sail among these stars, discovering new worlds and possibly new civilizations, taking life where no life has been before and carrying the seed of humanity to worlds without end."

Suddenly, Troi steps out of character. She's just an actor, and we're back in 1992. Her TV show takes place in the future, she reminds us, when "the great breakout of humanity from the cradle of birth is distant history, a fait accompli."

"But the world of Star Trek is only fiction," she explains, in case we've lost track. "There are no guarantees that the people of Earth can make it through the difficult times we face at the end of the twentieth century. Yet we can succeed — if we work together."

Opening scene from a fundraising video for International Space University. The video is aimed at potential corporate sponsors.

W

ait. This is a fundraising video for a university? It sounds more like new age religion, or bad television.

But it is a university, not a TV show, and the only enterprise involved is the private kind. And it could be touching down permanently on the York University campus before the summer's over.

The International Space University has little in common with any other university on Earth. It was founded five years ago by three very young men who share a common goal: to train the next generation of "space pioneers," who will join forces to populate the planets and save humans from certain doom.

Sound a bit flighty? Not to Bob Rae's government. They've promised \$11 million if this thing comes to York, plus \$3.5 million per year for an indefinite period. And not to the York administra-

Doug Saunders continues his in-depth look at ISU on page 7

stem from personal differences that started when he was acclaimed as president in 1991.

"I feel I've had an antagonistic executive all year because they didn't want me to be president."

Bird, along with Sherry Rowley, Coordinator of Women's Affairs, and Vice President Tom Bergeron have a long list of complaints against Jones to present to the investigative committee.

Jones said he has nothing to hide and has his own list of complaints.

Dan Keyes, the representative of English students on the GSA, called the executive's decision to place itself under investigation and suspend returning members "somewhat outrageous."

"It was silly [of the executive] to suspend themselves. Nobody's probably interested in doing the review, anyway."

Garay said he has not yet found members for the investigation committee, which is to be made of two administrators and five council members.

Bergeron said the stolen information would have helped the investigation. "We're trying our best to unravel a ball of thread. With the minutes missing that thread is more tangled but it still can be unravelled."

Students requiring emergency loans should call the faculty of grad. studies.

CFS forces fee increase on students

by Elaine Bellio

Undergraduates at York may soon pay an extra \$40,000 a year for membership in a national student lobby group.

At a recent national meeting, the Canadian Federation of Students, which York students voted to join in 1990, voted to increase their membership fee from \$4 to \$6 per student.

Heather Dryden, a York Federation of Students vice-president and one of four delegates representing York at the meeting, supports the increase.

"The increase is needed because inflation has not been taken into account over the years," she said.

This means CFS is making only \$1.27 per student instead \$4, said YFS president Nikki Gershbnain, who also attended the meetings.

"CFS made a mistake in 1981, because they did not use the Canadian Price Index, and now they are trying to compensate for it eleven years later," said Gershbnain.

Last year York students paid \$82,000 dollars to CFS. This plan will increase fees by \$41,000 dollars to \$123,000 dollars a year.

CFS is a national student lobby group which provides services to universities across Canada. York students currently pay four dollars each as members. Atkinson and Glendon students are not subject to the YFS-CFS membership deal.

The national student group has two administrative wings, CFS and CFS-Services. With offices in Ottawa, CFS is the political wing and is responsible for lobbying and educational campaigns.

Toronto-based CFS-Services runs a Student Work Abroad Program, a national health network, owns and operates Travel Cuts, provides student saver cards and runs the Canadian Programming Service.

CFS chair Kelly Lamrock said the money from the fee increase will be

allocated to campaigns. "We want to be able to branch out with campaigns."

"Secondly, we want to get out to Canadians and tell them the importance of post secondary education."

Kelly also said CFS is understaffed. The national organization presently employ eight full-time staff people.

Currently, \$3 is allocated to the CFS and \$1 to CFS-S. The increase will give \$4.50 to CFS and \$1.50 to CFS-S. Delegates also voted to include a provision to account for inflation.

The increase was recommended by the CFS National Executive, which includes member representatives from across the country. The Executive told delegates the membership fee had not increased since 1981 and due to inflation, there is a need to increase it now.

"We need the increase to maintain the CFS services; it's unfortunate, but it has to be done," said Kim Newton, a vice-president at Carleton University's central student government.

Space school might split York

continued from page one

approve ISU as a public institution. But he acknowledged that in the future "there may be another government in power that may make another decision."

According to Allen's aides, the space university would probably not be regulated in the same way as other Ontario universities. However, the exact nature of the arrangement would have to be negotiated with the ministry if York won the ISU bid.

Some York faculty members say they are worried ISU's precedent will help create a 'multi-tier' university system in Ontario, with expensive semi-private schools offering a more

"Students need a strong voice nationally and sufficient funding will better enable students to achieve a more accessible post-secondary system of education," said the motion.

The original motion called for fees to be increased to \$8 per student, but was eventually reduced to \$6 after debate.

York's student government has a contract with CFS and students will not get to vote on whether or not they are willing to pay it.

"We don't have much of a choice because of the legal contract with CFS," said Gershbnain.

Carleton University, in a different contract with CFS, may have a referendum, depending on their financial situation and whether or not the other universities have implemented it, said Newton.

CFS will re-examine its position if eighty per cent of its university and college members don't implement the fee increase over the next two years.

The CFS general meeting was held in Edmunston, New Brunswick from May 26 to May 30.

prestigious education.

Meuller argues that since the York Senate would have veto power over the bid, York would be able to negotiate a comfortable relationship with ISU. However, he says York would not be able to change the fundamental nature of ISU unless York were to reject the university entirely.

"ISU will very much need York University in order to function. [ISU] will have control over certain things, there's no doubt about that, but there's things they want and they will need the cooperation of people at York and U of T," Meuller says.

"That's ultimate control. If you have the ability to pull the plug on a degree, what more control do you want?"

YORK BRIEFS

Second Race and Ethnic Relations officer

by John Montesano

Weeks of protests, occupation of the university president's office and signed statements from high-level administrators promising direct action against racism in York's full-time security force seem to be getting results.

For students waging a long-time battle against racism on campus, the next victory is about to come: the hiring of a second full-time Race and Ethnic Relations officer.

Chet Singh is currently York's only Race and Ethnic Relations officer and has been responding to complaints, setting up seminars and counselling community members.

York Federation of Students Vice President Heather Dryden, who sits on a committee which could select a new officer as early as next week, said hiring a second Race and Ethnic Relations officer is the least the administration could do.

"Chet already is doing the job of ten for 40,000 students," she said. "It will mean more business will go through that office."

Footing the bill to hire a second Race and Ethnic Relations officer is one of the ways York's administration is fulfilling promises responding to a list of student demands.

The demands were presented to York vice-presidents, Security Director Pam Macdonald and other high-level administrators by over 300 student protestors during rallies last March.

The protestors are being represented by steering committee members who will ensure all admin promises are kept and sit on a number of newly formed committees.

Student demands included a full scale investigation into York Security by an external body, mandatory and ongoing race relations training for security staff, annual security review

committee, and the immediate firing of officers found guilty of discriminatory behaviour.

The Black Secretariat is the external body conducting an investigation of York Security.

Clem Marshall, former chair of the Black Secretariat, has initiated an ongoing race relations training program for York Security officers.

Marriott cashes in

by Sara Singer

Marriott Food Services has won the bid to take over the Central Square cafeteria.

The previous Central Square caterer, Elite Food Services, went broke two months before their contract ended with York.

"They (Marriott) have a reputation to uphold in universities across the country that they would not want to jeopardize by not doing their job," said Eric Steinbach, a student representative on a tendering committee.

The committee reviewed four bids contract throughout March and signed a five year deal with Marriott, with an option to renew for another five years. Marriott also agreed to pick up the remainder of Elite Foods contract.

Marriott is one of six caterers on York and Glendon campuses. They have contracts in three cafeterias on York campus in complex one and two and now Central Square. Three other catering companies have contracts respectively in Osgoode Hall, Atkinson and the kosher deli cafeterias.

Although Marriott lost money in its first two years at York, last year it managed to turn things around and show a profit for the first time.

Susanne Cullen, director of Marriott Food Services at York said the satisfaction rate from students has been high.

For the new contract in Central Square she said students can expect a variety of fast foods outlets, including a Pizza Hut, a Tim Horton's, a deli, a charcoal grill and a chinese style wok option

Drop Everything

Harnessing Intuition

The second annual Global Intuition Conference will focus on issues such as how intuitive ability can be measured, and how intuitive skills can be practically used to increase productivity, profitability and effectiveness within organizations. At York University, August 20 to 22. Cost is \$300.00, or \$150.00 for students. For more information contact Dr. Rebecca Jubis at 736-5252.

York By Cycle

A York-based bicycle user group. The ring-posts are popping up everywhere. The more bicycles come on campus, the more they will be planned for. For more info call Ed or Mel at 322-9440.

Ride Board

Going somewhere? Need a ride? Have extra space in your car? Announce it and reduce your costs. Located outside the YFS office.

Bisexual Lesbian and Gay Peer Support Group

Discrete and confidential. Addressing personal issues, Continuing through the summer. Tuesday 5-7pm, at 315C Student Centre. Any hesitations call Doug at 736-2100, ext.20494.

Student Centre Childcare

The Student Centre Childcare will be operating its summer programme from May to August 7. The centre will continue to offer its flexible part-time care for children ages 18 months to 5 years, but will also be offering school age care on a limited basis, full or part-time. For more info call Denise or Lesley at 736-5959.

Drop Everything for your campus announcements. Leave submissions in the Drop Everything envelope in the Excal production room, 420 Student Centre. Deadlines are Thursdays before Wednesday's publications

**THE
 CLUBS
 COALITION
 IS
 BURNING HOT**

**Don't miss
 the next
 meeting:
 June 19,
 5:00pm
 313
 Student
 Centre**

Metro councillor says York should pay for subway station

by John Montesano

York's administration says it's prepared to pay a share of the cost to bring a subway to campus despite claims by a Metro councillor that it isn't enough.

York will not charge the TTC to run a subway under campus land and could be prepared to donate the land for the station or let them lease it for \$1 a year for an extended period, said York vice-president Ian Lithgow.

Metro Councillor Howard Moscoe said he will not support a campus station unless York pays its share of the costs or turns over about 50 per cent of the enhanced value of their lands as a result of the subway.

"What they're offering is no big deal," said Moscoe. "Splitting the enhanced value of the property is considerably more than donating a right-of-way."

Lithgow said the administration is doing everything it can to bring the subway to York but suggested Moscoe has a personal agenda to keep it off campus.

Plans to connect the Yonge and Spadina subway lines are in their final stages.

One option, a Keele-Steeles loop, would cost \$1.2 billion and travel from Wilson station past York campus to Steeles before turning east to join the Yonge line.

The May 1992 Let's Move Program environmental assessment is also proposing a \$900 million Dufferin loop that would continue north of Sheppard straight to Steeles and then east to join Yonge.

Two years ago, the provincial government budgeted \$5 billion through its Let's Move Program — a department of the TTC — for transit improvements in Metro. It will contribute up to 75 per cent of the construction costs with the balance being shared among local and regional governments.

Let's Move will recommend a plan to Metro council as early as this Fall. Metro council can accept the recommendation or send its own plan for final approval by the provincial government.

"I'm prepared to support a subway line to its door if York will pay its fair share," said Moscoe. He says he has support at the TTC and among other Metro councillors but would not single anyone out.

Metro councillor Norm Gardner is not one of those supporters. "My feeling is that it should go in that direction (to York campus). What I see is a far greater amount of revenue, as far as ridership, new investment that would warrant the greater expenditure."

