

# excalibur

INSIDE

Just try to drop your courses in late October • news, p.3

Lost & profound & rock & roll & questions & answers • arts, p.7

York athletes got ready to go to Barcelona • sports, p.8

excalibur

## Feds still charging 3% tax on student loans

by Gina Hanlon

Students with Canada Savings Loans will still be paying a three per cent surcharge this fall, despite the 1992 Federal Budget announcement that the tax would be eliminated.

The elimination of the tax will await implementation of other proposed changes to the Canadian Student Loans Program (CSLP), according to an Undersecretary of State document. The proposed restructuring is "expected to provide the scope" to eliminate the tax.

Kelly Lamrock, national chair of the Canadian Federation of Students, said these new proposals, if implemented, will be a disaster for needy students.

"Banks will be asking students applying for a loan for a co-guarantor, which will mean that for most students, their parents will have to sign for them to get a loan," said Lamrock.

Student loans would become similar to other bank loans, complete with floating interest rates, premiums and immediate repayment. According to CFS researchers, student loans would offer no benefits over bank loans if all the proposals were implemented.

Other federal proposals will make it harder for needy students to get loans, and will discriminate against those who can't finish their degrees quickly, CFS reports say. The banks will also be able to reject students

who are "poor credit risks," and the federal government will no longer subsidize six interest-free months for students leaving post-secondary education.

CSLP's stated mission is to increase access to post-secondary education to needy students. But the proposed new mission statement makes accessibility secondary to the "development of a well-educated, skilled and adaptable workforce."

Changes to eligibility criteria reflect this. Students will have to take an 80 per cent course load to qualify as full-time, up from 60 per cent. Courses must lead to a degree, diploma or certificate to qualify for a loan, and "satisfactory academic progress" will mean passing 60 per cent of a full course-load, taking control away from the educational institution to determine the meaning of satisfactory academic progress.

Caryn Duncan, a CFS researcher, calls the proposed reforms "blatant attacks on Canada Student Loans" and an abdication of responsibility on the part of the government.

Duncan said if the Conservatives were re-elected, they would also look at privatizing the federal student loans program.

Lamrock said the federal government's procrastination on eliminating the tax "is a disgusting bit of political juggling" and said he predicts a lot of angry students this fall.



A field of weeds and a decaying sales pavilion, located to the south of the York graduate residences, are all that exist of Bramalea Corporation's ambitious Fountainhead project. The company's glossy brochures showed high-

priced condos rising from an oasis of lakes and waterfalls. Bramalea bought the land from York for \$45 million in 1988, but after the collapse of the Metro real estate market they mothballed the project. • Photo by Doug Saunders

Building program "\$10M in the hole"

## York pays for Bramalea's fall

by Sam Putijna

Toronto's slumping real-estate market means York could lose out on millions of dollars from financially troubled developer Bramalea.

The administration will have to seek bank loans to cover the shortfall from a deal with Bramalea four years ago, according to York Vice President Bill Farr.

York received about \$45 million

from Bramalea for 22 acres of land on the south-west corner of the Downsview campus in 1988.

York was to receive an additional two per cent royalty from the eventual sale of condominium units.

Bramalea planned to build over 1500 condo units, with prices starting at \$150,000, in their "Fountainhead" development.

Revenues from the Bramalea deal were to be used in part to finance York's current building program, which includes Fine Arts, Calumet and the Passey Gardens.

"It had the potential to pay us almost \$15 million. That's the part we won't see until they build condos," said Farr.

"We made plans on the assumption of receiving the money. As a consequence, our building program will end up \$10 million in the hole."

Bramalea's plans to build up to six condominium towers on the land are now in doubt.

"We were told six months ago they had mothballed that project for the foreseeable future," said Farr.

"We would have liked it to go ahead."

The land deal turned out to be exceptionally good for York since it took place at the peak of the real-estate market, Farr said.

Bramalea is reeling from its over-ambitious expansion plans during the 1980s. The corporation acquired thousands of acres of land and properties during the real-estate boom.

Falling market prices and a 4.8 billion dollar debt have forced Bramalea to reconsider its development plans.

The company's plans for the campus lands are now unknown.

Bramalea officials were not available for comment.

## Labour joins forces opposed to space university

by Doug Saunders

HAMILTON — The proposed International Space University lost a key supporter last week when the Ontario Federation of Labour joined those opposed to the York-based bid.

Gord Wilson, president of the OFL, said his support for the space university has wavered from the beginning. "Going into it we were uneasy and had a sense that there was an opportu-

nity for that operation to be used for other than peaceful purposes," said Wilson, whose organization represents all of Ontario's trade unions.

The OFL changed its opinion on the bid after learning that the ISU's supporters and board members include major US arms contractors, Wilson said. He had initially written a letter of support as part of the 190-page bid package.

"I think now the risk outweighs

any sense of security and so I've just taken a safe route. I don't think we have to be involved in it."

The OFL's opposition was announced at a news conference Friday. The event, attended by labour, faculty, student and anti-poverty groups opposed to the bid, was timed to coincide with the Ontario NDP conference at the Hamilton convention centre.

The OFL has traditionally had significant influence over Ontario NDP policy.

But cabinet ministers at the conference said the government will maintain its support for the bid, including promises of \$11 million in startup funds and \$3.5 million per year in operating grants.

"For us to have an advanced centre of study and research around space issues, based on peaceful uses of space, is going to be a great asset," said Colleges and Universities minister Richard Allen.

Premier Bob Rae and Ed Philip, minister of industry, trade and technology, both told *Excalibur* they would not reverse their position on the space university.

The York-based Institute for Space and Terrestrial Science is competing against several international groups for the Space University contract, to be awarded in August by a Massachusetts-based company.

### "Peace factory" driven by American war machines

Phyllis Creighton, chair of Science for Peace, says the International Space University "is closely linked with the American military and major military contractors." But Bob Richards, a founder of ISU, calls it a "peace factory" and says it "has never [used], and will never use funds from any source for military purposes." Who's telling the truth?

While ISU isn't the kind of place that will be building atom bombs in its basement, it certainly doesn't have any qualms about rubbing shoulders with big military contractors. York professor David Noble has catalogued the

connections between ISU and big weapons-makers.

Here are some of Noble's findings:

- America's five biggest SDI ("Star Wars") contractors have given tens of thousands of dollars each to ISU. The five — Rockwell International, McDonnell Douglas, Boeing, Lockheed and TRW — donated a total of \$285,000 to ISU between 1987 and 1990, according to tax records obtained by *Excalibur*.

continued on page 2



# Honest Ed and footwear queen honoured with York degrees

by Gina Hanlon

A controversial industrialist and an immodest entrepreneur were among the stars of this year's convocation ceremonies. Sonja Bata and Ed Mirvish both received honorary degrees from York.

Bata sits on the boards of Bata Ltd., Alcan and Canadian Trustco, and sat on York's board of governors from 1976 to 1985.

Bata Ltd. has a shaky environmental reputation in Canada. This February, both the president and vice-president of Bata were found guilty of discharging toxic industrial waste from a plant near Trenton, Ont. Total fines of \$144,000 were levied against the company and the two directors. Although Sonja Bata was not directly

involved, the judgment of the court allocated blame and reparations to Bata Ltd., as well as the two directors.

David Webster of ACT for Disarmament and the East Timor Alert Network said York should not have given Bata the degree. Thomas and Sonja Bata have used such recognition to build their reputation for being world citizens, argued Webster.

"They're not benefactors of humanity," Webster said.

Bata Shoes is a major investor in Indonesia, a southeast Asian military dictatorship whose invasions of neighbouring island territories, such as East Timor in 1975, have so far escaped world attention.

Act for Disarmament picketed a Toronto Bata store Saturday and plans to continue information pickets.

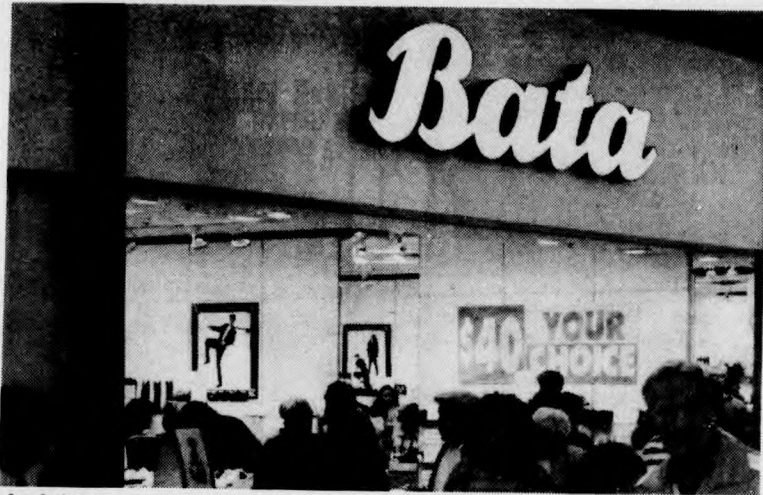
Webster said ACT is also urging Canadian universities to sell investments in Indonesia. ACT singled out Bata for a campaign because the company is "vulnerable to consumer pressure" and withdrew from South Africa after similar protests were staged during the 1980s.

