

YOUR GUESS IS AS GOOD AS MINE: Sculptor Louis Stokes stands in front of his latest creation, chuckling to himself thinking about all those people who will spend hours agonizing over just what exactly his sculpture is. Stokes' exhibit is called "Not Really Trees," and is made solely with organic materials.

GARY BLAKELEY

Gilmor's proposals elicit strong reactions

By LORNE MANLY

Recommendations calling for student government based along faculty lines and a much stronger central government, are the highlights of a recently released discussion paper written by the Provost of the University of Guelph, Paul Gilmor.

These two major themes of the discussion paper have elicited strong reactions from various members of the York community who would be adversely affected if the paper's recommendations are implemented in their present form.

Gilmor, who was commissioned by the University's Board of Governors to undertake a review of the nature and funding of student government, issued his preliminary report "to solicit some reaction from those whom I had the opportunity to interview in preparing my report," according to the covering letter on the document. Gilmor, in this report, did not have the intention of

prescribing "detailed solutions to problems," but wrote that he wanted to "describe a general direction with sufficient clarity to lead to a framework of common aims and the improvement of . . . student government at York."

The report's recommendations, if adopted as written, would have the main effect of taking power away from the colleges and giving it to the faculties, as well as considerably strengthening central student governments at York, both at the undergraduate and graduate levels.

"The primary organizing vehicle for central student government, graduate or undergraduate," Gilmor wrote in his report, "should be the faculty structure of the University, and not, as previously supported, the Colleges."

College representatives, however, do not feel that the creation of student governments along faculty lines will be helpful in involving York students in university life and providing for their non-academic concerns. "I very much appreciate the time and effort of Provost Gilmor," said David Lumsden, the Maser of Norman Bethune College, "but I don't believe that the proposal is a useful solution to the problems. The faculty option would only exacerbate the problems. We are better served by improving the college system, not by detracting from it."

Lumsden is pleased with the idea of strengthening the central undergraduate student government, the Council of the York Student Federation (CYSF), but is disappointed by the methods Gilmor proposes to accomplish it. "If Gilmor wants a strong, united voice on campus," Lumsden remarked, "it doesn't help to propose a whole series of faculty-based student governments. The best system would be to strengthen both the colleges and the CYSF, like Reya Ali's New Model proposal. A strong college student government and a strong CYSF go together."

Gerard Blink, the President of CYSF, also welcomes the idea of a stronger central government but expresses reservations about the diminished college role, and how the faculties will be able to involve the students. "The Gilmor report seeks

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Liberals plug tuition loophole

By KEVIN BRAY

A decision by the Minister of Colleges and Universities to ban tuition-related ancillary fees—incidental charges above regular tuition fees—while allowing an offsetting increase in discretionary fees, has left Ontario university students uncertain about the future costs of education.

The June 20 announcement by Minister Gregory Sorbara means ancillary fees will be reclassified as tuition, and if universities continue to levy these compulsory tuition-related fees, their provincial grants will be reduced accordingly. To make up for the revenue that will be lost because of this ban, the Government will allow the universities to increase discretionary fees (an additional levy universities are allowed to charge above the fee set by the provincial government) by an amount to be determined following a province-wide survey of ancillary fees.

Presently the formula fee is \$1,149 and universities are permitted to charge up to 10 percent on top of this as discretionary fees. After May 1, 1987, the allowable surcharge will be no more than 15 percent.

Until the survey is completed, the revenue implications for the universities and the students will not be known. Representatives from the Council of Ontario Universities (COU), the Ontario Federation of Students (OFS), and the Ontario Council on University Affairs (OCUA) are being asked to determine which ancillary fees should be considered tuition related. For the interim period between September 1, 1986 and April 30, 1987 Sorbara has asked universities to freeze both existing and new tuition-related ancillary fees.

"The freeze doesn't impact our financial planning," said Bill Farr, Vice President of Finance and Administration. "Our fee increases were approved long ago."

An 11-item list of non-tuition-related ancillary fees not subject to the freeze, such as student government, convocation, and health services fees, has created uncertain financial prospects for students and left

Sorbara's policy with questionable benefits.

"I think they (the administration) will have to increase these fees," said Gerard Blink, President of the Council of the York Student Federation (CYSF). "The government is telling the universities, by abolishing ancillary fees, that they can charge only level Y, which is below the level X that students have been paying. Where is the money going to come from to balance this out? I don't think the extra five percent is going to do it," Blink stated.