Gardner said Moscoe seems to have something against York and should not be looking to try to screw things up so that nothing takes place. "Moscoe runs around half-cocked anyway," he said.

Moscoe argues the Dufferin loop could easily serve York students and Jane-Finch residents by connecting it to a dedicated bus route running along the hydro corridor to the south of campus.

Public transit lobbyists argue in favour of a longer loop. "The (Dufferin-Finch) loop was designed in order to turn trains around," said Tony Turrittin, former president of Transport 2000 Ontario, a lobby group which supports public transit. "This is short-sighted. We want a grid reaching into the north-west."

"If it's only a means of turning trains, that's a false economy. We're trying to get more people stop driving cars and start taking transit, and for that we need (subway) lines to the east and west. The Dufferin loop is no solution."

The Loop Group — a loosely knit group of local community member including the City of Vaughan, York Region, York Federation of Students,



Outgoing York president Harry Arthurs looks good next to a cardboard cut-out at his good-bye party yesterday in Vari Hall. He's the one on the left... no, the right...we think. Arthurs steps down at the end of June. Susan Mann plans to take office "sometime in the beginning of September", according to York communications director Jessie May Rowntree. •photo by Tom Kim

Students find nothing to celebrate

by Elaine Bellio

Student groups boycotted festivities by York's administration to open the new university common outside Vari Hall May 29.

Students were upset festivities were held in the summer and on grounds not accessible to students.

To protest what administrators called "Celebration York", a huge banner was set up outside the Student Centre facing the commons area.

The banner read, "No money, no profs, no books, no equality, no security, no education - No Celebration."

Celebration York was organized for members of the university who provide valued contributions to York's central objective of educa-

tion, said co-organizer Nancy Accinelli.

Holding a party for the community in May, when most students at York are away for the summer, upset boycott organizers and students at the event.

"It wasn't for us. They held it on a Friday in the summer. Not even summer school courses are held on a Friday," said Andrea Shettleworth, a student attending the event.

"The students still have no reason to feel good about the school," she added.

A draft policy outlining the use of the commons and Vari Hall helped spark the boycott by students groups worried academic and administrative activities will take precedence over

their events.

The York Federation of Students is especially upset because they were not allowed to set up election polling booths last March in Vari Hall.

"It seems to me that students are the largest stakeholders at this University, and should have at least equal access to all spaces," said Jeff Zoeller, a YFS vice-president.

Other groups cited a needless expenditure of time and resources for a cash-strapped university and a community reeling from recent cuts to financial student aid programs in supporting the boycott.

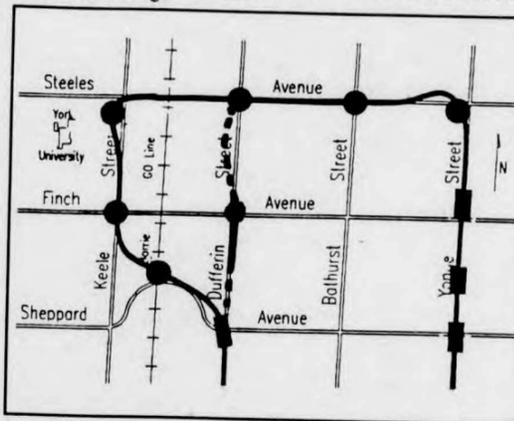
"We don't think it's time for a celebration right now. We don't want to present a false impression to the York community and pretend that everything is great," said Sharmela Khare, Glendon college president.

"I do not deny that problems do exist but it's time people put aside concerns briefly and came together as a community," said Accinelli.

Some students supported the event. Justin Linden, Student Senator Caucus Chair, in a letter to Accinelli said, "While it is true that York is suffering considerably from its budgetary situation, I do not believe that we should ignore our many successes as a means of addressing our problems," said Linden.

Supplies for events were donated or subsidized by other campus organizations including the Alumni association and the Student Centre Corporation.

The commons cost \$2.4 million. The boycott was supported by most student college councils, York's Women's Centre Collective and some campus unions.



York's administration, numerous property developers and many urban planners — has long supported the Steeles loop.

In 1990, the Let's Move Program was considering at least seven different plans. The Loop Group has been working for about 18 months to lobby for the Steeles loop.

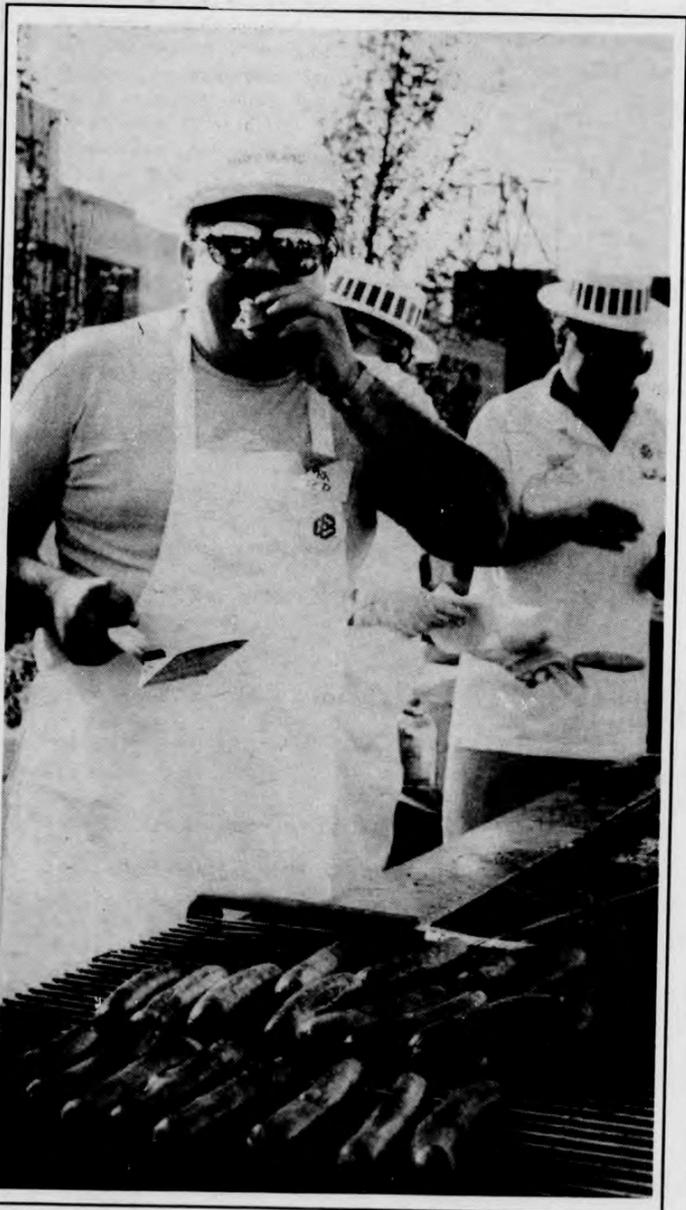
Last year, the group commissioned an \$85,000 report on the subway loop. York contributed almost \$12,000.

Over 600 supporters of the Keele-Steeles loop attended three recent local community meetings organized by Metro Council and the TTC commission at local high schools.

"It's a lot right now but in 20 years what is it gonna cost," said Baker, also an area resident.

Atkinson College council vice-president Kevin Baker attended one of the public hearings and said even with the extra cost the crowd favoured the Keele-Steeles loop.

Moscoe, playing down the meetings, said they were orchestrated by York University.



York's French chef tastes his delicately seasoned hors d'oeuvres during Celebration York festivities. •photo by Andrew Brouse

Quotes of Celebration York

Shouting out on Celebration York

"There should be more signs. This shouldn't be held today. It should be held in September. I mean who is celebrating York?"
— Anna, third Year student.

"The boycott doesn't surprise me. It's a shame. It is a celebration. They're actually giving away free food."
— Tim Garel, fourth year graduate.

"The sign was done very tastefully. We didn't piss on anybody's cheerios. We can't just close our eyes to problems that exist."
— Wayne Carrigan, Bethune College Council President.

"Why don't they (the protestors) sit in a big group and look depressed. Instead they're home probably watching Geraldo. Groups don't get involved, don't concern themselves. Instead they send out ambiguous signs that are a waste of everybody's time. Stop complaining about everything."
— Dave Crawley, York alumni.

"The only ones this celebration is helping is staff. The students still have no reason to feel good about the school."
— Andrea Shettleworth, 4th year graduate.

Access to commons area and Vari Hall

"It seems to me that students are the largest stakeholders at this University and should have at least equal access."
— Jeff Zoeller, YFS vp

"The students have absolute complete control and untrammelled access to all the space at the university."
— Harry Arthurs, York president



no reason to celebrate

Excilbur's Board of Publications is looking for student representatives to fill its vacant seats.

Students interested in the student press and are part of either Bethune, Vanier, Founders or Winters Colleges are asked to contact their college councils as soon as possible and submit their names for consideration.

All positions will start at a Board meeting June 30th 1992, at 5:00.

Terms may last until June 30th 1993. The Board may be asking members to meet weekly in July.

Students applying should consider the importance of attending all meetings before submitting their names.

For more information contact Maggie or Grant at 736-5239

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Excilbur
420, Student Centre, York University
4700 Keele Street
North York, Ontario
M3J 1P3

Telephone:
Advertising • 736-5238
Editorial • 736-5239

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EXCALENDAR

Wednesday June 10

Staff Meeting at 6:00 pm
(all are welcome to attend)

Thursday June 11

Production Meeting at 1:00 pm

Wednesday June 24

Watch for our next summer issue
Contributions, letters are welcome
Deadline is Wednesday, June 17

Quote of the issue:

"Everything secret degenerates; nothing is safe that does not show it can bear discussion and publicity."

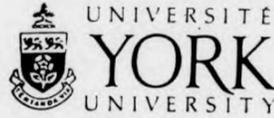
— Lord Acton

Excilbur masthead quote of the 1970's

Methinks Harry doth protest too much...

If you haven't read this letter, you probably weren't on campus in April. York President Harry Arthurs fired it off as a response to *Excilbur's* April 2 profile of vice president Stephen Fienberg, who was then one of three candidates competing to replace Arthurs. The disgruntled president printed thousands of copies of the three-page letter, dumped them all over campus and mailed them to the media. The letter is worth reading carefully because the president ends up revealing more than he denies — and because it shows how he deals with criticism. Here, *Excilbur's* Features Editor Doug Saunders gives you a guided tour of Arthurs' letter.

Office of the President



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Statement by President Harry Arthurs concerning false allegations of involvement of York University and of Vice President Stephen Fienberg in Star Wars research

April 8, 1992

Several students and professors, a student newspaper, and the Canadian Peace Alliance have made a series of false statements concerning York University and Stephen Fienberg, one of the candidates now seeking its presidency. The University believes that fair-minded people - including most members of the York community and the peace movement - will wish to have the facts at their disposal, in order to make an informed judgment concerning these totally false allegations.

The following represents my best knowledge and complete disclosure of all the facts at my disposal.

1. It is alleged that York is seeking to become part of the Strategic Defence Initiative of the US Defence Department.

This is false.

York's Senate resolved that no SDI research should be done on its campus, and requested the administration not to administer SDI funds. On behalf of the administration, I agreed. This has been York's policy since June 26, 1986, and continues to be our policy today. To the best of my knowledge, no classified military research is done at York.

2. It is alleged that York supports a bid to bring the International Space University to its campus, so that the ISU - and York, its host - will become a "major part of the entire Star Wars research complex," since ISU is allegedly controlled by a US board dominated by defence-related contractors.

This is false several times over.