Tom Drucker, general counsel for Bata Ltd. in Toronto, said Bata "has been in Indonesia before there even was an Indonesia in existence, and to say that we were propping up the regime is simply inaccurate." Drucker said Act is indulging in "a gross attack on Bata's reputation." and is defaming the company.

In response to Act's charge that Indonesian Bata workers were paid only two dollars a day, Drucker responded "information between Bata Indonesia and their workers is confidential, but I can say it's several times more than that."

Edwin Mirvish, most famous for owning the Honest Ed's discount store, also received an honorary degree. During his acceptance speech, Mirvish noted his birthday was approaching and urged the convocation audience to shop in his stores as part of his celebration.

Other recipients included Betty Oliphant, the founder of the National Ballet School; Maria Campbell, a famous native Canadian writer and activist; and Grace Hartman, the first woman president of the Canadian Union of the Public Employees.



Activist group targets Bata stores. • photo by Andrew Brouse

## Towing trauma solution seen

by Elaine Bellio

After a winter of angry complaints, York has been towing less cars.

In April, only 12 cars were towed away from York's parking lots. This was down from 149 in January.

In the past cars were towed away if they had five unpaid parking tickets. The policy has changed so that only cars that are obstructing a path are towed away, said Tom Arnold, interim parking manager for York Security.

People who have five unpaid tickets are now given a warning letter and two business days to pay their fines. If they fail to do so, then their cars will be towed.

These changes were made after a number of angry complaints.

Liddy Gomes, a staff member at the Centre for Research on Latin America and the Caribbean, filed a complaint this year, expressing her concern for the safety of people who had their cars towed.

York employs Abrams Towing, whose parking lot is located in an isolated, unlit industrial area, with no signs.

"It is one of those areas you would not want to be caught in the dark," Gomes said. "It's in a closed-in field and there are watchdogs all around."

Since these complaints and

several others have been launched, the parking office has changed its policy.

Arnold said his office has also increased the safety of those people whose cars have been towed. If your car is towed, you will now be given a ride by security to Abrams or a taxi will be provided free of charge.

Joey Gagner, supervisor at Abrams, said, "We've already been working on changes."

He said they have put in more lights and signs at both their entrances.

"If they haven't done this by next winter, then I'll look for a new towing company," said Arnold.

Virginia Wadge, a professor at the LaMarsh Centre on Violence, filed a three-page complaint after her car was towed away in 1990.

Wadge says she arrived at work before any parking attendants were at the parking lots, so it was impossible to pay the parking fee. She usually paid it when she was leaving the parking lot.

After two years of appeals, she was finally reimbursed the \$84 towing and ticket fee this February.

"It was very frustrating and if I wasn't persistent I never would have got my \$84 back," said Wadge. "I was bound and bent and wasn't going to let it drop until they admitted it was a clerical mistake."

## Power struggle grounds grad council

by Pat Micelli

The Graduate Student Association continues to be paralyzed by conflicts between members of its executive.

The organization stopped taking applications for emergency loans and academic funds in May.

President-elect Alan Jones is challenging decisions made in an April meeting where the 1991-92 GSA executive voted to strike a committee to investigate its members and suspend all returning executives, including Jones, until the committee reports its findings.

The new executives have been locked out of their Student Centre offices since May 4. York Security

padlocked the doors after important documents were stolen and gave a set of keys only to acting president Eduardo Garay.

"We've gone nearly one and a half months without access to the facilities. Why? Because one book has gone missing," said Jones in a recent interview.

Jones said the executive's decisions are unconstitutional and he demands to be recognized as president.

"He [Garay] should remove the locks and give the 92/93 executive keys, and we should get on with the business of representing graduate students," Jones said.

But Garay said only the graduate student council can decide whether or

not the decisions are legitimate.

The council is made up of 56 representatives from graduate studies departments.

Jones said he is backing his claim with the "off the cuff" conclusions of Osgoode Hall law professor Bruce Ryder. In a report to York administrator Debbie Glass, Ryder said the GSA executive acted unconstitutionally when they struck the committee and suspended returning members.

Charles Simon-Aaron, incoming treasurer, said he supports the conclusions of the lawyer.

But not all members of the executive are convinced that Ryder's observations are the final word.

"I think if we were to have a second opinion it could be quite different," said Sherry Rowley, coordinator of women's affairs.

Garay said he doesn't think the lawyer had enough information when he made his conclusions.

"It's not conclusive evidence that what we did is wrong."

Garay has called a council meeting on June 25 to try to resolve the issue.

## A peace factory?

continued from front page

- John McLucas, chair of the ISU board of directors, is a former secretary of the US Air Force and former president of MITRE Corporation, a major defence contractor.
- Of US-based contributions to ISU, \$333,000 came from NASA and \$330,000 came from defence contractors.
- Canada's Department of National Defence was one of the sponsors of the 1990 ISU summer session at York University.

Larry Clarke, founder of Canadian Aerospace giant Spar Aerospace and a member of the ISU board, denied that military-related research would take place at the space university.

"I've never heard a word of research, let alone military. In fact, I think the people would run a mile if they thought there was military," Clarke said, noting that the space university is meant to be only a teaching school "with a certain necessary component of

research."

But this weekend Richard Allen, Ontario's minister of colleges and universities, told *Excalibur* the space university would be predominantly research-based.

"It's a bit misleading that it's being called a university in the first place because it isn't a university, it's an advanced research institute, in effect, that will handle graduate students," Allen said.

Peter Mueller, an aerospace consultant and organizer of the York campus bid, said the campus would have at least some component of research and could not rule out the possibility of military-related work. But he said the space university would be subject to York research policies, which forbid some types of secret research.

And Peter Diamandis, one of the founders of ISU, acknowledged that it would be virtually impossible to divorce aerospace research from military-related applications.

"In the US, there is zero aerospace which is not military-connected," Diamandis said.

**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.

**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.

**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.

**Harnessing Intuition** The second annual Global Intuition Conference will focus on issues such as how intui-

Leave submissions in the Drop Everything envelope in the Excal production room, 420 Student Centre, c/o Catharine Soukoreff. Deadlines are Thursdays before Wednesday publications.

**DROP EVERYTHING**

tive 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.

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

### 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.



# Province charges York for Glendon oil spill

by Doug Saunders

An oil spill on the Glendon campus last year resulted in criminal charges against York University.

The university pleaded guilty to two charges under the Ontario Water Resources Act — one for allowing heating oil to leak from an underground storage tank into the Don River last February, and a second for failing to report the spill.

The charges, which came to trial Oct. 23,

were documented in a report on environmental offenses released last week by the Ontario environment ministry.

"Two people were walking along the river in the Glendon area, and they noticed an oily sheen on the river that smelled like fuel oil," said Pat Moran, crown counsel for the ministry.

They filed a complaint with the environment ministry. Investigators traced the leak through a nearby storm sewer to the Glendon tank.

The ministry used absorbent pads and booms to clean up the spill. At least five gallons of oil per day were collected this way, Moran said.

According to Harriet Lewis, York's legal counsel, the university pleaded guilty so charges would be dropped against a grounds employee.

The ministry began charging individuals as well as companies for environmental offenses last year. For the first time ever, the ministry jailed a businessman in June for polluting.

York's grounds department "took some steps to prevent further leaks but took no steps to notify the ministry and took no steps to clean up the leak," Moran said. The university also had no steps in place to deal with discharges into the environment.

Lewis said the tank has since been filled with concrete.

Campus environmentalists say they are not surprised by the university's negligence.

"From my experience, this doesn't surprise me one bit," said Collette Boileau, a member of the advocacy group Envision York.

"I've dealt with the president of the university and the board of governors and they don't show any interest in environmental issues. They just don't seem to think it's important."

York paid a total of \$6,500 in fines for the two charges.



The guy who runs the university and the guy who runs the student centre both say they own this hallway • photo by Tom Kim

## Turf war over colonnade

by Pat Micelli

Students say they risk losing control over one of the last recruiting areas for clubs on the Downsview campus.

Until this past spring, the Student Centre coordinated the use of a covered passageway on the south side of the building. But administration officials said the university's grounds department has final say over who uses the colonnade.