Because York does not break down the miscellaneous fee, the impact of Sorbara's policy is unknown. Of the \$152.80 in charged miscellaneous fees, about \$70 is not tuition-related, comprised partly of health services, student government and student athletic fees. Assuming that both the computer and materials fee, a combined cost of \$62.50, are abolished, students can expect to save approximately \$90. However, this best guess depends on the composition of the miscellaneous fee, which the administration is not prepared to reveal.

Blink believes the government should ban all ancillary fees, including health service, student activity, and student athletic charges—not just tuition-related fees.

"There are some fees that not everyone is paying and that are optional, but most are mandatory," Blink said. "I consider any fee that is mandatory an ancillary fee and these should be banned. These are open-ended variables and the administration can increase any of these. The benefits of this policy are contingent upon what happens to these fees."

Bob Richardson, Special Assistant to Sorbara, disagrees. "We aren't in business to regulate every fee on campus. I don't know of any instance where these fees have increased dramatically."

The motivation to ban ancillary fees originated with both students and the OCUA. In 1982 the Council first reviewed university fees to ensure they were reasonable. A third review, heightened by concern over computer fees charged at the Univer-

sity of Waterloo, prompted the Council to advise the government that ancillary fees were proliferating and that social policy was being rendered empty by these back-door tuition charges. According to the OCUA, banning tuition-related ancillary fees would close this loophole and reestablish government control.

"The primary purpose for this policy from the Council's point of view," Marnie Paiken, chairperson of the OCUA indicated, "is that back-door tuition fees should not be permitted any longer. The system is now fairer."

Richardson suggests that students will no longer be surprised when they pay their fees. "The purpose of this policy is to ensure students know up front what they will pay," Richardson said. "The entire thrust is to make it simpler. At the present time it's the best thing to do."

Registration line-ups may soon be obsolete

By PAULETTE PEIROL

Registration lineups at York may, within three to four years, become virtually obsolete, if the implementation of a new touch-tone telephone enrolment system is successful.

The computerized system has already been approved in principle by the President's Policy Committee, and a test-run, using a group of students from one Arts department, will take place in March 1987.

"This system should get rid of the mundane aspects of registration and alleviate frustration," said Noel Berman, Manager of the Transcripts office. Berman, along with Susan Salusbury (seconded from her regular duty as Co-ordinator of the Arts Advising Centre) and systems analyst Mike Kukuk, make up the touch-tone "project team."

The telephone registration system would benefit both students and the university, according to Salusbury. Students would be able to avoid line-

ups and not have their vacations interrupted, while faculty members and advising staff would have more time to talk to students. The system would make enrolment procedures easier (for example, departments would have access to up-to-the-minute enrolment information), and would smooth paper flow.

Enrolling in courses could become almost as simple as using a banking machine. The student dials a phone number to access the computer from a touch-tone phone, and is greeted by a bilingual human voice instructing him to key in his student number and birthdate. The computer then "validates" the student (checking that there are no outstanding debts, etc.) and instructs him on how to proceed, using only the numbers and pound key (#) of his telephone.

Callers have two options: to verify their course enrolment, or to add and drop courses. Any errors made by the student are explained by the

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INSIDE NEWS

SECURITY NABS BURGLARS: York security had minor successes last month in its battle against campus break-ins but now have to contend with a more worrisome development: armed robbery. Page 3

OPINION

ALI COMMENDS GILMOR: Excalibur's new monthly columnist, Former CYSF President Reya Ali makes his newspaper debut with a few controversial remarks about the Guelph Provost's discussion paper on student government at York. Page 5

FEATURES

YORK AWARD WINNER: Atkinson prof Shelagh Wilkinson, a recent winner of a prestigious teaching award, is profiled in this month's feature. Page 6

Universities in dire straits, conference concludes

By PAULETTE PEIROL

"Fund the Future" is quickly becoming this year's slogan for the Ontario Federation of Students (OFS). Yet more than just a slogan, it is an active campaign to make the public, corporate, and governmental sectors of Ontario more aware of the urgent need for adequate university funding.

Hence, the Fund the Future Conference held at the University of Waterloo July 11-13 couldn't have been more timely. While addressing such topics as strategies to raise community awareness and establish a positive image of post-secondary education in Ontario, the conference illuminated some startling facts about Ontario's chronic history of underfunding.