York is supporting a bid by ISTS and the government of Ontario to bring the ISU to our campus. ISTS - an Ontario Centre of Excellence in Space Research and a consortium of universities and private sector firms - is committed to research only into peaceful uses of space, and has in fact confined itself to such research. Its bid for the ISU is supported by the Government of Ontario and is in competition with bids from Quebec, France, Italy and Japan. If the ISTS bid is successful, the terms of ISU's association with York will have to be negotiated and approved by the Ontario government and by York's Senate and Board.

The ISU is not now and will not be the sort of institution alleged. Founded by several students, it has operated as a peripatetic summer school meeting at various sites in several countries, including MIT, and, in 1990, the York campus. Its student body, staff and administration are international, and have been drawn from countries in the industrialized west, in the former socialist bloc (prior to dissolution), and in the third world (including India, China and several African states). A list of its board of directors and advisory board no doubt includes some representatives of US firms which do SDI research, but these are outnumbered by far larger representation from other countries and other fields of activity, especially academic research.

The International Space University has explicitly committed itself to "focus on projects meant to utilize resources and energy of the solar system to protect and preserve life on Earth, and to explore and examine the depths of the cosmos." Given this commitment, "as an international, non-profit, non-governmental organization devoted to world cooperation in space" [the ISU, according to its charter] "cannot be interlinked with any form of national political organization, political party or military project." No departure from these principles has been alleged or observed, none is anticipated, nor would any be tolerated, so far as York is concerned."

3. It is alleged that York's Vice President, Stephen Fienberg, is the chosen instrument of the Board of Governors to achieve this goal. Dr. Fienberg is alleged to have had "a major role" in turning Carnegie Mellon University into a major US defence contractor and in having the university "become home to the Software Education Institute (SEI)" which creates software for secret military projects. He is also alleged to have said that SEI is an "ideal model" for York to follow.

False again. And willfully misleading.

Dr. Fienberg is a distinguished statistician, who served as Dean of Humanities and Social Sciences at Carnegie Mellon, prior to joining York, and returning to Toronto, of which he is a native. When the plans were developed for SEI to come to Carnegie Mellon, he was on leave and away from the campus. Subsequently, as Dean of Humanities and Social Sciences, he was responsible for a collection of academic units which had nothing to do with SDI or similar research.

His contact with SEI was to serve as a member of an advisory panel for a research program which was funded with SEI funds. This project related to software quality control, and was non-military, scholarly, and open. Dr. Fienberg never sought and does not possess security clearance in the United States.

He did not advocate SEI as an "Ideal Model" for York. He said that Carnegie Mellon had properly addressed intellectual property and other financial and administrative concerns prior to entering into an agreement with SEI, and that if York intended to bring outside research agencies onto campus, it would be well advised to do likewise.

4. Dr. Fienberg's appointment as Vice President is alleged to be "part of a push to have ISU brought to York," and the presidential selection process is alleged to have been secret and gerrymandered to ensure his selection as president for which he is alleged to be "definitely slated."

False, and not only misleading but clearly malicious.

The ISU bid was conceived in 1990 and was being pursued by ISTS, not York. Stephen Fienberg was selected by me as Vice President in the spring of 1991, on the recommendation of a search committee which comprised a number of senior academics and another vice president. His appointment was subsequently approved by the Board of Governors, on my recommendation. The Board had never heard his name prior to my proposing it. Neither I nor they raised the issue of Star Wars or other military research since there was nothing in his resume (or in fact) to indicate his involvement in such research, and the issue of ISU was not discussed with him by me, or so far as I know, by anyone else.

The presidential search process at York is conducted by a joint Board-Senate committee, according to rules which were agreed upon in 1984 by the two bodies. It is a very open process, much more so than that of almost any other Canadian university, and so much so that most candidates with other university affiliations have refused to allow their names to stand. Dr. Fienberg's candidacy - so far as I know, I am not directly involved - was subject to the standard procedures used for other candidates.

As of this date, the outcome of the search is not known and according to most observers, is completely unpredictable.

These allegations are devoid of truth, or the semblance of truth. Whether they were circulated in ignorance or in bad faith, their authors owe an apology to York University, to the ISU, and to Stephen Fienberg. They will do the cause of peace a great service if they show that they are honest enough to provide that apology.

•Why start with space lasers? Compared to the matter at hand, Star Wars research is a side issue, a bit player with a couple cameo appearances — and none of them on the York campus. These "false allegations" were never made by *Excilbur* — and, to the best of our knowledge, not by anyone else, either (although both the Canadian Peace Alliance and the Ontario Federation of Labour have recently asked questions about SDI research at York — a perfectly valid thing to do, as we shall soon see).

•Arthurs tries to get the upper hand by writing his entire letter in the passive voice ("it is alleged"), so he can avoid saying just who is doing all this alleging. What *Excilbur* did allege was that Fienberg is a big fan of closer ties between private industry and the university, and doesn't particularly care if that industry is military-related. As for Star Wars research, it came up only in relation to his previous experience in the United States. So why is Arthurs so eager to clear the record on Star Wars?

•Maybe this is why. It's true, as Arthurs says, that the Senate voted in 1986 to ban SDI research on the York campus. But it's also true that in 1987 the SDI Office in Washington reported a subcontract conducted on the York campus — a year after the Senate ban.

•Still, Arthurs is wise to focus on SDI research — a useful 'decoy' issue, convenient for promoting York's squeaky-clean reputation and drawing the reader's attention away from that enormous heap of military research staring everyone in the face. According to the March *Ploughshares Bulletin*, York ranks number one among Canadian universities in terms of Pentagon research dollars. Out of \$960,270 reported by the Pentagon for research contracts at Canadian universities, York grabbed \$711,610. In terms of overall defence research, York ranked number three among Canadian universities — quite an achievement for a university with a relatively small science faculty.

•The Institute for Space and Terrestrial Science (ISTS) is committed to any kind of research that will help its member companies make a profit. That's the purpose of ISTS, the reason why the Ontario government has spent millions to put this "centre of excellence" on the York campus. Nobody at ISTS will deny that much of their research is military-funded — as aerospace contractor Peter Mueller says, "you just can't separate the two so easily" — and, in light of the fact that a reported 75 to 80 per cent of NASA's work is military-related, the very term "peaceful uses of space" looks like an oxymoron.

•Here, Arthurs could only be referring to the April 2 *Excilbur* article. But we never said Fienberg had "a major role" in SEI coming to Carnegie Mellon — merely that he thought it was a great idea. We attended a symposium where Fienberg extolled the virtues of SEI, and he very clearly said it was an "ideal model" for York. Arthurs has one thing right here: SEI does indeed create software for secret military projects.

•Sure, Fienberg thinks the "intellectual property and other financial and administrative concerns" were "properly addressed" between Carnegie Mellon and SEI. And here's what Carnegie Mellon got: a \$103 million research institute which is effectively co-run by the Pentagon. The US Department of defence is allowed to reserve a percentage of the Institute's research projects and declare them classified. Much of the information produced there will never be seen by other scientists; in some cases, the public can't even know what the projects are. As Arthurs says, Fienberg thinks York "would be well advised to do likewise" — and that's the problem with Fienberg.

•A few days after this letter was printed, Fienberg was removed from the list of candidates after the York senate declined to endorse him. This wasn't due to any of the conspiracy theories Arthurs throws around here — it was because of Fienberg's policies and opinions.

A businesslike, bottom-line administrator, he is an efficient budget cutter and a proponent of closer ties between industry and the university. Most Board of Governors members, themselves corporate executives, tend to agree with Fienberg on this — but faculty members don't. That was all *Excilbur* argued, and that was all it took to convince the Senate that Fienberg isn't the right president for York. As a result, Susan Mann is the new president — and we have our open selection process to thank for this.

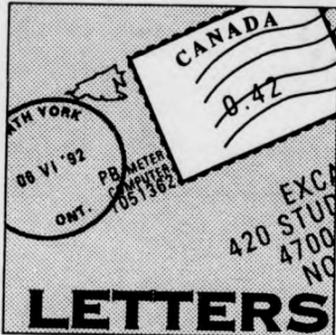
Racism course trivialized

Dear Editor,

It has come to our attention that course 3020.06 "The Paradox of Racism" has been changed from a full year to a half year course for the upcoming year and furthermore, that a new course director has been contracted to replace Jackie Wilson as a result in the shift from 'unit 2' to 'unit 1' hiring practice. This raises a number of issues that as York students we are extremely concerned about. In the first instance, we feel strongly that the proposed change from full to half year will trivialize a course of study that is essentially unique at this university. The proposed theoretical emphasis and elimination of sufficient time to explore contemporary issues in racism, will effectively circumvent the possi-



This is the size of the demo on Monday May 7 at Yonge and Wellesley. We were big. Don't believe the hype - photo by Tom Schneider



bility of attitude behaviour change that is so vital to a course of this nature.

Secondly, while we appreciate that economic constraints in the 90's cannot help but affect academic policy, the choice of instructor should not be based solely on the 'bottom line'. Jackie Wilson has brought a level of experience, competence and commitment to the course that is rare in the experience of this group of students. Her ability to integrate theoretical interpretations of racism within the context of important current events has taken the artificiality of the classroom into the 'real world' and we have been enriched by the experience.

Finally, York has for many years been perceived as an educational institution that is willing to go outside the 'mainstream,' providing students with the intellectual scope and emotional

breadth to become initiators of positive social change. We are concerned that this important aspect of York is being overlooked as new economically based priorities are being initiated. The 'Paradox of Racism' is the only example of anti-racist education available at York and it is paradoxical that a multicultural institution such as this would choose to shackle it given the many other alternatives available.

A. Brant Coleman,
 Representing the 3020.06 class.

Didn't have to write article

Dear Editor,

I've been meaning to write for some time now to comment on the rather unfortunate political tone as constantly expressed in each and every edition of *Excalibur*. As you might imagine, I've been putting it off, waiting for the right opportunity. Well, that time has finally come. What eventually led to this decision was your April 1st cover feature "Stephen Fienberg's Corporate York."

I find it is a highly destructive, elaborate form of cheap gossip without colour of any detached analysis whatsoever. You paint Mr. Fienberg as some form of monstrous fiend whose evil "corporate philosophy" will inevitably lead to our collective destruction. This implies that you remain utterly nescient to the concept that there may be those among us who would welcome the changes Mr. Fienberg would bring and would delight in seeing our University run by someone whose policies are so antithetical to those espoused by the plague of all you new-age socialists.

Excalibur, it is quite lamentable, suffers from this crippling disease. I would like only once to see a fair and impartial piece of journalism be printed onto the massive amounts of newsprint you distribute. I as are many others, am not interested in listening to you grind your many axes. I merely want to know the truth. Turning stories into (rather bad) editorials only makes people hate you.

You didn't have to print those unfair cartoons of Mr. Fienberg. You don't have to call Rushton a racist, though you may criticize his scientific method. You shouldn't assume that all men have a deeply rooted desire to hurt women

(real men don't). You cannot call the decisions of *Obiter Dicta's* former editors "poor judgement." These are all highly inflammatory remarks which have obviously not been properly debated. Contrary to what you probably believe, you leftists are not in any way intellectually superior and as such, you have no right to force your opinions onto others.

In brief, stop the qualitative language and divide your political appetite(s) from journalism. Only then will you find justification for killing so many trees.

C. Armour-Kidson
 1st year Computer Science

Corporations are a problem

Dear Editor,

Re: "Education is a commodity" (Letter, Mar. 25)

A letter by Michael Crawford in *Excalibur* suggests that corporations should not be taxed to provide for free education for fear of their departure to countries that tax them less.