Rob Castle, manager of the Student Centre, said the administration took control of the colonnade against student recommendations. He said this ignores the 1988 agreement between the centre and the university requiring the two groups agree which portions of the centre are to remain under university control.

The colonnade is one of the few central locations where student clubs can set up information tables.

Jeff Zoeller, a vice president of the York Federation of Students, said the administration is trying to keep "tight control" over how students use space on campus.

But Beth Hopkins, a York vice president, said the administration wants the policy governing the use of the colonnade consistent for all buildings attached to it.

The colonnade links York Lanes, the Student Centre and Vari Hall, and runs along the fine arts buildings.

Students currently pay \$12.50 per course to fund the Student Centre, amounting to about 83 per cent of its total cost. The centre is run by a student-majority board and a full-time staff of 7 people, including Castle.

The original 1988 plans for the \$23 million centre did not include a

colonnade. However, in 1989 the university ordered Castle to add the passageway. York agreed to pay half of the additional estimated \$575,000 cost.

"If the university wants to pay for the second half of the colonnade, then they can have managerial control," Castle said.

"It just seems that, again, students are being screwed around with space on campus," said Zoeller.

The conflict over club table space has a precedent.

In the fall of 1989, the North York fire marshal evicted club tables from the Central Square hallways in the Ross building. Students protested after discovering the order was provoked by a York administrator's desire to place a hot dog stand in the same area.

Early this winter clubs were also ordered out of the Student Centre lobby after a surprise fire inspection.

The North York fire department gave the centre clearance to use the colonnade last fall, as long as clubs followed strict regulations.

The dispute began in March this year when York President Harry Arthurs ordered Castle to stop booking club tables in the colonnade.

In defiance of the order, clubs responded by booking their tables through the YFS instead.

"Broader issues are involved," Castle said. "If they do this, what's to stop them from saying the main lobby [of the Student Centre] is university space and should be controlled by university departments."

The Student Centre plans to continue booking club tables in the colonnade in September.

## Money-back drop deadline set back

by Dean J. Brown

York's Board of Governors is forcing students to drop courses faster if they want money back.

Students will now have to drop full-year courses before Oct. 31 and fall courses by Oct. 17 if they hope to receive any tuition refund.

"It sucks," said Cindy Reeves, one of two student representatives on the board.

"Students won't be able to decide if they're doing well in a course and drop it for financial reasons. It's going to be hard for students to make a decision," said Reeves last week.

Reeves and fellow student Caroline Winship are the only members who voted against the measure in May.

If students decide to drop courses later than the new dates, they will not receive any money whatsoever. In previous years the deadline was Feb. 8 for full-year courses, after which students could still receive 25 per cent of the fees back. Fall courses could also be dropped by Oct. 24, with 25 per cent refunded.

Winter courses have also been affected. The new deadline is now Feb. 6, compared to the previous date of Feb. 13.

REFUNDS: OLD AND NEW PERCENTAGES									
DATE	SEP 20	SEP 27	OCT 3	OCT 10	OCT 17	OCT 24	OCT 31	FEB 8	FEB 13
NEW Y	100	100	90	90	50	50	0	0	
OLD Y	100	100	75	75	50	50	50	...25	
NEW F	100	100	80	40	40	0	0		
OLD F	100	100	75	50	25	25	0		
DATE	JAN 9	JAN 16	JAN 23	JAN 30	FEB 6	FEB 13	FEB 20		
NEW W	100	100	80	40	40	0	0		
OLD W	100	100	50	50	50	25	0		
LEGEND	Y - FULL YEAR			F - FALL TERM			W - WINTER TERM		

The administration admits the changes were made to bring the university extra revenue.

"We'll probably lose money on the half courses, while we'll probably gain close to \$100,000 on the full-year courses," said Gene Densel, York's registrar.

Members of the York Federation of Students say they are angry about the changes and are pressing for reforms to help students adjust.

"I'm really angered and outraged at the way this was done, without any input from students," said Jeff Zoeller, a YFS vice president.

"It seems that the university is taking every opportunity to get more money out of students any way they can."

He said the changes will affect

students academically since most of them usually do not know how they are doing in a course before they have to decide whether to stay or drop.

"We're presently trying to put something through Senate to [make professors] inform the students by October on how they are doing in a course, but professors apparently don't listen to the Senate, and that's a problem," said Zoeller.

The registrar's office defends the Board of Governors decision, saying it is in line with other Canadian universities.

"Many other institutions will not give any money back at all after the first two weeks. We're hoping that students will seriously look at what courses they need and want before choosing them," said Densel.

## Conrad inspired student community



David Conrad at the centre of student action • photo by Joy Sculnick

by Laurie S. Alphonse

On April 13, 1992 the York University community said good-bye to one of its most dedicated and well-known student leaders.

David James Conrad died suddenly on April 9. He was 24.

At first glance, some people regarded David as frail and weak. He needed assistance performing routine tasks most of us take for granted and used an electric wheelchair to get around. Yet David, never a complainer, put skeptics to shame when he began at York five years ago.

Right from the start David felt the need to make York a better place, to work with Calumet College and help raise its profile in the larger community. He was eventually elected Calumet's representative to the York Federation of Students.

David always found time to remain an active member of the York community. He would have been vice president of the York Liberals this year.

## Security investigation pending

by Christine F. de Léon

An independent investigation of York Security is still in the planning stages, says Neil Edwards, a representative of the Black Secretariat.

The investigation was one of the demands accepted by the York administration after students occupied the university's presidential offices March 13. The occupation was in response to allegations of racism within the security force.

The Black Secretariat, a Toronto-

based community group, was selected to conduct an external review.

Edwards says he met with York vice president Bill Farr last on June 5. "We are in the very first stages of planning and as of yet a date has not been set for the investigation. It's still too early for that," he said.

Members of the Coalition Against Discrimination, who organized the protest, urged the Black Secretariat to launch a full investigation from scratch.

David was also involved in a variety of projects throughout Metro. He gave new meaning to the phrase "living life to its fullest."

Laurie Alphonse is vice president of ABLE York.



# editorial

Wednesday June 24th, 1992 • Volume 1, Issue 1



## Embarrassment by Degree

The convocation caravan came to campus last week and proved York events tend to be more spectacle than substance.

Sporting their \$20 rental robes and sagging velvet-esque hats, students paraded into the bigtop tent to take that next step into the rest of their lives.

What many graduates could not realize is that like most events on campus, their convocation had just as much to do with York's corporate image as it did with student achievement.

A university reveals a lot about its character by the people it chooses to award with honorary degrees. — and this year's recipients of York degrees included "Honest" Ed Mirvish and Sonja Bata.

So just what did Mirvish and Bata do to earn recognition from York?

During Mirvish's acceptance speech almost two weeks ago, he invited graduates and their parents to celebrate his birthday by visiting his store and cashing in on some sale items.

This says a lot about what Mirvish has been able to accomplish in his life: he's encouraged thousands of people to shop at his stores, and he's earned bags of money in the process.

York officials awarded him the degree because he gave away some of that money — and some of it wound up in York coffers.

In fact, York almost gave him a college once. His name was included in a shortlist of names for what

ended up being called Norman Bethune College.

Imagine: Ed Mirvish College. Instead of "Science and Society" the college's motto would be "Come in and get lost." Who knows? Maybe they'll end up naming York Lanes shopping mall after him.

More disturbing is the degree granted to Bata.

Bata used to sit on York's Board of Governors and is the member of the board of shoe giant Bata Ltd.

The university's official line on Bata is her "commitment to boards of service organizations" which deal with such concerns including "the environment."

But Bata Ltd. has come under attack from human rights groups, environmentalists, and anti-apartheid organizations. During the 1980s, only after long-standing public pressure did the company divest its significant interest from South Africa. Some activists are still after Bata Ltd. for the company's use of ultra-low-wage labour in developing countries — including Indonesia, which has been condemned recently for its violent acquisitions of colonies like East Timor.

Bata Ltd. was also fined \$144,000 for dumping toxic industrial waste into Ontario rivers this year.

Obviously Bata's honorary degree has less to do with her tree-hugging proclivities as her fat chequebook and her high-level connections.

Of course there were some degrees given out to deserving recipients. But perhaps Bata and Mirvish were more appropriate, given the university's bottom-line oriented approach to developing York in the '90s.

## Statue support

Dear Mr. Castle and Mr. McNeely,

We are Chinese students from Beijing. We recently learned from the *Toronto Star* that York students have erected a statue of the Goddess of Democracy at York University's Student Centre, despite interference from the Chinese Government. We are deeply moved by York students' sympathy and support for student democratic movements around the world, including China.