In the 1950s and '60s, "university access to university education was seen as a legitimate investment and as an important political goal," writes Katharina Klassen (University of Waterloo) in *Who Pays? (A funding crisis in our universities)*.

In the 1970s, however, the Ontario government cut university funding by approximately 30 percent. By 1972, there was a near moratorium for new buildings and equipment. Ontario universities receive the least provincial funding in Canada, and York ranks 14th out of Ontario's 15 post-secondary institutions nibbling the same meagre financial pie.

"University education has become a low priority in Ontario," said Gerard Blink, President of the Council of the York Student Federa-

tion (CYSF), "and York has suffered more than other universities."

The effects of underfunding are now widespread, as outlined in Klassen's report:

- Classes and laboratories are overcrowded, while buildings are in need of repairs.
- Since 1970-71, the average student/faculty ratio has risen by 20 percent.
- Faculties are overworked, and staff morale is low.
- There is a dire need for state-of-the-art equipment, as students are forced to go into the workforce to be educated on modern equipment.
- Libraries are lagging in their acquisitions programs, due not only to underfunding but also

inflation and the declining rate of the Canadian dollar.

- Researchers are "selling out" (leaving the country) to foreign institutions for higher grants and salaries.
- Professors, especially in engineering, computer science, and business, are earning half the salary of their colleagues in industries. At the University of Toronto, for example, the starting salary of an assistant professor is almost \$24,000—less than that of a Toronto Transit Commission bus driver.
- Tenured positions outnumber new positions three to one, resulting in hiring freezes.

Since the 1960s, Ontario has been committed to a policy of accessibility. Yet the province's tuition fees are the highest in Canada, and fears were expressed at the conference that Ontario's universities are moving toward a "user pays" system of education.

The Fund the Future Conference outlined three ways to establish a positive post-secondary education image in Ontario. Their goals are to use local media, speak to MPs and MPPs, and to promote "universal access" to higher education. One of the first steps to this end will be the formation of Campus Groups or Alliances comprised of faculty, students and administrative staff in each university.

The Metro Universities and Colleges Caucus, a liaison between Ryerson, U of T, York, and Toronto

area colleges, are planning to hold a city-wide food-bank this fall to help increase public awareness of universities. They also plan to speak with high school presidents about "the realities of universities," said Blink.

Meanwhile, the York University Development Corporation is appealing to the private sector for support. Blink cautions, however, that "initial funds are good, but they must be long-term to be really worthwhile. They need special guidelines."

"If you allow business funding, it will mean even more loss of autonomy," Klassen said, "and that would be a shame."

Reservations are also being expressed on the provincial government's \$80-million "Excellence Fund" to improve library and research facilities in 1986-87, and their \$1-billion high technology fund, available to universities on application. They are "one-shot funds which 15 universities must share," Klassen reports, and "are earmarked—most of them designated for 'high technology' purposes."

This is especially problematic at York, since it does not have many "high-tech" programs. Most of the recent provincial funds, notes Klassen, "are not applicable to humanities or social science research." As long as the provincial government continues to favour high technology research funding, York's underfunding crisis will continue.

Meters installed for short visits

By LORNE MANLY

In an effort to provide cheap short term parking to York students, faculty, staff, and visitors, as well as generate revenue for the Parking Office, 35 parking meters have recently been installed at various locations around campus.

According to John Becker, the chairman of the Presidential Advisory Committee on Parking, drivers were forced into parking illegally due to the shortage of short term parking areas. "As chairman I read all the parking fines appeals," Becker said, "and there seemed to be an incredible amount of violations (by people) who simply wanted to run into the building and pick up an essay, or pick up a friend, for example."

"As there were no short term parking areas," Becker continued, "they were forced into either parking in fire routes, or pulling into service and medical areas, or parking on the sidewalks. The idea (behind the parking meters) was to supply each building with a few spots close to the front door so people can do 10-minute errands—and do it all legally," Becker added.

These concerns voiced by Becker prompted the parking committee to allocate funds for the purchase of 35 parking meters, costing about \$700 each. The meters charge 25 cents for 15 minutes, up to a maximum of one



GARY BLAKELEY

YOUR TIME IS UP: Parking meters seem to be sprouting up all over the beautiful Keele campus, in scenic Downsview, Ontario, Canada. Now students can pretend they are at the airport when they pay two bits for a quarter of an hour.

hour, and are located in service areas close to entrances of buildings and in many of the parking lots.