It seems a common misconception that without large corporations there would be no jobs and our society would perish. However quite the opposite is true. Large corporations frequently impoverish a society by sending its funds to far away places. (Local Employment and Trading Systems (LETS) address this by using their own electronic currency which can only be used within the community.)

In a society without large corporations, people become self-employed. This allows the individual better control over her/his life and also the flexibility to respond easily to market demands. This translates in the demands of the local community being met by its own members. This makes for a stable economy and hence a healthy and prosperous society. While making a closed economy of total self-sufficiency is almost unobtainable and can be undesirable, we should strive for as much self-sufficiency as possible to enjoy the obvious benefits of economic stability.

Multinationals focus on the exact opposite: They ignore the needs of the local people and, to maximize their own profit, exploit the differences in laws and customs between different communities and use the cheapest parts of each but evade the corresponding social responsibilities. They take services, labour, products, but return nothing or little. Thus they 'steal' from all communities. The damage they do by alienating people within a community, destroying people's institutions, local jobs, means to recovery from catastrophe, ability to self-determination and other intangible qualities of human society, is enormous and incomparable to the small amount they return in salaries and occasional monetary donations.

Admittedly, if all large corporations walked out from our country at the same time, they would cause human

suffering since we have come to rely on them. But all the more reason to want to get rid of entities that hold such destructive power over our communities that they can threaten us and which are devoid of social responsibility!

If large corporations leave, we can start building a healthier society. Else they should pay their share into the society. Ideally a long transition period will take place whereby more and more people become self-employed and large corporations become more and more disadvantaged in our society. A couple hundred years (or less) are enough and the electronic age is facilitating this.

Next time you go shopping choose things that were made locally (if possible). Join a LETS system. Look out for the possibility of working at home and providing services for your local community. Stop whining that we need corporations and work towards decreasing our dependency on them.

Sincerely,
 Iain Calder,
 York University Greens

Job well done

Dear Editor,

Re: "Hardcore racism is not a thing of the past" (Editorial, Apr. 1)

From one sister to another, I would like to congratulate Jeannine Amber on a job well done. I am glad that you were strong enough to deal with the racism you were subjected to through cowardly presented letters. After all, if they were so cowardly that they did not have the guts to sign their letters, I do not believe that you should take their sentiments seriously. Those Black students who protested against the behaviour of the racist security guards were brave enough to stand up to administrative indifference and show themselves publicly. They did not hide behind letters.

We need more Blacks like you in this world. Black men and women who are unflinching in their determination to make changes where changes need to be made. Good luck in your future, and I hope that *Excalibur* continues in the trend which you have helped to set.

Janet Jones,
 Fourth year Philosophy

Propaganda not reportage

Dear Editor,

Re: "Stephen Fienberg's corporate York" (Feature, Apr. 1)

The article on V.P. Fienberg by Doug Saunders with caricatures by Jim Hounslow has to be one of the low points in student newspaper reporting at York. Normally, I find the information presented in *Excalibur* to be reasonably accurate, and the conclusions reached by your reporters to follow sound reasoning. Most of this was missed in Saunderson's discussion of the merits of Prof. Fienberg as a president for York. Allegations and innuendo (eg. Fienberg's from Carnegie Mellon, Carnegie Mellon has substantial revenue from the military, Fienberg's now at York, ergo York is about to become a vassal of an industrial/military alliance?) are a dismal and degrading substitute for sound analysis and clear reasoning. Saunders and Hounslow have produced an effective piece of propaganda, but reportage it is not. *Excalibur* ought to apologise to the York community and in particular to Stephen Fienberg for this demeaning piece.

Fred Morgan,
 Physics Department, and
 Bethune College Council

We will publish letters up to 250 words. They must be typed, double spaced, and accompanied by the writer's name and phone number. Material deemed libelous or discriminatory by the staff of *Excalibur* will be rejected. The opinions expressed are those of the letter-writers and do not represent those of the *Excalibur* staff, Editorial Board, or Board of Publications.

Earth Summit Word Search

WORD LIST

- AMERICAN PRESSURE
- BINDING GLOBAL WARMING TREATY
- BIODIVERSE?
- BRAZIL ECO-POLICE
- CARBON DIOXIDE
- CARLO RIPA DI MEANA BOYCOTT
- COST OF MILLIONS
- DROUGHT
- ECOSYSTEM DAMAGE
- ELECTIONEERING
- ENVIRONMENTAL CONFERENCE
- EUROPEAN CONCESSIONS
- FLOODS
- FOOD LOSS
- FRESH AIR
- GREENHOUSE EFFECT
- JOB OR NATURE CHOICE
- KEEP POOR OFF STREETS
- METHANE
- NATIVE "EARTH CHARTER"
- NITROUS OXIDE
- NOBODY PAYS
- NO COMMITMENT
- NO FORESTS
- PHOTO OPS
- POPE LIMITS (DEBATE)
- POP(ULATION) OFF AGENDA
- POWER GAMES
- PREPARED AGREEMENTS
- PRO-DEVELOPMENT AGENDA
- PSEUDO-SCIENCE

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RIO DE JANEIRO
 TECHNOLOGY TRADE
 TOXIC WASTE

TRITE RHETORIC
 UNITED NATIONS
 WILL PRESIDENT BUSH GO?

The following puzzle was developed by Ira Nayman. Look for the solution on the back page.

How three grad students talked us into outer space

Continued from page 1

ion, which has energetically joined the Institute for Space and Terrestrial Science in wooing the space cadets.

Opponents of the Space University bid have asked whether Ontario should support a school which would be an elitist institute with \$25,000 tuition. They have also listed numerous ties between ISU's funding sources and the US military-industrial complex. But another, more fundamental question should also be asked: what's the point behind a space university, and who came up with it?

Bob Richards had a lot to do with it. With his boyish features and mop of unkempt red hair, he doesn't fit the image of a university founder. At 33, he's the oldest of the three men who created ISU.

Richards talks about his spacefaring ventures with a relentless zeal. He describes himself proudly as a member of the "space generation" — a term he coined for those born after 1958, the year of Sputnik.

"I guess my interest in space dates back to when I first started walking," Richards says, adding a characteristically grandiose phrase: "The co-founders and I are working to and forward into a vast human endeavour in space." In 1981 Richards was studying engineering at Ryerson. At 22 years of age, the Toronto-born student already planned to devote his life to space.

One day he picked up a copy of *Omni*, the glossy science magazine published by *Penthouse* founder Bob Guccione. It contained a letter to the editor which would change his life.

"The steady deterioration of the US space program's goals and budget endangers our future and demands an organized response from our nation's campuses," it proclaimed.

The author was Peter Diamandis, an undergraduate at the Massachusetts Institute of Technology. The letter advertised a newly-formed "national student pro-space organization" called Students for the Exploration and Development of Space.

Richards contacted Diamandis and soon organized a Canadian branch of SEDS (which still has a chapter at York). Diamandis had already joined forces with the third founder, Todd Hawley, an undergrad at George Washington University.

Using SEDS as a springboard, the three young men went to work lobbying the US congress for more ambitious — and more expensive — space programs.

This was 1981, and the Reagan decade had just begun. The three starcrossed buddies may not have realized it, but their timing was perfect.

Not that outlandish space programs were a new idea for Americans. In the early 1960s President Kennedy declared space colonization the ultimate end to America's manifest destiny. In the decade that followed, the astronomically expensive Apollo program helped turn adolescent sci-fi fantasies into — well, into grown-up fantasies.

Americans got their wings singed in 1972, when the unpaid bills from the space program — along with the Vietnam war — helped create the first-ever US budget deficit. Putting people in space became politically risky: having men stick flags into the backside of the moon suddenly looked excessive in contrast to record inflation and unemployment back on earth. By the end of the 1970s the space program was virtually grounded.

Most Americans didn't mind seeing rockets carry communications satellites instead of humans. But on the fringes of US society, a group of people felt ripped off.

This group included, of course, the businesspeople who had profited from the lavish human space missions of the 1960s. But there was a second group: the space colonists. The colonists believe, for a variety of reasons, that the solution to Earth's problems is to move the human race onto other planets.

For some, the reasons are geopolitical: we're certain to blow ourselves up or pollute ourselves out soon, and we'd better have a retreat. For others, the motives are religious: Armageddon is coming and we'd better get off the earth if we want to be saved. Still others see the world as morally corrupt and want to build a new, pure human race on the planets. And many are imperial-minded Americans who want to see a 'new Columbus' carrying the stars and stripes across the void.

Of course, the businesspeople and the colonists were not isolated groups. Many rich and powerful Americans really believed that space-colony stuff. Many others realized they could profit from it.

Which is where the three young men come into the picture.

Had they met in 1971, their ideas may well have remained on the fringes. But this was the '80s, and the US government suddenly had few qualms about launching multibillion-dollar gigaprojects. In the age of Star Wars and Stealth bombers, space fantasies were fashionable again.

The three young men were making some surprisingly high-level contacts in government and business through SEDS and its offshoot, the Space Generation Foundation. And on April 12, 1987, in Diamandis' words, they decided to "cash in our chips."

That day they announced the creation of International Space University — an ambitious project intended, according to Richards, to "train the next generation of space pioneers." Based out of MIT, it would offer a summer program in a different country each year, offering a select group of graduate students an education in "Space Studies."

For ISU founder Peter Diamandis, space is utopia. In a recent *Excalibur* interview, Diamandis described his "frontier mentality":

"It's the positive vision of what humanity can become when it's freed from what causes most of the wars in and around the world — which is conflicts over resources and conflicts over religious disputes because different groups are abutted to each other across a border — and when you're freed up to say 'okay, hey, you want to practice this religion and this type of social economy, great, you've got all the room you want to go do it. Have fun. See if it works'"

Taking a different spin on the colonization theme, co-founder Todd Hawley used his Spanish background to compare space colonists to conquistadors.

"I had grown up in Spain — a country which, in the late 1400s, decided to make the New World its cause. Space is the new world for me," he told *Technology Review* in 1988.

And as far as Bob Richards is concerned, space is our only solution. In 1981 he wrote a full-page article in the *Ryerson Eyeopener* entitled "It's all or nothing for humankind."

"We are in an epochal generation," Richards argued. Humans face the "global threat" of nuclear war. This threat "leads ultimately to the necessity of a global space program."

Today, Richards seems genuinely bewildered when critics tell him that ISU's funding sources include major arms contractors. He says there is no connection and calls the space university a "peace factory."

He says he is motivated, "as my co-founders are, [by] a vision of what space can be for the future of humanity. The ISU is one cog in the wheel of what is necessary to make what we see as a great future for humankind."

The Space University appears to have sprung from the three students' almost obsessive desire to launch humans into space. All three appear to believe that expensive space programs are not only desirable but necessary.

But is this merely the creed of the founders, the eccentricity that drew them together — or is it part of the university itself? After all, ISU is run by a 23-member board, only two of

whom are the founders.

The letters of incorporation for ISU say its purpose is "to foster international higher education related to outer space" — nothing about expanding our dominion to the outer reaches. And most of the hype for ISU has been about its economic benefits, its alleged power to create high-tech jobs.

But it looks as if ISU's mission is just as political as it is technological. The summer sessions include, along with the expected science and engineering curriculum, courses in Space Policy and Law and in Space Humanities (which includes lectures "in topics such as space history, sociology, philosophy, art and literature").

At least one former student says an ISU education is more political than scientific. Damian Haule, an African-born student who attended ISU's 1991 summer session, says the program included workshops on the "politics of space projects," which he says were intended to "convince people in different countries that space programs are beneficial."

According to ISU's 1990 annual report, the growing number of graduates will form "a growing cadre of individuals who will lead their universities, industries and nations into space." What if those universities, industries and nations don't want to go into space?