The Goddess of Democracy at York campus makes us recall what happened



in Beijing Tiananmen Square three years ago. Three years ago, the original statue of Goddess of Democracy was erected in Tiananmen Square by Beijing students, some of them no longer alive today. The massacre by the Chinese Communist region crushed both the statue of Goddess of Democracy and the students' hope. Our younger sister, who was a fourth year university student in 1989, was a participant in the student demonstrations in Tiananmen Square. Because our parents forced her to leave the square on June 2, she became one of the survivors of the bloody massacre on June 3 and 4. Our sister is now still in China, like millions of young Chinese students there, having no freedom of speech, which we enjoy here in Canada.

To show our appreciation to York students and our support for the students democratic movement, we would like to donate \$64 to the York Student association. This \$64 is a very small amount of money by Canadian standards, but we hope that it will be seen as a sign of our gratitude. We interpret sixty-four as June 4, in the memory of the democratic movement in 1989, and of the students who lost their lives in Tiananmen Square in their struggle for freedom and democracy. We have made a promise to ourselves that every year on June 4, we will donate \$64 to an organization which supports the democratic movement in China, until the day when democracy and freedom become a reality in our home country. We hope for the sake of our family and friends who remain in China that this day will soon come.

Yours truly,  
Jean and William  
(Last names withheld by request)

## Wheeltrans woes

Dear Editor,

It would be marvelous if the different portions of York University and Wheeltrans could agree to have signs erected for the bus pick-up and drop-off spot.

I know that unless I know the spot that the bus is going to, it can be very hard to guess where different drivers will be. It must be really hard on the drivers as well as the passengers.

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.

Somebody expressed the thought that the drivers know where to go, but they don't because the shift changes, and the next driver doesn't know where the original drop-off point was. I don't think that anybody would want to get a bus by thumbing one down whenever. We all need bus stops.

Signs do not cost very much and some are really needed. Personally I would like to see one at Calumet College as I have a night class there and also because one of the people I know teaches there and has to arrange an appropriate spot.

Please let this message be heard.

Sue Lawrence

## Anti-space bias

Dear Editor,

As a student at York University I have always been impressed with the anti-racism stand you hold. You have shown us that stereo-types based on racial, ethnic, or religious backgrounds can be determined to a society that wants to achieve equality and freedom for all.

As a science student at York however, I am disappointed at what seems to me to be your prejudice attitude towards science. You say things such as, "The ISU is a spin-off of the Massachusetts Institute of Technology, America's top academic defense contractor, ..." Without saying so, you have implied that the ISU is involved with doing American military research, a good trick for an organization that trains students from many countries, including those that were once on the other side of the iron curtain. You also didn't mention people like Arthur C. Clark and Carl Sagan, vocally anti-military people, supporters of the ISU. In fighting racism you have told us not to condemn by association, but you seem to do it here.

You also seem to be promoting stereo-types. In your last issue, you ask as a headline "Just Who Are These Space Cadets?" The term is a common one, and is not used as a compliment. By using such a label, you are promoting what you are fighting to remove. You have shown us that giving a cultural or religious group a label is wrong, people are just people, all different, all with unique goals and dreams. So why have you used a derogatory title to refer to people interested in space? Such a term is demeaning and only promotes apathy, not understanding.

You have done so well in the fight against racism. Yet examples like the two above are not uncommon in your paper. Please don't destroy your reputation by promoting yet another prejudice.

Sincerely,  
Peter White,  
Third year Graduate Student,  
Physics and Astronomy Department

# excalibur

York University's Community Newspaper

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

Telephone:  
Advertising: 736-5238  
Editorial: 736-5239  
Fax: 736-5841

*Excalibur* is a volunteer organization. We will consider for publication all submissions that are not deemed libelous or discriminatory by the editors and staff. The opinions expressed are not necessarily shared by all members of the staff or board of publications. Final responsibility resides with the editor-in-chief as outlined in the constitution.

**Editor-in-chief** Pat Micalli  
**Managing Editor** John Montesano  
**Production Manager** Stephie Perry  
**Prod Assistant** Catharine Soukoreff  
**Arts Editors** Eric Alper, Lilac Cana, Lee Romberg, and Harry Rudolfs  
**Features Editor** Doug Saunders  
**Letters Editor** Catharine Soukoreff  
**Sports Editor** Nick Davis  
**News Editor** Jennifer Lim  
**Photo Editor** vacant  
**Women's Issues Coordinator** Sara Singer  
**Gay Issues Coordinator** Brian Rigg  
**Lesbian Issues Coordinator** Frances Limfat  
**Race Issues Coordinators** Dwayne Morgan

**Staff:** Rose-ann Bailey, Steve Balsky, Elaine Bellic, Prasad Bidaye, David Black, Michele Boesner, Maggie Borch, Jacen Brathwaite, Andrew Brouse, Trevor Burnett, David Camfield, Clive Cohen, Aaron Dantowitz, Patrick Davila, Christine de Léon, David Gardner, Rob Gibson, Adrian Graham, Corey Goldman, Gina Hanlon, Elissa Horscroft, Jim Hounslow, Michael Hussey, Sheena Jarvis, Brett Lamb, Moira MacDonald, Azad Majeed, Daniel Naccarato, Michael Nachoff, Ira Nayman, James Oscar, Judy Passley, Collin Phillips, Robert Pincomb, Samuel Putinja, Mike Raycroft, Cindy Reeves, Riccardo Sala, Josh Rubin, Tom Schneider, Jim Sheppard, David Sutherland  
**The staff would like to thank the following for helping us get our paper back:** The Charlatan, CKLN's The Classroom Struggle, CHRY, Canadian University Press, The Strand, The McGill Daily, The Varsity

**Contributors:** Laurie S. Alphonse, Brenda Bouw, Dean J. Brown, Phil Downes, Pam Jacobs, Tom Kim, Tina Novotny, Emre Onat

**Acting Board Chair,** Grant Wagman

## excalendar

Wednesday June 24  
Staff meeting at 6:00pm

Sunday July 12  
Student press skills conference, Uof T  
Hart House. Noon. Call 736-5239.

Wednesday July 29  
Next Excal issue

**Quote of the issue:**  
"News is what somebody  
somewhere wants to suppress,  
all the rest is advertising."  
Lord Northcliffe



# Another side to Sunday shopping

Most media observers celebrated Bob Rae's decision this month to allow stores to open on Sunday, but for a large group of workers the event was a serious letdown. Here, an Atkinson college student who manages a large department store explains how Sunday shopping can hurt many employees, especially women. Her name has been withheld so she can keep her job.

While most of us may agree with Sunday shopping on the basis of our freedom to choose, the consideration of the Sunday worker falls by the wayside. That it is named 'Sunday shopping' and not 'Sunday working' is indicative of the media's failure to fairly represent everyone involved in the issue.

A Toronto *Star* opinion poll, held shortly before the Ontario government's decision, inquired as to "Who would like to shop Sunday?" (67 per cent) and not "Who would like to work Sunday?" The Toronto *Star's* perpetuation of Sunday shopping myths and its biased support on this issue leads me to believe that not only does Bob Peter sign my paycheque but also signs the Toronto *Star's* (Oh, the power of advertising!)

My concern is with large corporations who are manipulating local businesspeople, tourist merchants and retail workers in order to gain a bigger and better bottom line. (How is it that

Europeans close up for a nap daily, close Sunday and still can compete in the world market?)

I am a non-union retail worker who is continually told by my employer that I am not to talk to the media. And what is it that I risk saying?

•Sunday shopping does not mean more jobs. As a manager of one of Canada's largest retailers I was instructed to only rearrange existing shifts to cover Sunday and our six-day payroll to cover seven days. If you thought it was hard to find a sales clerk during the six-day week, look again—she is now stretched to seven.

•Sunday shopping does not provide job security. In fact, Sunday availability has become a factor in promotability. Our company is currently restructuring itself to accommodate fewer full-time employees. This also means less corporate revenue into the public Canada Pension Plan and health insurance programs—which affect us all.

•Sunday shopping is not a religious issue centering upon 'rights.' It is a change in our public and family life. Who will pick up the tab for Sunday child care? Senior executives and their spouses will be at the cottage on Sunday while grandmothers and mothers (sales clerks are mainly women) will be at the checkouts. Their children will join the great host of latchkey children who already exist Monday to Friday. (That our company was willing to open on Mother's day disturbed me most).

•Sunday shopping does not prevent cross-border shopping for large retailers. Lower prices and better cus-

tomers service south of the border do. Retailers who are willing to forego over-inflated gross profits and more executive limousines will provide more competitive prices.

•Sunday shopping is Sunday working. The freedom to work or not work

does not exist in large retail stores as it does for the family-run business or tourist shop. Let the small businesses do as they wish, but applying that freedom to large corporations involves the exploitation and manipulation of many individuals who are not involved in this decision-making process.