Before the installation of the parking meters, drivers could leave a deposit at the parking lot attendant's booth and receive most of their money back when they departed. Don Whitty, the Parking Operations manager, feels that there are a fair number "of people who say, 'I don't

want to pay \$2.75 up front, even if I'm getting the money back—I want a better deal.'"

The parking metres provide this better deal for the driver and also help make up the money the Parking Office was losing by people parking illegally. "This way we get some money for it (short term parking)," Whitty remarked, "and it's fair to both us and the drivers."

Blink supports strong central gov't but not at expense of York colleges

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to create a stronger central government," Blink said, "but it shouldn't be at the expense of the colleges. The colleges have an important role."

The Faculty of Arts, for example, is so large," Blink continued. "It has about 14,000 undergrads and it could be very difficult to become involved. The colleges are a much easier way to become involved."

But hanging over the Gilmor report, according to both Blink and Lumsden, is the spectre of the Presidential Commission on Non-Faculty Colleges (otherwise known as the Hare Commission). The three person commission, chaired by Provost Hare of Trinity College at U of T, has a mandate to examine the whole nature of the college system at York and is expected to present its findings in about a year—after Gilmor's final recommendations are to be implemented.

"The Gilmor report is slightly premature as the two task forces should have worked concurrently," Blink said. "All the Gilmor (final) recommendations could be reversed if the Hare taskforce comes out for strengthening the college system."

In Lumsden's opinion, "it's simply impossible to discuss student government without reviewing the college system. It's a reciprocal system—you can't disentangle the two and treat them in isolation."

But, according to York Provost Tom Meininger, they are not being treated in isolation. "From the very beginning," Meininger said, "it was admitted there would be some overlap and the two studies are being done in some degree of connection. Gilmor has met with the (Hare) Commission, and the University will be attentive to the College commission to make sure there's no incompatibility."

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Security nabs York burglars

By ZENA McBRIDE

York security experienced several small victories this month in its fight against campus break-ins, catching thieves on two separate occasions. But the success was short-lived as York suffered its first armed robbery since early 1985.

The first occurred on July 1, 6:40 p.m., when a York security guard patrolling the Ross Building discovered that a ceiling tile over the south entrance of the Film Department (room 042X Ross) had been ripped out.

A suspect was apprehended at the scene of the crime and escorted back to security headquarters where the Metro police were called. The suspect admitted to committing the break-in, but nothing was stolen.

The second triumph for security came on July 12, at approximately 3:50 a.m., when a Bethune College office was ransacked, and glass doors on the first floor were broken. A search of the entire area ensued, and sometime later, a male person armed with tools was discovered in a women's washroom in Stong College. Police found out that the suspect is currently on probation for theft.

However, these small successes lose their glory in the light of another crime that was committed on campus at around the same time. On July 7, at 1:15 p.m., a person entered an unlocked apartment at 22 Moon Road, pointed a gun at the occupant, and proceeded to search the premises. He made off with \$2,200 worth of cash and cheques, various credit cards and personal identification, several valuable pieces of jewellery, and a tape recorder.

Fortunately, the occupant was not harmed physically, but remains very shaken by the incident.

The intruder, described as being in his early 30s and having sandy blonde hair, sported jeans, a burgandy leather jacket, and a baseball hat. He made no real attempt to disguise himself, wearing only work goggles to his eyes.

Upon leaving the building, the thief was seen to drive away on a small motorcycle along with another male, who had long, dark hair and wore a white windbreaker.

All evidence indicates that this was a well-planned robbery, with the assailant(s) stalking the victim for an indefinite period of time before the theft was effected, according to Safety and Security Investigator Eric Pond. The suspect seemed to know the layout of the apartment, and who the occupant was. In addition, the incident was preceded by several phonecalls to the residence, in which the caller did not speak at all.

While Pond maintains that this sort of crime is extremely rare at York, he admits that the graduate residences are not patrolled by York security, except "as required, or on request. The number of calls to

graduate residences is very small," he explains, "perhaps one call to each residence per week."