If the purpose of the space university is, as its support-



ers claim, to "raise skill levels" and "increase technological capabilities," then why don't they just throw some money into existing applied science and engineering programs? Most supporters — including Ontario government officials — answer that the ISU is special, that it will train "space leaders." Which is true: ISU isn't there simply to create technicians and engineers. It's there to create well-connected lobbyists who can pump their governments for space megaprojects.

It's amazing enough that three graduate students, none older than 27, could found a university and get taken seriously by anyone. But it's absolutely stunning that without any business experience, they collected so much money, so fast, from so many important people.

And they did collect a lot of money. According to US tax records obtained by *Excalibur*, they had collected more than \$1.3 million in donations and grants by 1989 (they haven't filed for fiscal 1990 yet.). About half of this came from US sources. A quarter came from military contractors, a quarter from NASA.

How did they do it? Larry Clarke, the founder of Spar Aerospace (one of Canada's largest aerospace firms), describes it as "osmosis." Clarke was contacted by Richards in 1987. Now he sits on ISU's advisory board, and his company has promised \$1.7 million in capital grants should York win the ISU bid. (Clarke also sits on the York Board of Governors).

But Clarke is a successful businessman with a reputation for business sense and diplomacy — not the sort of guy to get hung up with space cadets. Not unless it's in his best interest. And Clarke, like the rest of the high-ranking aerospace executives involved in ISU, feels it will be in his industry's best interest.

Is Clarke aware of the founders' vision? Yes. Does he know how little industrial experience they have? Yes. Does any of this bother him? He pauses.

"Certainly they are very astute in knowing they won't get off the ground unless they serve a clientele, an industrial clientele," he says.

Which is a very good way of putting it. If the three young men had simply said, "We want to start a school for space cadets," it's unlikely many influential people would have touched it. But they chose their words much more carefully: they wanted to start a school to train aerospace professionals who would become space leaders.

This was guaranteed to strike the right chords with businesspeople, government agencies and universities. And it still made perfect sense to the space colonists.

Continued on page 8

Police charge former U of T council prez

by Carmelina Maione
 Canadian University Press

Peter Guo, last year's president of University of Toronto's central student government (SAC), has been charged by Metro police with public mischief and threatening for allegedly writing sexually threatening graffiti in SAC offices.

The Metro police pressed charges on April 29, after they were called in by the U of T police.

According to Detective Steve Bilak at 52 Division, a SAC executive member's office was covered in graffiti referring to her as a "slut."

Guo was also alleged to have uttered verbal threats to the same woman on previous occasions.

Bilak said he released Guo on the condition that he not make direct or indirect contact with the woman who was the target of the threats.

Prior to the incident, Guo was alleged to have sent harassing letters to the same woman and disturbed several people on the floor of her college residence at 3 a.m.

According to the college dean, Guo was subsequently banned from college property because he was deemed a "threat" to the woman.

Signs have been posted around the college alerting students to call police if they see Guo trespassing.

After the graffiti incident, the current student council banned Guo from their offices.

Current SAC president Farrah Jinha, the first person to see the graffiti, said she is convinced Guo was its author. She said it shocked and angered her.

"You could tell it was his writing," Jinha said. "I've never known him to be like that."

When Guo was asked to comment on the charges, he responded by telling a Varsity reporter "You don't

want to get yourself mixed up in something like this. I've got more important things to do including school."

Guo was involved in several disputes with women student leaders and feminist groups during his tenure as SAC president.

He was sharply criticized for withholding funds for a date rape awareness campaign.

In a conflict over the campaign, Guo called former women's issue officer, Diana Dobson and former external commissioner, Stacey Papernick, "frustrated women" and "emotional."

\$10 million OSAP cuts to cost extra \$80/week

by Nicole Nolan
 Canadian University Press

Students on the Ontario Student Assistance Program (OSAP) will be \$10 a week poorer this summer as a result of government cuts.

According to last month's provincial budget, students receiving OSAP will have to contribute \$80 a week of their summer earnings towards tuition and expenses, instead of the previous \$70.

The additional money saves the government \$10 million.

The move has been condemned by student groups who say the decrease in funding, combined with a tuition increase of 7 per cent, will prevent some students from attending university.

"The fact that they've cut funding in the middle of a recession means it's going to be really brutal for students. Ten dollars a week is going to be asking when you don't have enough money to begin with," said Asha Bhat, Communications director at the Ontario Federation of Students.

But Richard Allen, minister of Colleges and Universities, said the

He was cited by Papernick as the primary reason for her resignation as external commissioner last fall.

"I didn't feel he had a lot of respect for women in positions of power. I was sick of being treated as not knowing what I was doing. I could not continue to work with that," Papernick said.

Papernick said the incident should serve to raise awareness and give credibility to the issue of sexual harassment on campus.

"The U of T is not immune," Papernick said.

Jinha said the university should

not just give a "slap on the wrist" to members of the university community who commit sexual harassment and assault.

She added that the issue has to be addressed in the university code of nonacademic behaviour — currently under discussion as the University Affairs Board.

"We have to take away the stigma, that if you come forward you won't be shut down and ignored," Jinha said.

A SAC executive officer said the absence of a policy on nonacademic behaviour means offenders are free to

roam around the campus, often representing an unchecked threat to their victims.

"The premise is that student offenders still have the right to education, but the personal safety of the members of the university community should override that."

Susan Addario, U of T personal safety awareness officer, said she is looking at ways of providing self-defence courses for women student leaders to help them deal with hostile behaviour.

Guo's case is in the courts pending a trial set date.

additional money students contribute does not amount to a cutback. He said it is the system's way of accommodating to the growing number of students requiring assistance.

"You cannot have a cut in a program that does not have a fixed and closed budget. OSAP grows with the number of applicants in the system."

Bhat disagreed. He said the net effect means a cut in students' income.

"They are asking for that money from students," she said.

OFS criticized Allen for reneging on his promise to combine the tuition increase with an increase in OSAP funding so students who need assistance most won't fall through the cracks.

Allen said the extra \$10 will not keep students out of university.

"The increase we are asking from students is relatively small. I do not think it will affect accessibility."

But students, as well as faculty and university groups disagree.

"Any steps making financial obligations for students higher will discourage students from attending university. I know lots of students who

are having trouble scraping by under the current program," said Glen Brown, communications officer for the Ontario Council of University Faculty Associations.

The cuts have also been condemned by the Council of Ontario

Universities, an organization of senior university administrators.

The Ontario NDP government first sparked student outrage in 1991 when it hiked tuition fees despite election promises to freeze and eventually eliminate them.

The space cadets

Continued from page 7

Which brings us back to our initial question: how did these three guys pump an NDP government for millions of dollars, during a recession, to finance a project which seems aimed more at building utopias than creating jobs?

The answer should be clear by now: First they got a lot of money from businesses that stand to profit from big space ventures. Then they used the money to attract big-name professors. Once they did that, they could sell it as an industrial training institute — as long as they used the right buzzwords.

And for the Ontario NDP, those buzzwords are *global competitiveness, leading-edge sector, and high-tech jobs*. If it combines those three things, Ontario will throw money at it.

This was quite openly explained by Tom Walmsley, a high-ranking civil servant in Ontario's Ministry of Industry, Trade and Technology. Walmsley manages the Ontario Technology Fund, a \$79.5 million account used to attract high-tech jobs to the province. The fund is a cornerstone of Ontario's global competitiveness-based industrial strategy, and it is Walmsley who offers Ontario's financial resources to the ISU in the York bid.

Did Walmsley know what ISU was about when he endorsed the bid? Yes, he says. How did he know? There was an "economic study." Was it conducted by his ministry? No, by "outside consultants."

Can we see that study? No. It is not available to the public. But it's a fairly sure bet that the study's conclusion includes those three buzzwords — and doesn't include the cost of a space program.

"The fundamentals of the thing," Walmsley said, "are raising skill levels, increasing technological capability in the province, developing home-based companies in Ontario, — it's got all that, believe it or not — and building international capabilities."

But what Ontario will get, if the ISU lands here, could simply be a \$25,000-a-year finishing school for the aerospace elite.

"It's a classic megaproject," says Jan Borowy, one of the founders of Toronto's Bread not Circuses coalition. Borowy should know: her coalition of poverty and housing rights groups successfully shut down Ontario's bids for Expo 2000 and the 1996 Olympics, two other classic megaprojects.

Recently, Borowy briefed a coalition of York faculty and students trying to stop the ISU bid. Calling themselves Members of the York Community Concerned About the Future of York, they have won the support of a growing circle of politicians and social rights and peace groups.

"They're servicing the needs of a very small and narrow group of multinational corporations. At a time when there's 20,000 homeless in Metro and more than 150,000 are using food banks, why is this university setting its focus on space?"

SO WHAT'S ALL THIS FUSS ABOUT COURSE EVALUATIONS?!

"People should already no the basics"

"6 assignments is ridiculuis"

"2nd lecturer boring, treats us like we are imbisals"

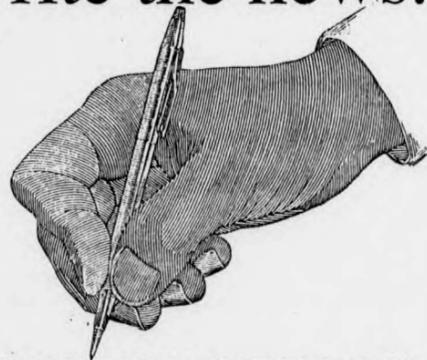
"My TA doesn't really seem to know that much about the course but he's pretty cool"

"The TA is strange"

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Studying under the gun

A York student visits Cameroon and watches the country explode

by Heather Green

Looking back, I cannot explain what compelled me, a Canadian born, 'Westernized' student, to do everything within my means to arrange a year of study in Cameroon. It wasn't the 'roots thing,' although being of African descent, it seems not only natural but vital that I'd want know the historical truths of my distant homeland and its peoples. All I know was that in the summer of 1990 I was ready to go, as long as someone would accept me.

I was introduced to the capital city of Yaoundé via its tiny yet disorganized airport, on the last flight to come in. My luggage had been lost and I suddenly realized I had no idea what the professor who was meeting me looked like, and worse still he must be looking for some white woman — since 'Canadian' is associated internationally with 'white.' As the crowd thinned out, we discovered each other by a process of elimination, and here began, for me, that all-important process invaluable to any foreigner anywhere — familiarization.

Adjusting not only to being in Cameroon, but to being 15,000 km away from friends and family, time seemed to stand still. The first week felt literally like six months. The world around me seemed like a dream, with me on the outside looking in and unable to participate.

As an individual of mixed race, considered 'black' by Canadian standards, I had to adjust to the labels of 'la Métisse' or 'la Blanche' as many Cameroonians saw me. I virtually had to rethink my identity and the role I played with respect to my Cameroonian peers, as a Westerner with all my individualistic, time-guided behaviour, but also as an 'African-Canadian' who could appreciate many Cameroonian cultural and social values.

I remember going to the markets with mixed feelings — I was wary of the men and their up-front flattery and irritating sexual comments, yet I reveled in the spirit of belonging when some of them would call out 'ma soeur' ... 'mamié, viens ici,' and from the older women: 'ma fille.' It seems that once I experienced this sense of community, this

feeling of being everyone's sister, I no longer noticed the absence of material conveniences like hot running water, bank machines or telephones.

But at a national university these 'conveniences' are necessary to compete and be compatible with academia elsewhere. In Africa, the lack of comparable education and information facilities is an ever-present reality. For example, a typical day at the university residence begins at sunrise (that's 6 am), an appropriate hour to see whether the water supply has been cut off — *again* — and whether you saved enough the night before at least to brush your teeth. Outside the human 'traffic' begins as high school students, market women, taxis and the military police all use the uncordoned university compound as their public route to work or school.