•In the name of 'rights' the media continues to silence not only the Sunday worker but feminists who are also

concerned about Sunday shopping as a 'rights' issue. The issue of Sunday shopping is an issue of women against large corporations. The exploitation of women workers exists here in Canada as much as it does in any South American offshore production centre. This is a struggle of women who will be forced to work, whose jobs and promotability depend on Sunday availability.

## Two feminist authors who lash back

by Tina Novotny

Women on North American campuses are more concerned with the calorie count on their plate than what their university is doing about affirmative action, Naomi Wolf says.

"Women are more concerned with running around the track instead of asking where the female profs are or why they can't walk home safely at night," says Wolf, author of *The Beauty Myth*. Wolf says this is the result of a society-wide backlash to keep feminism in check.

Wolf is one half of the duo of new feminist writers who appeared at the Winter Garden theatre in Toronto last month. She was joined by Susan Faludi,

whose controversial work *Backlash: the Undeclared War Against Women* has garnered both praise and paranoia in the media it takes to task.

Both writers believe there are very real "backlashings" at work in society, attacking women's peace of mind and job security, even the physical health of their bodies.

Wolf's statistics are profoundly disturbing: 20 to 50 per cent of North American women under 30 have some form of eating disorder. Every year, 150,000 women die of anorexia.

Wolf accuses the male-dominated business world of distorting the female image to profit from women's shame. She says the advertising industry even doctors models' photographs, elongating body parts with something called a "cytex" machine to create an inhuman ideal women can never attain.

Witness the 33 billion dollar diet industry, the 20 billion dollar cosmetics industry or the huge growth in cosmetic surgery.

"They take something female, call it gross, and create an industry" says Wolf.

But if the misogynist world of beauty is Wolf's specialty, it's the media that's been found out by Faludi.

Her book *Backlash* has become a target for dismissive anti-feminist commentary by the media ("A whiner's

bible," one erudite reviewer called it. "At least he called it a bible," countered Faludi). It's also become a renewed call to join the feminist ranks: only 16 per cent of young women call themselves 'feminist' today.

Faludi's research shows how the press became a propaganda machine for societal forces seeking to diminish women's gain, creating the "ugly feminist" stereotype to discredit the movement. Since the controversy over her findings started, 'lifestyle' journalists have asked Faludi "What's the hot trend now?", since we've 'done' the backlash against feminism.

"It doesn't work like hemlines," says Faludi. In fact, both Wolf and Faludi call themselves "third wave" feminists, after the first waves of suffragettes and the second of 70s liberationists. "We're starting at day zero," they say.

"Post-feminism was a term coined in 1919," says Wolf. "We have to re-invent feminism like we talk about re-inventing democracy."

These days women are up against a greater counter-assault than ever before. Faludi points out how affirmative action is faltering because organizations say they have "enough" women.

"There are more women in poverty and more women on the streets," she says. And because of years of cuts by the conservative Reagan and Bush administrations, there are "more battered women with fewer places to turn."

Through insidious media distortion, women have even been blamed for the rise in violence against themselves. Faludi offered some choice examples.

A *San Francisco Chronicle* headline: "Sexy clothes attract rapists." The television newsmagazine show *20/20* entitles an article on campus date rape, "The changing art of seduction in the 90s."

One of the most frightening angles Faludi saw was in the very paper she used to work for. The *Wall Street Journal* headlined a story "Welfare mothers led to L.A. Riots." Faludi says it's part of an underhanded drive by the Bush administration to cut support to single mothers by 25 per cent. As Wolf says of her beauty myth theory: "Obedience is beautiful now."

Both Wolf and Faludi promote and provoke disobedient discourse, acting as perfect foils for each other in their lecturing styles. To take questions from the floor, Wolf commanded, "Let's turn up the houselights so we can see our friends."

Added Faludi: "And our enemies."

Tina Novotny is the station manager of CHRYFM (105.5), York's community radio station.



## Why did President Arthurs whitewash the campus press?

by Phil Downes

The nomination of Dr. Susan Mann as the successor to President Harry Arthurs was surely one of the more stunning public events in this and many other years at York.

For many, used to the predictability often produced by an institution of York's nature, her appointment has been cause for a refreshing and optimistic take on the administrative future of the University. Arthurs can take a certain pride in the fact that he has been president in a period that has resulted in such a progressive appointment.

It is therefore of some concern that the very medium that endorsed the successful candidate has been subsequently held out for some excessive vilification from two specific quarters. In response to the article by Doug Saunders ("Stephen Fienberg's Corporate York," April 1), Arthurs' office took the unusual step of literally

plastering the campus with a "Statement...concerning false allegations of involvement of York University and of Vice President Fienberg in Star Wars research."

Notwithstanding the fact that *Excalibur* was not scheduled to appear again that term, the sense that this office had utilized its considerable resource, rather than the more conventional means of responding to a newspaper article, to present its view, was somewhat unsettling.

That the response read in many ways more like a dubious apology for a less than transparent state of affairs, than a genuine attempt to address the issues raised (not to mention the very "non-presidential" tone of the statement), only reflected a sense of panic on the part of the senior administration. The statement's appeal to "fair-minded people" promising to reveal "the facts...in order [for them] to make an informed judgment" sounded suspiciously

like an appeal to "common sense" designed precisely to contain any critical reaction on the part of the York community less inclined towards the openly stated oppositional nature of last year's *Excalibur*.

But there is another and, in my opinion more disturbing forum in which the *Excalibur* article has been attacked. Those members of the community that offered written comments to the search committee in response to the public forums with the three candidates were sent a letter of thanks from the committee. The letter includes a reference to the *Excalibur* article as "reprehensible and riddled with inaccuracies and malicious innuendo...We hope as a responsible member of the York community, you will let your views known on this type of behavior." I am doing so. I find the inclusion of such an appeal in a letter of this nature not only insulting and inappropriate, but paternalistic and dismissive.

Again a position of authority seems to offer an excuse not to address the article via the media itself, but through the use of a privileged resource.

Perhaps these responses indicate that *Excalibur* is indeed taken more seriously than one might think, but if there is to be a serious commitment to student-administration relations at York, I believe it is vital that the campus media be respected for what they are, and what they claim to be. *Excalibur* is not the *Globe and Mail* and (thankfully) it has not (at least last year) claimed to be. It is a medium that has committed itself to providing news alongside a rigorous examination of systems and operations of power at York. Saunders' article may well have contained a certain overzealous polemic against Stephen Fienberg, but it also contained a great deal of well-researched and accurate information which, it seems, has been ignored in the interest of protecting the public

face of someone who sought the most senior position at this University.

That candidates affiliated with other Universities refused to allow their names to stand says more about their confidence in their own integrity than the potential for abuse of process. No-one will ever know exactly what influence the *Excalibur* article had on the decision of the selection committee; if it was none, then why the fuss about the article in the committee's letter?

I think that the committee is to be congratulated on making a progressive and responsive choice in Susan Mann; I also believe that York deserves more than the arrogant dismissal of campus journalism that they and the president have demonstrated in this case.

Phil Downes is a graduate student in York's faculty of arts.



# Musical lands on Toronto stage with mixed message to audience, performers

by Lilac Cana

"Auditioning we will go, auditioning we will go, hire-a-ho' a-derry-yo, a-dissing we will go!"

So it's here, is it? S'happenin. Now. The time is ripe... for Toronto's Next Biggest Musical.

Musical production, musical theatre, musical chairs? It's a bird. It's a



plane. It's (gonna be) a hit. It's: *Miss Saigon*.

Last Thursday to Saturday, hundreds of singers, dancers and performers flocked to Roy Thompson Hall to audition for the extravaganza.

A big deal this is, indeed. What with Big Ed venturing into his latest

## OPINION

Perhaps some people are more equal than others in contemporary musicals like *Miss Saigon*.

construction project: TO's very own helicopter garage. And the big advert in one of the city's big newspapers which called on all Filipino and Asian singers to come out and strut their stuff for the big directors.

About time, too. Toronto audiences are saccharine-overdosed with the outgoing sleeping giants of the past few years; can they restrain themselves from yawning severely at any more *Les Miz* or *Phantom* grind mills?

Can they even pretend to be thrilled by "new" offerings ranging from a funkified Donny in another remake of *Joseph and the Amazing Technicolour Raincoat* to a brief stint of *Bye Bye Birdie* (another resurrected oldie) at the O'Keefe Centre? Or even by what promised to be a gutsier (ballsier?) staging of *The Kiss of the Spider Woman*? Well, naaah.