Although these residences are part of York's campus, most of the security enforcement there is left to the Metro Police. Pond attributes at this fact to a lack of security personnel at York: "If we patrol the residence, then there are fewer people available to patrol the more troublesome areas of the campus."

When asked if more personnel would be hired in the light of the higher crime rate this year, Pond replied, "There will be no increase in staff as far as we know; the budget for this year has already been set." In addition to a fixed budget, "Security is working under a fixed establishment," Pond explained. If Security wants to hire a new person, it must first "establish a new position within the department for that person," a process that may take three to four months, according to Pond. He cited as an example the newly-formed Crime Prevention Unit, which employs two people. They were promoted from the patrol group to do the job, but because these new positions have not yet achieved official status, their old patrol jobs have not been replaced by new staff. "Secur-

ity cannot expand indiscriminately," Pond said.

Meanwhile, Investigator Bob Stevens said that security is "doing everything reasonable to cope with the situation. York has the population of a small city, and therefore all the problems that go with it." Stevens hopes that as the Crime Prevention Unit gains impetus, "we'll be able to reduce dramatically the incidents of all sorts of thefts."

The Crime Prevention unit, as described by Pond, is divided into two parts: the first is concerned with campus-wide key control; the second is strictly crime prevention. Pond hopes in the fall to have security people go to each college to discuss safety awareness with the students. In addition, brochures will be distributed outlining a "common sense approach" to protect against campus crime. The women's defense training course will also fall under the jurisdiction of crime prevention, as well the escort service (which serves some 13,000 students, 1,000 of male). There will be a weekly York bulletin containing safety reminders, as well as a monthly newspaper (crime report) "telling people what is going on so they are better able to defend themselves," Pond said.

Phone registration system will be tested next spring

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computer, and if courses are unavailable, the computer tells why (for example, the student may need the instructor's permission or the course is filled). Two features of the touch-tone system are that students can instantly cancel requests as well as have the computer repeat requests. According to Berman, the computer can also recognize serious problems and then transfer the caller to a human operator, or refer him to another phone number.

Sound too simple to be true? Yes and no. While the installation and programming of a touch-tone enrolment system is complex and expensive (Berman and Salusbury offer a rough estimate of \$250,000 for equipment alone), the actual enrolment process for the student will be simplified. For instance, Salusbury said that the Faculty of Arts may "do away with mandatory advising, and concentrate on spending more money on better (instructional) publications."

What this boils down to is putting the onus completely on the student to meet all degree requirements. "In this way, it's all the student's responsibility," stressed Salusbury. However, each faculty will independently decide on advising procedures.

At Brigham Young University in Utah, their campus-wide touch-tone enrolment system, installed in 1984,

was met with approval by students, faculty, and administrators. During the first year, it took students an average of six minutes to complete their registration. It now takes each student about three minutes to register, although Salusbury said that the system receives more phonecalls. After their first year of touch-tone enrolment, only 100 students, out of 27,000, used the old walk-in method of registration.

Berman and Salusbury are not yet sure if York students would still be able to enrol in person, if they chose. "Why would anyone want to come on campus?" Berman asks.

The project team is considering several options for funding the new system. There may be a user fee, or a mandatory deposit including in tuition fees, or even a fee if a student does not opt to use the system. A fourth option is to appeal to the colleges for funds. Whatever route is taken, however, it seems that the student will ultimately pay for this new, time-saving device.

After testing the touch-tone system on a group of students next March, students will fill out questionnaires to offer feedback on the system. Then for the Winter-/Summer enrolment of 1988, more departments will participate in the experiment. "It'll be three to four years until we're in full thrust," Berman speculates.



OF THESE I SWING, BABY: Suspended from the upper reaches of mammoth Ross Bldg. is a work of art. An AGYU staffer denied any knowledge of or involvement with said exhibit. Feverish Excal snoops discovered a connection to the Faculty of Education.

Survey to determine reasons for high drop-out rate among first-year York students

By VICTOR FIDALGO

A phone survey to determine the reasons York University has such a poor retention record of first year students will be conducted by the Institute of Social Research (ISR) this August.

A study undertaken in the summer of 1984 revealed that York was losing many more first-year students than the provincial average. It was discovered that 21.74 percent of students in the Faculty of Arts, 25.93 percent in the Faculty of Science, 30.11 percent at Glendon College, and 31.58 percent in the Faculty of Fine Arts did not return to York following their first-year studies. These figures include both students stopping-out (those who drop out but later reenter) and permanently dropping out.