As you pass in front of the basketball courts on your way to class, you see the men in khaki, dozing slovenly on their rifles, 'valiantly' protecting us students' from each other. I find it curious that I got used to these gendarmes living permanently only twenty yards from my room — armed to the teeth, often illiterate and probably so young or inexperienced that the slightest excitement might cause them to panic and shoot some innocent bystander.

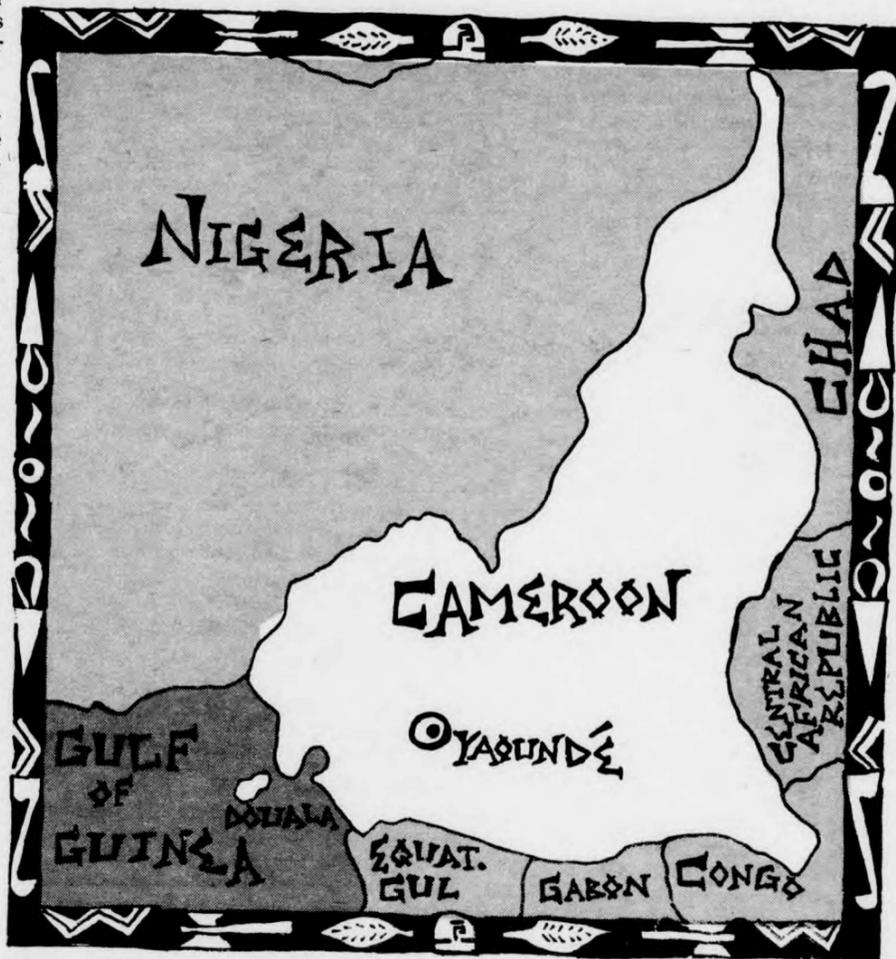
At the University of Yaoundé, like universities in many Third World countries, lack of infrastructure and its maintenance was the main reason that 40,000 students were struggling to eke out an education at an institution built for 6,000. Not only were seats scarce, but many undergraduates experienced lectures from outside classroom windows, or strained to hear a professor as she lectured from atop her desk, surrounded by a sea of faces.

Talk of book lists and bibliographies was a running joke since the library's collection was essentially inaccessible and the bookstore was beyond the students' means. What's more, if the professor did have time off from his other job that day, and came to class, it was a treat if he actually taught something current, and not some outdated, racist theory, as I saw at least one Cameroonian professor continue to embrace.

Fortunately there were others, like the professors of my African literature and sociology courses, who were consistent both in academic and human terms. Despite the politicized bureaucracy of the university administration, the tightly monitored and censored curriculum and the ever-present government and police spies among the students and faculty, a few professors were not afraid to point out and criticize social realities. But unlike in Canada, overcoming the silence around daily realities in Africa basically means not being afraid to die.

To me this drastic contrast in our daily realities was best demonstrated by the events of May 6, 1991. That morning I had been enticed out of bed as usual, by plenty of music coming from rooms throughout the residence. The Bikutsi, Makossa and Soukous musical genres which originate from this region were interspersed with the cheerful propaganda (reminiscent of Bush and his 'kinder, gentler nation') of the president's daily radio message: "I ask of Cameroonians to prove their courage: democracy is not easy, but Cameroonians are a strong and patriotic people. I put my trust in them to ensure that democracy works as it should." (Translation of President Paul Biya's daily quote from 6 May 1991.)

But there was no school that day. The students of the University of Yaoundé had been on strike for just over a month, and were continuing to boycott classes until the government met their demands — for a list of all



graphic • Rose-Ann Bailey

those students killed and missing since the first strike on April 2, for the release of those hundreds still detained, for the removal of the army and police who blockaded the campus, for decent and dignified learning conditions,

for amnesty to all Cameroonians imprisoned or in exile for political reasons, and ultimately for a National Conference, an open forum through which the people would rewrite their country's constitution.

Instead, on that Monday in May, the Cameroonian 'authorities' responded with what was their most brutal tactic to date. At nightfall, when a crowd of thousands of students held a meeting in one of the student ghettos which were virtually in my backyard, I saw

a file of about 100 soldiers pass my residence, guns loaded, in perfect silence. They descended toward the meeting to ambush the unarmed students, throwing tear gas and opening fire, causing panic and sending them blindly into other groups of armed civilians and soldiers on all sides. Beatings, rape, imprisonment and death were the obvious results.

The next morning the exodus began. This had been the last straw. The students had packed all that they could carry and were leaving in droves, some with mattresses, others with stoves and bottles of propane gas, still more with bookshelves and suitcases balanced on their heads. Within a few days the population of Yaoundé had decreased by over 30,000 as students returned to their villages vowing to "see you after the National Conference."

The University of Yaoundé 1991-92 academic year had been late in starting last October due to an ongoing nationwide general strike which began in June '91, itself a direct consequence of student action. The functioning of banks, stores, public transportation and even government offices was continually interrupted for almost five months, despite the president's agreement to 'conditional elec-

tions' which finally took place on March 1 of this year.

Cameroon's domestic economy has become stagnant and living conditions have worsened as a result of chronic unemployment, food rationing and still more illegal detentions, torture and disappearances. Meanwhile the government is once again playing up the national soccer team's hopes for the next World Cup, promoting a sense of national pride while attempting to minimize the gravity of public dissatisfaction.

The French government has significant control behind the scenes over the repressive imposition of this superficial 'stability.' Working for a profitable and exploitative exchange with Cameroon — one which is maintained only at the cost of the lives of Africans — both the French and Israeli military have shared their 'expertise' in training Cameroonian 'forces of order,' secret police and collaborators, on how to quell a powerful student movement.

This I witnessed firsthand last April as I watched a military helicopter carry out low-level flights and other terrorist manoeuvres above the campus and residences. Wondering about the white man who was clearly visible dropping tear gas and small explosives around our heads, I was informed that he was just one of several Israeli soldiers (among other non-Africans) sent to demonstrate to Cameroonians such 'skills.'

One year later, as a result of just such programs of 'North-South' cooperation, the students' solidarity and organization have been broken, the student leaders have fled the country and those who remain have had to endure the blatant intimidation of attending classes among the spies and gendarmes.

These are some of the daily realities of just one African country, thought by many to have been the most stable since the independences gained in the 1960s. Not surprisingly, most of this goes on unnoticed by the Canadian media, the public and those of other countries.

Yet studying in a place like Cameroon is infinitely more informative, eye-opening and educational than relying on the traditional means of information, or undertaking the usual stint in Europe or the US. Not only did I experience an African society beyond all the stereotyped and biased representations that are offered in the West, but most significantly, I gained a revealing perspective on our own acquiescence to the Western foreign politics of intervention and domination.

A YEAR OF STUDENT STRUGGLE

June 1990 • Civil protests call for multi-party democracy and legalization of the anglophone-based Social Democratic Front. Forces fire on peaceful demonstrators, killing six. The government reports no deaths.

At the University of Yaoundé, students march in support and armed forces permanently occupy the office.

December 1990 • President Biya legalizes opposition parties.

April 1991 • Over 1000 students hold a march which ends in clashes with security forces. Students and reporters are arrested.

Tension escalates with a taxi drivers' strike in Devala and the 'assassination' of a student known to be a government informer.

Demonstrations, riots and clashes with armed security forces spread from major cities to smaller provincial towns.

May 1991 • The army ambushes a student meeting, resulting in over 20 deaths. Government papers report "zero deaths" the next day.

June 1991 • "Operation ghost towns" begins a summer of nationwide stay-at-home strikes, non-cooperation and civil disobedience.

Old and new folks mix at Mariposa festival

By Eric Alper

Springtime in Toronto brings two things you can be certain of: construction on the highways, and Mariposa.

Not only is the original folk festival back in town, Mariposa has more performers, workshops, dancers and major concert attractions than ever before. For three days (three days, man, three days, we just love yah, tell 'em who we are...), June 19, 20, 21, there are over 300 performers on the totally solar powered stage, featuring



reggae artists Fujahive, Toronto staple Days Of You, The Lost Dakotas, and 12 other bands. Mariposa has succeeded in bringing together musical styles that would not normally be shared anywhere else.

Having singer/comedian Meryn Cadell, The Texas Tornados and Taj Mahal all appearing on the same festival shows just how important taking chances and using lesser-known, or sometimes forgotten, talent is.

The importance of Mariposa cannot be understated. In some instances it brought folk performers the money and recognition they were denied playing regular clubs or releasing various recordings. In most instances

CONCERT

Mariposa Festival
Ontario Place
June 19 - 21

it gave them something equally important - the chance to speak their minds, to "sing their minds," for hundreds and thousands of enthusiastic people. This aspect of the tradition of Mariposa is one of its wonders.

One of the newly rediscovered artists at the heart of Mariposa this year is Taj Mahal. He began developing his archival interest in the roots of African-American and Caribbean music while studying at the University of Massachusetts in the early 60s. At the same time, he became a member of the Pioneer Valley Folklore Society and studied rural black folk styles.

He played blues at Boston folk clubs before moving to Santa Monica, and formed a blues-rock band with Ry Cooder called the Rising Sons in 1965. They signed with Columbia, but broke up before they recorded. Columbia offered Taj Mahal a solo deal, and his self-titled debut was released in 1968.

His first albums, including the doubles *Giant Step/De Old Folks At Home* and *The Real Thing*, were blues records laced with ragtime. On later LPs, he explored calypso and reggae. On the live circuit, he worked solo, accompanying himself with piano, guitar, bass and harmonica. Now celebrating his 50th birthday, he is definitely one performer on the weekend you won't want to miss.

In just under four years, Days Of You have played at all the major clubs in Toronto, consistently selling out, and adding to their loyal follow-

ing as far away as Montreal. Not only are they a solid headlining act, but they've also shared the bill with Paul Kantner and Wooden Ships, Blues Traveler, and the Leslie Spit Tree-o.

Days Of You donates their time and money to non-profit and humanitarian and environmental organizations. Following in the footsteps of R. E. M., the insert for their independent tape was printed on recycable paper. All posters and correspondence involves the use of recycled and/or vegetable-based inks.