Popular opera (what these musical should be called) may have been transformed during the 1980s, with the introduction of the **through-composed** (without dialogue) form used in the first London productions. But the subject matter of all these hugely successful shows never went beyond the 19th Century.

*Cats* was based on the words and sentiments of the very dead poet (T.S. WHO?); theatrical rigor mortis, right there. A Dead Poet's Society indeed.

What was missing was an attempt to integrate the "Now" into a LIVE entertainment form with a potential to reach and involve the masses. Most people probably want nothing to do with the politeness of these offerings, anyway. (I won't get into the tangle of using words like "contemporary" or "postmodern".)

But, yeah. How about a bit of apocalypse—now (or reasonably then, like a fresh 30 years ago)—on stage, set to music reflecting the rhythms and inflections of a time closer to our own. *Miss Saigon* could very well tingle a few toes in a genuine manner, when it opens in 1993.



Miss Saigon comes to Toronto.

As for the portrayal of Asian characters as pimps, hustlers, rebel soldiers and whores. The story takes place in 1960's Saigon, after all, and during a particularly fucked-up war.

There isn't room in the plot line for the many varieties of Asians today, some of whom happily fill identities beyond these tired and oppressive stereotypes. It's ho's they need, and ho's they get.

A difficult squeeze, to be sure, for the many talented, accomplished and

highly-trained Asian and Asian-Canadian artists, who may find the roles too strangulantly alien (read: limiting). The gist is a significant breakthrough, though; themainstream has opened its flood gates and is flowing into a hitherto unformed tributary which includes Asians. Yaay.

Enough can't be said about fair representation, especially in the realm of entertainment. All in due time. When the audience is ready, they'll listen to new voices—and be amazed.

## Good voices, different settings

by Ira Nayman

A great voice can only carry you so far; in the wrong setting, even the most beautiful stone's impact is diminished. Annie Lennox, for example, can belt out tunes with the best of them; but *Diva*, her first solo project, is a disappointment.

The music relies far too heavily on uninspired synthesizer riffs. The two or three darker songs, such as "Cold," have interesting textures, but they are exceptions. Listening to *Diva*, you'll yearn for the chunky guitars of Dave Stewart, Lennox' Eurythmics partner.

The lyrics, mostly about love and broken hearts aren't embarrassingly bad, but that's no great recommen-

ation. Cliches abound, and there seems to be no joy in wordplay. It's hard to believe that this is the same woman who wrote "Missionary Man."

Even Lennox' voice, which is still amazing, isn't enough to make *Diva* worthwhile.

On the other hand, an okay voice does nothing to diminish the strength of great songs. Michelle Shocked, whose voice is relatively thin, has put out a succession of fascinating albums, the latest of which is *Arkansas Traveler*.

The album combines bluegrass, country and other southern musical styles. With its fiddles, banjo and mandolin, *Arkansas Traveler* is a far cry from the folk of Shocked's early albums, or the big band sound of her last album.

She has the ability to take the conventions of whatever musical genre she works in and make them

## MUSIC

Annie Lennox  
DIVA  
BMG/RCA

Michelle Shocked  
ARKANSAS TRAVELER  
Mercury/Polygram

her own, however; the album contains her usual mix of high energy, willingness to experiment, social conscience and joy at making music.

Even if you don't like this kind of music—I never have—you'll find Shocked's joy infectious.

According to the liner notes, Shocked wanted to appear on the cover in blackface in order to "provide a genuine focus on the real 'roots' of many of the tunes" on the album, the blackface minstrelsy. Shocked seems to be genuinely concerned with fostering a "context of true respect for the cultures we ape." Ex-



posing the black roots of popular white music is a worthy goal, although I doubt that reviving the racist minstrel shows is the best way of doing it. (To be fair to Shocked, she does use a lot of black artists on the album.)

In the language of the music biz, *Arkansas Traveler* isn't going to move anywhere near the volume of units of *Diva*. Too bad; it's a great album.

## Contentment leads to unrest

"The possibility of an underclass revolt...exists and grows stronger... It has always been one of the high tenets of comfort that the uncomfortable accept peacefully, even gladly, their fate. Such a belief today may be suddenly and surprisingly disproved."

Reading famed Harvard economist John Kenneth Galbraith's latest book, *The Culture of Contentment*, one cannot help but be awed by his prescience. Although the innocent verdict in the Rodney King trial was the flashpoint, the recent riots in Los Angeles and other American cities developed out of a long history of economic and political deprivation, as Galbraith suggests.

Galbraith's thesis is that the well off middle and upper classes in the United States, who have enough material wealth to be "content," make up the majority of voters. Because of this, government policy is geared towards serving their interests. It is a simple idea, but the ramifications are vast.

Although many people recognize the US has severe problems with education, its medical system and a decaying infrastructure, for instance, the government doesn't do much to solve them. Why? According to Galbraith, they involve raising taxes, something the contented class absolutely refuses to allow, especially when the benefits are far in the future and diffused among the entire population.

On the other hand, the government is prepared to spend over \$500 billion (that's billion with a "b") to bail out the savings and loans companies, because the contented class can't afford to lose its savings. "However intervention by the state may be condemned..." Galbraith writes, "it has been relatively comprehensive when the interests of the contented are involved."

Given Galbraith's thesis, government policies which had seemed perverse start to make sense. The obsession with keeping the rate of inflation down, for example, despite the fact that it puts millions of people on the unemployment lines, is necessary for the contented class to reap the maximum profit on money it lends. They can accept the unemployment as long as they get paid back in money that isn't worth much less than what it was worth when they lent it out.

Almost every major economic

## BOOK

*The Culture of Contentment*  
John Kenneth Galbraith  
Houghton Mifflin Company  
195 pages \$29.95

policy of the 1980s comes under scrutiny in *The Culture of Contentment*. And, although

Galbraith sometimes stretches his theory too far to make a point, his arguments are very convincing.

The book is a hybrid, easily accessible in some ways, scholarly in others. The style is a little dry (you can tell Galbraith learned his economics in the 1930s!), but it isn't as off-putting as most works on the subject.

On the other hand, there aren't many footnotes and not a lot of supporting research. This may be an indication that there isn't much material available on recent events, particularly from Galbraith's Keynesian perspective, but it gives the author's detractors, who are legion, ammunition to trash the book.

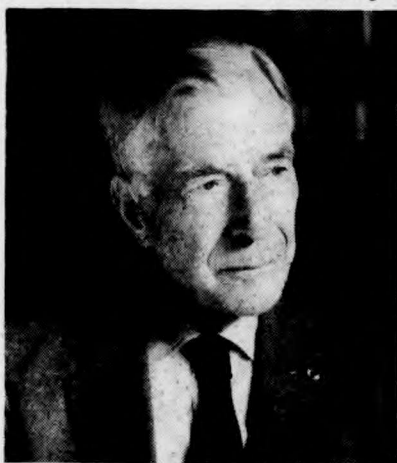
Of course, Galbraith doesn't help his cause by devoting two chapters to what he calls "The Economic Accommodation," the propensity of economists to skew their theories to suit the prevailing political will. Although the chapters may be his response to the near universal ill-will other economists harbour for him, they are logically argued and make a lot of sense.

This is what I have long admired about Galbraith. Where most other economists spin ever more complex theories that have less and less to do with the real world, he tries to explain it.

Galbraith's prognosis for the future is uncharacteristically pessimistic. The contented class will not willingly give up its advantages; Galbraith states that it may take severe economic recession, an unpopular war, a revolt of the underclass or some combination of the three to improve the lot of the majority of poor, underprivileged Americans.

Galbraith's argument in *The Culture of Contentment* is compelling, if depressing.

IN





# Lost and Profound confronted in yuppie heaven

by Eric Alper

There is something about the Cultures restaurant at Yonge and Holly streets with its vegetarian and green attitude and ill-conceived interior decor of (what else) plants and brown cottage furniture that repeatedly brings to the mind the term "yuppie." It makes an unlikely sort of launch pad for the Toronto-based clique Lost And Profound.

For example, the photograph of the band's main counterparts, Lisa Boudreau and Terry Tompkins, inside their self-titled album shows them elegantly dressed in a black ankle-length dress and black suit, respectively (this ain't Culture Club, y'know).

The promotion picture, however, contradicts this image just as much as the pair feeling at home in yuppiedom. It shows the duo's faces blurry, their bodies wearing ultra-stylish clothes, in front of a psychedelic colour collage background. Their appearance is one of the extremes the band paints themselves into.

Their influences are another. Citing The Ramones, The Clash, The Jam, LSD causality Syd Barrett and Pink Floyd as what they listened to in high school, one would imagine their first recordings might be on the angry, political side of sounds to smoke drugs to. But as their chart-rising single "Brand New Set Of Lies" reveals, not only is it smart pop, but lyrically it gets the message across as only a bitter love-breakup song can.