Their music? Ah, let's talk about the music. Country, blues, rock, psychedelic. It's all here. In true festival style, Days Of You prefer the moment to the artifact. Barefooted audiences can sway in front of video screens whirling kaleidoscope images, and wouldn't be out of place at a Grateful Dead show.

The Texas Tornados hail from (where else?) Austin, Texas, and their blend of country music and rock and roll bring mass audiences wherever they play. The group consists of Doug Sahm, former leader of the Sir Douglas Quintet, Mexican accordion player Flaco Jimenez, country star Freddy Fender (remember "Wasted Days and Wasted Nights?") and Augie Meyers on keyboards.

Other performers include Shirley Eikhard, the Toronto-based songwriter who penned Bonnie Raitt's Grammy winning song, "Something To Talk About." Lubbock, Texas' Joe Ely just finished touring Europe with Merle Haggard. He has also toured with The Clash - and survived. Rory McLeod, a one-man band who supposedly makes Billy Bragg look laid back, is the only tap-dancing singer songwriter around. There's also Toronto's Beverly Bratty, singer of tough, funny, pertinent songs and one



Oh!... Mariposa. That changes everything!

of the best Queen Street folk artists. Edmonton's Mike McDonald brings his five-piece Jr. Gone Wild, a band who plays their spunky music, white boy.

Music festivals usually tend to verge on disaster. The combination of huge crowds, various stimulants, vague seating arrangements, inadequate sanitation and, usually, bad weather is somehow no deterrent to

festivalgoers who expect a communal experience while seeing a slew of musicians at a bargain price. Having Mariposa at Ontario Place is a gem of an idea; their professional staff will make sure all goes okay, except for controlling the weather.

I would tell you more about Mariposa, but my tie is ready to be dyed. Ummmm, can you dye paisley? Just wondering.

Bliss-inspiring Indian classical music at Burton

by Harry Rudoffs

EVENT

Indian Classical
Music Performance
Burton Auditorium
May 16, 1992

Composer and virtuoso instrumentalist Trichy Sankaran and Kathak dancer Deepti Gupta dazzled the audience in a performance of Indian classical music at Burton Auditorium.

The tenth anniversary concert by Raga Mala performing arts of Canada was presented as a tribute to the late Jon Higgins, former associate dean of

fine arts at York. Higgins was a much admired and renowned singer of South Indian classical music, and was one

of the few Westerners to ever achieve status as a musician in India. Killed in a tragic car accident in 1984, Higgins was instrumental in establishing the presence of South Indian music at York.

The evening featured traditional dancing and music, but had some innovative and impressionistic elements as well. Trichy Sankaran, professor of Indian Music studies at York

and expert mridangam player, opened with two classical pieces of the Karnatak tradition, but then unveiled his newest composition "Talamala." The work was comprised of a series of short themes employing, alternately, vocals, claves and kanjiras (a tambourine-like instrument). The elaborate interplay and overlay of rhythms were delightful and bliss-inspiring.

In particular, the vocalization in the a cappella movement seemed to evoke a strange melancholy. Perhaps Sankaran has acquired some of what Gurdjieff was searching for: music that can create emotional states far beyond the narrow confines of what is possible with Western music.

Sankaran's last piece, a mridangam solo, demonstrated the artist's incredible abilities. Sankaran played the two-headed drum like a saint, taking the complexities of the poly-rhythms to extremes, at times dropping the listener deep in a forest and at other times splashing them with water from a clear stream.

Sankaran was accompanied by his daughter Suba on marimbas, and by Andrew Craig, Oliver Shroer, Kenneth Shorley, and Robert Sims, all music students at York.

The second half of the program featured Deepti Gupta, a graduate student at York and an accomplished Kathak dancer. Kathak dance originates from the story-telling tradition of northern India which was adapted and performed as court dances for the invading Mogul emperors.

The first dance was an invocation of Saraswati, goddess of art and learning. Though highly stylized and symbolic, the dance provided for an interaction between Gupta and the orches-

tra, particularly between herself and the drummers (Ravi Naimpally on tabla and Jim Kippen on pakhavaj), in what only can be described as jazz-like rhythmic riffs. The Kathak dancer accompanies the drummers with bells that are attached to her ankles which produces an effect not unlike tap-dancing. Harmonium players Raya Bidaye and Khemchandra provided a melodic component while Bidaye doubled as vocalist on the traditional songs.

Deepti performed "Teental," a progressive development of dance phrases and "Gat Nikas" and "Gat Bhava" which are impressionistic folk tales told through mime. Her postures and artistry shone when she was whirling and flashing her arms into stylized poses, appearing for a moment as Shiva, the many-handed and catching the audience off-guard as if to say, Who's in charge here?

Deepti's nest dance was "Thumri," a romanticization of an encounter between Krishna and Rada, which serves as an allegory of the union between the ethereal and the mundane. The artist's last offering was a kind of Indian scat singing where Deepti stepped up to the microphone and jammed with the drummers using phonetic percussive sounds, then whirled away into the infinity while performing the iconic gestures.

It was amazing to see artists of such high calibre performing in the same program. Sankaran may well be, as music professor Sterling Beckwith suggests, a "national treasure" and both he and Deepti combined to convey "a complex but immediate beauty" that will long remain with this reviewer.

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NEEDS

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Curmudgeon Quebecer takes on uptight Ontario

By Margaret Heading

Did Greg Gatenby plan these two opposites to read back to back for a reason, or was it just a happy accident?

Another question: When you've got a giant like Mordecai Richler who, let's face it, everybody came to see, why bother having anybody else up to read at all?

Last Tuesday night I went to my first reading at Harbourfront. Something I've been pointedly avoiding for a long time. Instinct told me that because it's writing and writers and 'littrachah,' the audience and the tilt of the evening might be fussy, precocious and very cerebral. It came dangerously close to that Tuesday night.

Greg Gatenby opened the evening doing stand up advertising for all the folks slotted to read at Harbourfront in the weeks to come. So while Gatenby is flapping his gums at the podium, I'm watching Mordecai who has come in to the Premier Dance Theatre just like everybody else and taken his seat like any one of us, only he's got a glass of ice water. Ice water? Yes Mordecai - you're in Ontario now and there's no smoking either.

Okay. We're all clapping now. Alice Boissonneau, a pretty woman in her fifties with unapologetic greying long hair arranged eccentrically, is walking daintily across the stage to begin reading from her new book. There is no hello from her, no acknowledgment that she is about to share an intimate moment with hundreds of people. She clears her throat, fiddles for a moment and then begins to read in the voice of a retired teacher.

Each of her sentences ends in a period that tells you: "Don't go anywhere, I'm not finished yet."

Alice Boissonneau's book is one long, long list of what has gone from Toronto. It's an exercise in descriptive writing that could have used a tad more editing.

There are a few charming stories, but for the most part, Alice takes us on a tour of Toronto in the 50s by stringing together quaint similes: "She smiles brightly, like a rippling stream men fish in," and "Her clothes were crumpled, like a pile of dirty laundry," or "There she is waiting, like a dream that..." Blah blah like a blah blah blah.

I'm thinking, maybe I'm too hard on this woman, too excited to see Mordecai. So, I turn to the fellow sitting next to me to say something

READING

Harbourfront Reading Series
Alice Boissonneau and
Mordecai Richler
Harbourfront
May 12, 1992

like, "Some writers should not read their own stuff" - but he's asleep.

I turn my attention to Mordecai. He's all over the place in his seat - left foot over right knee, right foot over left knee, sitting forward, sitting back, head cocked left, right, front and centre, thumbs twiddling or tapping against lower lip, now bending over for more water, now sitting back again. He smokes and he likes a drink, but this is Ontario. No smoking, no drinking. Just sit there like you're in class and be good.

Why do I mention it? Because this man is often photographed with his big fat cigar and a drink - tools of his trade. Because I'll just bet Alice Boissonneau does not smoke or drink anything stronger than spritzers. Because somehow this smoking/drinking issue seems to represent one of the vital differences between Ontario and Quebec. In one corner Alice represents Ontario with her book about Toronto, and over in this corner, Mordecai, with his book about Quebec.

And finally, because as a smoker, drinker, writer, and out loud reader, it can't be easy sitting there with a glass of water knowing you're next. You're next, no matter what you've written but in this particular case, the natives could be hostile. Get the picture?

Just as suddenly as she began reading, Alice is finished. Intermission. A

Landing: Looking to the skies for inner peace

by Ira Nayman

There is a certain goofy charm to building a space ship in your backyard, a sort of "If you build it, they will come" naivete.

Of course, the only people who come to the backyard ship in Dan Curtis' *In Advance of the Landing* are schoolchildren and other flying saucer enthusiasts. This suggests that Curtis' feature length documentary is likely to appeal to a small audience; this is unfortunate, because, although it's flawed, the film is an interesting view of a primarily 20th century phenomenon.



Mordecai Richler dropped by Harborfront last month to sample pure Ontario air and water and read from his new book, *Oh Canada, Oh Quebec*.

lot of us go directly to the designated area for a drink and a cigarette.

Mordecai heads backstage.

Fifteen minutes later we all file

F I L M

In Advance of the Landing
written and directed by Dan Curtis
produced by Cygnus Inc.

Curtis explores the world of UFO believers, from the guy who has turned his house into a mass of machinery in order to beam radio signals into outer space to the followers of Uriel, a 90 year-old woman who claims to have contacted aliens in past lives. By avoiding voice-over narration, Curtis

allows them to tell their stories in a non-judgmental way.

Unfortunately, you'll find your attention wandering after the first hour or so, because the different stories are actually the same story in different guise. All of the UFOlogists seem to be searching for meaning, for something that will elevate their humdrum lives.

Curtis' analysis of the UFO phenomenon seems deadly accurate: even as the world seems to degenerate into chaos, these people hope that the aliens will bring with them a much yearned

back in for round two and Greg Gatenby does it again. More advertising. I barely hear him. A voice inside is screeching "Shut up! Shut up and get Mordecai up!"

I turn my gaze back to Mordecai. Okay, the jacket's coming off. The sleeves are getting rolled up. The glasses come off and go back on again. Finally, at long last, Greg Gatenby is introducing Mordecai and telling us he will read for twenty minutes, then there will be a question period. "Questions," he cautions, "not statements." So we're all yuk yukking as Mordecai lumbers across the stage to the podium with his book in one hand and his glasses in the other. He looks tired, his clothes are rumpled, like a... no, I won't do that to you.

The old pro begins with a hello and a disparaging comment about all the attention he's been getting lately. He's warmed us up and launches into reading from the first pages of his book, *Oh Canada, Oh Quebec*. It's about language laws turning into foolishness, the boys drinking and smoking in Woody's bar, taking a light approach to what should be done in Quebec, and a very funny story about Sinclair Stevens and his wife Noreen.

Those few pages are hysterical and all he's really doing is quoting other people. Plain and simple. Mordecai's getting all the laughs and taking all the flak when in fact it's the folks like Noreen and Stink - oops, he means Sine Stevens, and the boys at Woody's who are saying all the funny stuff.

Ah, but it's the tone of voice isn't it? You can say anything but it's the tone of voice that's telling the story and that's what gets Mordecai in trouble. The gimlet eye and the, "get this will ya," tone of voice.

for plan for order. It is no coincidence that Uriel's Uranius Academy of Science believes in changing the world through Buddhist-like chanting, or other UFO enthusiasts talk about aliens in messianic terms.

Moreover, many of the sincerest UFO believers are widowers and loners; the guy with the radio equipment, for instance, poignantly says that his obsession with UFOs has made it more difficult for him to attract women. At its most basic, the need to believe in UFOs seems to be a need to make a meaningful connection with another being.

Curtis uses clips of old science fiction horror films, where the aliens are portrayed as ugly and evil, as an ironic counterpoint to his subjects' more hopeful attitude. Although it is an interesting device in the beginning, it soon becomes overused. Curtis might have done better if he had utilised some of the films which portray aliens as messiahs: from *The Day the Earth Stood Still* (clips of which are shown out of context) to *Close Encounters of the Third Kind* and *ET*.

In Advance of the Landing would also have been a better film if Curtis had included an interview with a UFO debunker, somebody who is skeptical about the existence of UFOS, or at least a sociologist who could explain why people need to believe so badly. Not only would a little bit of controversy have made the film inherently more interesting, but it would have broken up the pro-UFO testimonials, helping the film flow better.

As currently conceived, *In Advance of the Landing* would have made a better hour long television special than feature length film. But that hour is fascinating.

In Advance of the Landing will be screened at the *Revue Cinema* from June 16 to 18. For more information, check *Festival Magazine* or phone the theatre at 531-9959.

Charlatans are destined to be this generation's Smiths

By Prasad Bidaye

After a troubling year of guitarist changes, nervous breakdowns and post-Madchester dis-hype, The Charlatans return this spring with their second album, *Between 10th and 11th*, an exciting release determined to destroy their reputation as a retro-organ band.

Keyboardist Rob Collins overcomes his Hammond handicap and experiments with early moog twiddles, pedal-grunge enhanced organs and midi-piano loops. New guitarist Mark Collins proudly distinguishes himself with innovative melodies that equally complement the keyboards.

This is not the same band that debuted with the repetitive *Some Friendly* two years ago. One wonders what actually happened between the 10th and 11th.

Producer Flood may adequately answer that, who's list of gems include Depeche Mode, Nitzer Ebb, Curve, and now The Charlatans. In

REVIEW

The Charlatans UK
Between 10th and 11th
Polygram Records

former projects he demonstrated an ability to bring out a crispness and precision from the client, that leads to perhaps a near-perfect recording.

On *Between 10th and 11th*, the drums are played sharp, bringing forth rhythms that do not necessarily lean on the funky drummer ethic. Performances on "Subtitle" and "Tremolo Song" stand out in particular. Similarly, Tim Burgess' vocals are clear and reverb-less, to prove that the wispy pretty boy can sing, and for that matter, write.

The Charlatans are destined to be one of the great bands for this generation, as The Smiths and New Order were for theirs. But it's always funny to see a band so marvelously hyped put out a brilliant album when they're almost forgotten.



The 90 year old founder of Uriel's Uranius Academy of Science claims to have been contacted by aliens in her past lives. She may also be the only person alive who knows where Elvis is.

Looking for the ghosts in ballparks

by Riccardo Sala

Baltimore's new Camden Yards has been getting a lot of press lately.

People refer to it as the Anti-Skydome, contrasting its ultra-traditional baseball park design with our own ultra-modernistic 'Dome.

More importantly, that comparison shows the emphasis being given



once again to the sports environment. Camden Yards is the latest in a series of stadium designs that have come around in the past several years. Last season, the Chicago White Sox ended their eighty-odd year association with old Comiskey Park and moved into a much ballyhooed new complex.

Before these three, of course, there was WP Kinsella and "Field of Dreams", the tale of a guy who hears voices and goes out to build a ballpark in his back yard.

Kinsella's book was made into a hit movie. When it came time for new spaces in Baltimore and Chicago, I think that the designers took a cue from the book, creating structures reminiscent of the classic ballpark design.

Perhaps most important, Kinsella's book probed that mystical, sentimental link between spaces and actions. In the supernatural reign, these express themselves as ghosts or voices that inhabit these spaces long after the original structures are gone, hence

the storyline of "Field of Dreams."

In the sentimental reign, it's probably why people like hanging around old ballparks and stadiums. These structures speak.

I found a ballpark like that in Quebec City. It was a classic baseball stadium that looked like it had fallen on rough times. When I found it, its main role in life was to give up its parking lot to fundamentalist revival meetings.

Yet maybe the Quebec City ballpark represents something passed, now impossible to recapture. It symbolises a time that for better or for worse, is gone.

I prefer the Skydome to Camden Yards, and not just because I'm a Toronto native. The Baltimore park

is more artificial than Toronto's (even though many commentators would claim the opposite). The Baltimore stadium exudes a restrictive charm, in that its lure comes from limiting its idea of the ideal ballpark to a period in time that has long since lapsed.

As someone noted, that period in time was also restrictive in more than just its concept of baseball stadiums. How much is that yearning for the past symbolised through a return to tradition in baseball a measure of a desire to return to those same restrictions and simplicity of life — and thinking — that forced the maintenance of a separate Negro League in baseball until the end of World War Two?

I'd prefer to believe that the rea-

sons for the sentimentality that expresses itself in edifices such as Camden Yards don't necessarily have to be as cynical. Yet Camden in many ways is as emblematic of the return to conservatism in the past ten years as anything in North America. It utilises the same words, the same imagery in its appeal to middle American sentimentality as much as any speech by Reagan.

So with that, I can't say that the jumbled mass of concrete that we call the Skydome is necessarily that bad. Hopefully its revolt against earlier designs emphasises as much a willingness to liberate from the same stringent rules that once not only governed ballpark design, but society as well.

Spring a busy time for gridiron Yeomen at camp

by Riccardo Sala

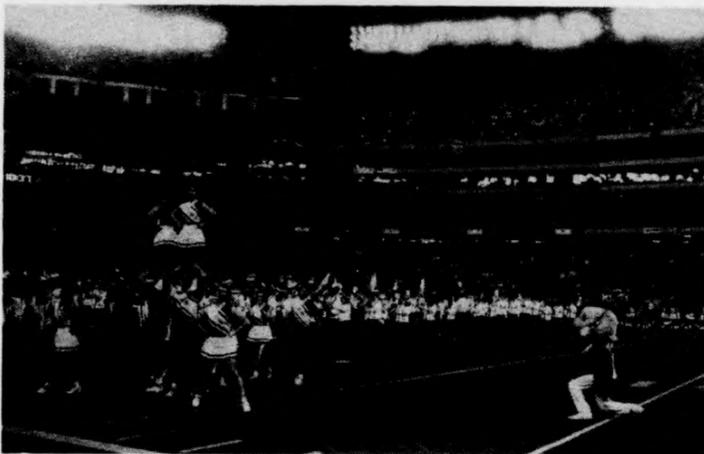
The turf by the Ice Palace saw more cleat traffic than usual this spring as York held not one, but two, football camps this April and May.

Starting May 11th and going for a week York hosted its first ever high-school camp. Fifty six Metro area players turned up to fine tune their game under the gaze of the Yeoman coaching staff.

The week before, the Yeomen had held a four day spring mini-camp.

With 48 Yeomen showing up to camp, York head coach Tom Arnott feels that the spring mini-camp has come a far way from its first years, when only half that number would bother to show up for practice on any given night.

Two freshmen in particular, defensive end Craig White out of St. Thomas' Central Elgin and noseguard Mike Benevides from Central Tech, have the York coach optimistic. According to Arnott, these two players, who started school at York during the winter term, are good enough to start



THINGS AIN'T SO SIMPLE ANYMORE and maybe the SkyDome is a more appropriate stadium, expressing better today's society than Baltimore's "blast from the past": Camden Yards, and its rosy reminiscence of a time that maybe wasn't so rosy after all.

at their positions this upcoming season.

The Yeomen regroup in late August for the two week training camp.

Arnott is looking at close to eighty players taking part, including 30 newcomers.

Classifieds

ANNOUNCEMENTS

STRANGERS CLUB IS LOOKING FOR BANDS, 466-8934/490-7957, Dharam/Bruce for bookings. Cozy atmosphere, pool tables, kitchen till midnight, wing specials, 1130 Queene St. E.

PEN FRIENDS - Over 280,000 members in 186 countries. For more information, send self-addressed stamped envelope to: International Pen Friends, P.O. Box 37031, Willowdale, Ontario M2M 4J8.

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HELP WANTED

SUMMER JOBS - Find the summer job you've been looking for at the Canada Employment Centre for Students. Drop in to the Downsview office at 1315 Finch Avenue West (at Keele), Suite 111, or call 398-4547.

TIME IS VALUABLE...DO YOU HAVE TIME TO GIVE? If you can spare a few hours over the lunch period, we need volunteers to deliver Meals on Wheels to Seniors. A gas allowance is also available. Please call Downsview Services to Seniors at 740-5170

and speak to Petra.

DO YOU WANT TO LEARN NEW SKILLS AND MEET NEW CHALLENGES? Scarborough Distress Centre needs telephone volunteers. You can make a difference. Training starts soon. Call 751-4888 or the Scarborough Volunteer Centre at 264-2308.

STUDENTS MAKE A DIFFERENCE - VOLUNTEER. Gain valuable experience with the Red Cross working in blood donor clinics, Sunnybrook Medical Centre veteran activities, City Kids and other programs. For more information, please call 480-2500 ext. 316.

HOUSING

WANTED ONE ROOMATE for a 2-bedroom basement apartment downtown (Bloor & Spadina). July and August (\$475/month) Phone 929-4883.

NON-SMOKING FEMALE ROOMATE NEEDED to share furnished apartment in Bathurst/Wilson area. \$390.00 per month + hydro. Available August 1st. Call 781-7493. Close to Yorkdale!!

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FACULTY AND STUDENTS

HOST A JAPANESE UNIVERSITY STUDENT FOR A WEEKEND

Japanese university students participating in a month-long summer language program at York University's English Language Institute are placed with a homestay family for one weekend. Homestay begins **Friday August 14 and continues through Sunday August 16.** If you would like to open your home to one or two of these students please call the English Language Institute at 736-5353.

It's...



from the Barcelona Olympiade. Look for their explicit coverage from sunny España as it unfolds this summer.

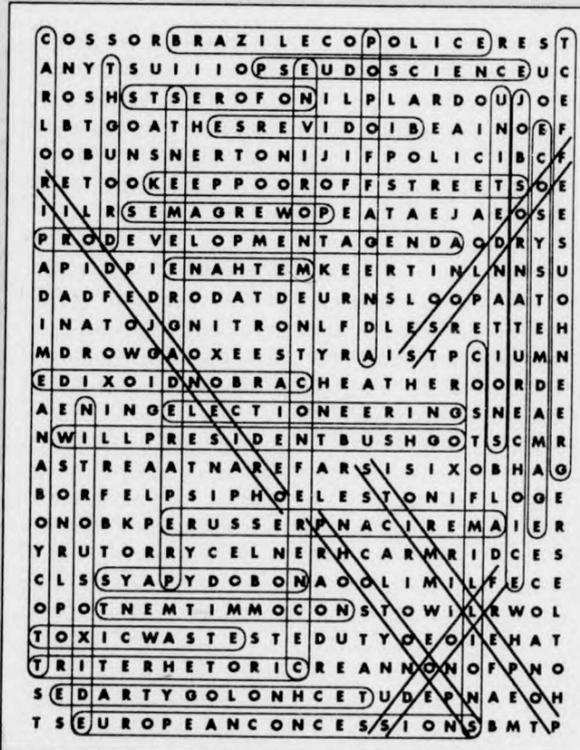
only in... **excalibur**

Do you want more than just the score?

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Drop by 420 Student Centre and bodycheck **Nicky Davis**

Earth Summit Word Search



Solution

In order to ensure the participation of United States President George Bush, a **NATIVE "EARTH CHARTER,"** a **BINDING GLOBAL WARMING TREATY** and **FRESH AIR** had to be left off this puzzle.