"My brother always had a great record collection," Terry says. "I was listening to Deep Purple when I was eight or nine. We certainly don't want to be boring live, and I think that's where our influences mostly appear."

Go back a bit further into the band's beginnings and perhaps Deep Purple or The Clash's personality appear more strongly. Terry details about his first band and how he came to... um... work with Lisa.

"My first band was in Calgary. I just picked up a guitar and started a band... 'The Snot.'"

Your album cover ideas must have been amazing.

"Yeah, a big piece of booger right in the middle of it. That was the title of it. The Snot. *Booger*."



Lost and Profound are neither hazy nor purple, as the photo suggests; they are lost indeed but none too profound. Expect Terry Tompkins and Lisa Boudreau with a follow-up album after their summer tour.

## INTERVIEW

Lost and Profound guitarist Terry Tompkins talks about his previous bands, including "The Snot"

Sounds like a Sex Pistols one-off. "Well, that was the whole idea. Anyone could go out and start a band. A lot of people did. It didn't matter if you were good or not."

Lisa cuts in now: "He was in a good band and I was in a kind of bad hard rock band. His band opened for mine. It always happens that way, doesn't it? Anyway, he called me up one time after he found out I had just broken up with my boyfriend and asked to do some music together. *Yeah, right.*"

So, what has happened with the relationship?

Lisa smiles, "We're married." Hey, good going, Terry! "Thanks, it worked too good." "Watch it, buddy," Lisa retorts playfully.

Ladies and gentlemen. Lost And Profound: The Last Sessions. So, when did the beautiful music begin to take shape?

"We just lost our band," Terry replies. "We started recording on a 4-track, then on an 8-tracks I had in my

basement, doing some experimental music and Lost And Profound incorporated a lot of other people, starting out as this long mushroom-induced jam in the basement after we moved to Toronto.

Suddenly Alan Beardsell appears — in the story, and in the interview. "Well, they wanted me to play violin. I hadn't touched it in a number of years," Alan says.

Terry speaks: "He answered our 'violinist wanted' ad anyways."

Alan remembers: "I asked, 'You don't have to be good, do you?'"

"We're hoping you're good," came the reply. Since he had a 'good

attitude,' they invited him over anyway. "He brought his mandolin and became our player," Lisa says. "We got a drummer, Dave Quinton Steinberg, ex of The Dead Boys and he was loud, so we had to pick up the electric guitar which changed the acoustic stuff a bit. So we went from rock and Pink Floyd to... rock and... rock."

Ah, good ol' rock and rock. Didn't Alan Freed coin that one too? But didn't the earlier recordings have a country feel to them? Are those the ones that were left off the album?

Lisa explains, "Our bass player had left the band, and he was really

## Soup Dragons want off bandwagon

by Eric Alper

Something happened halfway between *This Is Our Art* and *Lovegod*, the Soup Dragons' debut and second album. They became popular. *Very* popular.

It wasn't a case of 'finally arriving,' you understand. After all, their biggest North American hit, "I'm Free," (from *Lovegod*) was a radical interpretation of the closing track from The Rolling Stones' 1965 album, *Out Of Our Heads*. The middle eight is carried into a reggaefied toast-fest

## INTERVIEW

The Soup Dragons take a look at their surprising popularity and predict their new album will be in record bins for decades. The Dragons appear at RPM July 3.

with the aid of former Black Uhuru member Junior Reid.

No, it was a case of that dreaded "Manchester" label that I, too, have just used. The group isn't even from England, for starters. Formed in Belshill, just outside Glasgow, the band has been lubricated with such compliments as "I have not heard your song, but people are telling me you are sounding like The Stone Roses. Or The Charlatans."

If there is such a thing, the Soupies represent the skillful end of the batch of hooded sweatshirt-wearing bands currently all the rave.

"We've always tried to separate ourselves from everybody else, but it seems that we've always been accused of jumping on the bandwagon of whatever musical fashion is around at the time," sighs drummer Paul Quinn. "Looking for more riots," he speaks from Los Angeles as they are currently promoting their latest album, *Hotwired*, which brings them to Toronto's RPM on July 3.

The days of being pigronholed, however, may be over. The Roses are into their third year of recording "that difficult second album," while The Charlatans are in a do-or-die tour schedule that, although the shows are consistent sellouts, their newest album is slipping down the charts fast.

Quinn agrees this could be the time for the band to set off on their own. "It's not for us to judge other people's work, same as it's not for others to judge our work. We're feeling good about the album, though. I mean, it's like this indie-dance thing

our country influence. When it came to put the package together, there were a couple of songs that just didn't fit with the rest of the album. I mean, they were *good*, they just didn't fit, anywhere."

Modesty. Not only did they write good songs they could afford to leave on the cutting floor, they also met (gasp!) the Drummer from Big Star!

Terry says of their percussive meeting in Memphis: "I produced the record down there. What a place! Good, good music. I went to dinner with him, his name is Jody Stevens, and talked a bit."

"Big Star were always obscure, but I liked them. I think they just signed some really bad record deals, and Alex Chilton had a lot of personal problems to deal with."

When new bands like Curve or Teenage Fanclub speak of Big Star as their main influence, it can only help Lost and Profound, even if it is 15 years later.

With various album cuts being played on all of the major Toronto music stations (no mean feat for any band), what are the future plans for Lost And Profound?

Lisa begins, "Number one album in America..."

"And tour the world," ends Terry. More modesty. Is this group headstrong or what?

"Seriously," Terry says seriously, "we'll tour here for a bit in the summer, the album is going to be released in the U.K., tour over there, and start to record our second album."

...Which will be Number One in America, also?

"Right," all three laugh.

— that's just someone who struck two words together. As far as we're concerned, our music was just as dancy before we were labelled as an indie-dance group."

The Soup Dragons had a distribution deal with *Big Life*, releasing a series of singles on their own Raw TV label when the indie... ooops, fuss started. Their debut album ("a load of demos and outtakes — a pure mess") was released in 1988 by Sire Records. Interestingly enough, the Dragons went back to Raw TV "We had no choice, really. Sire is an American company and we felt they couldn't relate to what we wanted to do."

When did you know the group had hit "the big time?"

"The tour with INXS last year probably told us things were going to change. I mean, they were there to see them, but I think a lot of people were surprised and got into us. Hopefully they bought our album," he jokes.

The tour with Hutch and the boys must have helped, as *Lovegod* went on to sell 350,000 copies around the world. "Yeah, but the shows were bad 'cos it was too many faces in the audience to actually feed energy off them, you know?"

Claiming "more electric guitars and stronger melodies" on *Hotwired*, the band looks ready to claim their own share of influences soon. "We wear our Jimi Hendrix or The Who or Sly Stone influences with pride. Our ambition is in 20 years time to be able to walk in a record shop and see a section of all our LPs in it."

With the wierd, dreamy medodies of *Lovegod*, such as "Softly," "Sweetmeat," and "E-Forever," *Hotwired*'s future sounds of yesterday's rock gods shows a depth of ideas that should carry them beyond the current trends — and permanently attached to the record bins.

## Crowd Butchered

RIGHT AND BELOW: The Jazz Butcher gave Toronto fans an honest yet energetic performance at the El Mocambo on May 9. Lead singer and founder Pat Fish performed songs from his decade-long career as well as those from the latest melancholic release, *Condition Blue*. The two-hour set was energetic and honest with more than adequate participation from a very jumpy and receptive audience. High points included a cover of "Somewhere Over The Rainbow," for which he invited an exuberant member of the crowd to do the vocals. (It was his birthday.) Photo by Prasad Bidaye





# Barcelona-bound Wood misses standard

by Josh Rubin

Some people might consider it a gold medal for going through the motions, but not Doug Wood.

Despite having already been pre-selected to Canada's Olympic squad, the 25 year old York University pole vaulter was still happy to take first spot at the Olympic trials in Montreal last week.

Though his winning performance of 5.45 m was well short of his Canadian record of 5.61 m,

he was still pleased with the showing.

"Pole vaulting is definitely a sport where you need a lot of confidence so I'd say I'm happy," said Wood, referring to the fact his best previous result this outdoor season had been a vault of just 5.35 m at a meet in British Columbia three weeks ago.

Still, Wood, who leaves for a number of meets in Europe in just two weeks, wants to go even higher during his preparations to Barcelona. "I'd really like to set at least one more

Canadian record before the Olympics," said Wood.

At Barcelona, Wood will be aiming for a top five finish, something a Canadian hasn't accomplished since Bruce Simpson's fifth place 5.20 m vault at Munich in 1972.

Even a medal isn't completely out of the question, according to Wood.

Wood expects a first vault of 5.80 m would be enough to get a shot at the bronze.

Wood's is preparing for Spain under the

careful eye of coach Zdenek Krykorka, who was also pleased with Wood's showing in Montreal this past weekend.

"It could always be better, but Doug's in good physical shape right now, and this is an improvement over his result from out west," Krykorka said.

Another of Krykorka's York vaulters, Kevin Lake, took fifth spot at the Montreal competition with a vault of 5.20 m, 30 cm short of the 5.50 m standard needed to qualify for Barcelona.



**LUCKY 13, Joel Brough of the Olympic-bound Canadian field hockey squad deaks by a pair of American defenders in exhibition play at Lampport Stadium last week.** • photo by Michele Boesener

## Spanish sojourn for York gymnasts

by Riccardo Sala

York gymnasts will be heavily represented at this summer's Barcelona Olympics.

Along with the Canadian gymnasts will be York coaches Masaaki Naosaki and Tamara Bompia, as well as York athlete Janine Rankin.

This will be the second Olympic Games for York men's coach Naosaki, head of the Canadian national men's team since 1985. Failing to qualify as a team, the hopes of Canada's male gymnasts rest upon the individual performances of Curtis Hibbert, Alain Nolet and Mike Inglis.

Hibbert is a household name to York and international audiences, but Nolet and Inglis have had their share of success on the world stage as well. Inglis placed fifth on the vault portion of last year's World Championships at Indianapolis.

The women managed to achieve the goal which eluded their male counterparts and qualify as a team for Barcelona. This year's version of the nationals boasts Seoul Olympic veteran and York athlete Janine Rankin. Another team member is Stella Umeh, sister of York gymnast Stacey Umeh.

For Rankin, a good performance at these Games hinges upon consistency.

"In a sport where you have only four events you have to be an all-round competitor. You have to do reasonably well in all the events," Rankin said.

Rankin's experience with the national team also includes a stint with the 1989 squad that took sixth place at the World Championships, the highest-ever finish for any Canadian gymnastics team.

The Yeowomen will also be represented by Tamara Bompia, who will be judging for Canada in rhythmic gymnastics. Bompia has judged this event since the Los Angeles Games, when it made its official appearance as an Olympic sport. That year also saw Canada's Lori Fung take the sport's first gold medal.

For Bompia, the past several years have seen a gratifying increase in the general awareness given to this new sport, which has tended to be in the shadow of the traditional artistic gymnastics.

Whatever her preference, Bompia, who is assistant coach of the Yeowomen, will be watching with interest the results of Rankin, a fellow York charge.

## Veteran coach leads hockey squad

by Riccardo Sala

After two tours of the southern hemisphere, the Canadian women's field hockey team, coached by York's Marina van der Merwe and Catherine Broderick, will be crossing the pond for a shot at the spotlight in the Barcelona sun.

it's south to Barcelona for the Olympics.

York's involvement with the 1992 version of the Canadian team extends to more than just the coaching staff. Yeowoman Joel Brough and Sherri Field are on the roster, as well as former York athletes Sharon Creelman and Sandra Levy.

This will be the third Olympics for both Broderick and van der Merwe, whose usual duties include coaching the field hockey Yeowomen. The Canadian field hockey team is a sort of hideaway for past and present varsity athletes. Along with York's four player

tribution", there are four members of the University of Victoria, as well as three from the University of Alberta.

The varsity scene will likely be a cakewalk compared to the action these athletes see at the Olympics. The Canadians face tough competition from the start, playing Australia, gold medalists in Seoul, in their first match. Canada plays Spain and Germany in their pool later on.

"It's going to be really tough. It's going to be the teams that play consistently that make it. There are only three games in pool play, so each one has to count," Catherine Broderick said.



## Gareau disappointed at trials

by Josh Rubin

Montreal — France Gareau's Olympic comeback dream has come up fractions of a second short.

At the Canadian national athletics trials this past weekend, the 24 year old former York sprinter finished sixth in her semifinal heat with a time of 11.95 seconds, just .07 seconds short of fourth place and a spot in the finals.

Gareau's presence at the trial surprised many observers, who thought her career was finished last year when she tore her Achilles tendon almost to the bone.

At the trials Gareau said the thought of quitting never even entered her mind.

"I wanted to show people that I could come back and do something again," she said.

Despite missing out on Barcelona, Gareau has already had a taste of Olympic action. At the age of sixteen, she ran the anchor leg for Canada's silver medal-winning 4x100 metre relay team at the 1984 games in Los Angeles.

After missing the Seoul Olympics during a troubled 1988 season, Gareau came back to run in the 200 metre race at the World Indoor Championships at Seville, Spain shortly before her injury last year.

After her semifinal this past Saturday, Gareau was in surprisingly good spirits for someone who had just been eliminated from Olympic contention, but still couldn't hide her disappointment.

"I guess deep down, I really do feel disappointed," said Gareau, adding that she was looking forward to the world indoor championships at the Skydome next spring.

"I'll be there next year," she said.

Gareau won't even be taking the rest of the summer to recover from her setback. The first weekend in July she will be in a meet at Sudbury, followed by the Canadian senior championships in mid-August.

Van der Merwe and Broderick were in New Zealand in October with the Canadian team when it qualified for one of the five remaining Olympic berths. Recently, the national side went to Australia to chalk up valuable experience against various men's club teams, as well as the visiting Kiwi national squad.

Van der Merwe called the trip a "true preparation phase." The workout in the Australian sun, combined with fast tempo action against male players, was designed to prepare the Canadians for both the climactic and physical conditions they're likely to encounter in Barcelona.

The Canadian side is home only for a short while before it moves overseas again. In the meantime they've kept busy with a week's worth of practices and skirmishes at Lampport Stadium against a US national team shut out of the Olympics.

At the end of the month, the Canadians will be in Holland for three matches against the Dutch nationals, 1990 World Cup champions. Then

### 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 Queen 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.

#### COMPUTER RENTALS

**COMPUTER RENTALS LIMITED** - Rentals for \$110 per month. Free Delivery and Assistance. Ask about our special Student Rates. 967-0305.

#### 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

**NON-SMOKING FEMALE ROOMMATE NEEDED** to share furnished apartment in Bathurst/Wilson area. \$390.00 per month +

hydro. Available August 1st. Call 781-7493. Close to Yorkdale!

#### FOR SALE

**CONTENTS OF HOUSE** - Great Deal! Bedroom suite, dining rm. suite, Ensoniq Mirage digital keyboard, Yamaha keyboard, all leather couch (choc. brown) \$50, 2 beige fabric couches \$100, new cellular phone, desks \$50, glass tables, blinds, pictures, 2 fridges, 2 stoves, etc. 773-8663.

#### SERVICES

**PROFESSIONAL WORDPROCESSING - WP5.1 & WP4.2.** Essays, letters resumes, business documents, etc. Scarborough location. Please call Yvonne at 431-1834.

**WORD PROCESSING/LASER PRINTING** - Essays, Resumes, Theses. WordPerfect, typeset appearance at a low cost. Legal/Executive Secretary for 15 years. Work guaranteed when promised. Call Linda at 745-0470.

**WORDPROCESSING ON CAMPUS** - Essays, Theses, Resumes and Letters. Draft copy available, free grammar and spell check. Rush Service - Cheap Rates. Call Georgia at 739-6168.

**TYPING/WORD PROCESSING** - Essays/ Manuscripts/Resumes. Letter-quality type. Automatic spell-checker. Experienced office worker. Very reasonable rates. Jane/Sheppard area. Richard 614-6829.

**12 PACK SPECIAL** - Essays word-processed before July 15th. First dozen pages for \$16.95, \$14.95 each additional dozen. Convenient, Keele/Steeles service location. Compuword-Plus 742-9459.

**NEED RUSH TYPING/WP?** No time to do it yourself? I type 10 pages/hour. Free proofreading. While-u-wait service/ photocopier available. Marian at 841-7120.

#### TUTORING

**WRITING TUTOR/EDITOR** - PhD candidate with years of experience helping students to become better essay writers and achieve a greater command of the language. Foreign students a specialty. Reasonable rates. Flexible schedule. 537-5886.

**10% OFF • 10% OFF • 10% OFF • 10% OFF • 10% OFF**

**VELLA'S GENERAL AUTO REPAIRS**  
 and  
**USED CAR SALES LTD.**  
 1270 Finch Ave., West #5

All students and teachers receive 10% off on all parts (with ad). A 5 minute walk from the university. We do complete automotive repairs and service on all makes and models. Call Joe 736 - 8420.



# excalibur



Talkin' about the  
**OCCUPATION**  
It was six months  
ago... page 11