This new survey will be attempting to find out the reasons behind these alarming statistics by interviewing

about 650 students. "The study will be done on first and second year dropouts and first year students that have stayed on," David Northrup, the research coordinator at ISR, remarked.

The study will consist of approximately 100 questions which Northrup has divided into five major themes: the background of the student (age, sex, and high school marks, for example), the level of commitment by the student to the institution and his or her academic work, why the student chose to come to university, and the student's level of social and academic integration.

According to Northrup, "these findings should help us get a better feeling for who leaves the University and why."

The study should have all of its interviews conducted by the end of September and a final report is scheduled for April, 1987.

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Editorial

Banning ancillary fees only a band-aid solution

At first glance the Liberal government's ban of ancillary fees appears to be a victory for students in their fight against excessive tuition costs. But this victory will ring hollow unless concrete measures are soon taken to alleviate the chronic underfunding of Ontario universities: ancillary fees are just a symptom of this much more dangerous disease.

The Minister for Colleges and Universities, Gregory Sorbara, based his decision on the fear that compulsory tuition-related ancillary fees (unregulated surcharges that students pay) were being used as a means of generating extra revenue. Considering that York will not disclose a breakdown of its ancillary and discretionary fees, Sorbara's concern is not unjustified. Students have a right to know exactly what they're paying for.

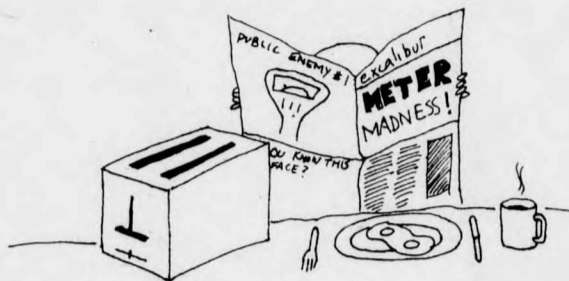
But even if students receive lowered tuition, they will still have to ask themselves at what cost to their education. The universities have used ancillary fees as a method of increasing their revenue because the previous (Conservative) government had effectively determined the price universities could charge students in tuition. Legally, universities are entitled to set their own fees. But in 1971, the government, as a matter of social policy to ensure accessibility, instituted a "formula fee" for universities. They could only charge 10 percent on top of this; any more would result in a corresponding loss in their operating grants.

The government evidently did not view post-secondary education as a priority, as they let the "formula fee" lag far behind inflation. The universities, as a result had to find an additional source of revenue if they wanted to come even close to maintaining the quality of their institutions. It has been a losing battle, and now with the ban on tuition-related ancillary fees, the quality of our education threatens to sink even lower.

Sorbara has promised an up to five percent increase in discretionary fee allowances, but many doubt that this will compensate for the banned ancillary fee revenue. The banning of ancillary fees, acting as an unofficial ceiling on tuition, would be an admirable gesture only if it was supplemented by increased government funding.

But, the Liberals, with their one-shot deals, such as their "Excellence Funds", have not addressed the disease itself. They are only treating the symptoms.

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Letters

Proposed porn laws a threat to Freud

Editor:

The response which often came across in regard to last month's proposed laws on pornography was that although its new definition of pornography which greatly restricted sexual expression was unacceptable, its aim to protect children was widely welcomed. But unfortunately, it is with the claim to protect children that the government seeks to gain the power which will allow it to suppress all forms of sexual representations, children and adult, violent and non-violent, visual and written. Although John Crosbie said that the proposed laws would not affect the latter, nevertheless it could be censored if it encouraged, condoned or presented as normal any child sexual activity or sexual abuse. This does include a wide area of the written words which could make illegal such works as Sigmund Freud's *On Sexuality*, Margaret Laurence's *The Diviners*, Shakespeare's *Romeo and Juliet* and Plato's *Symposium* which do present child (defined by the new definition as anyone under 18) sexual activity as normal.

We better look into our closets and drawers now to make sure we don't have books which fit such a definition as child pornography, because if the proposed laws are passed we can be jailed for six months for simply possessing them!

—Marlon Lo

Do York bureaucrats ever try to think?

Editor:

Could anyone answer the following questions for me?

1. Does anyone in the York bureaucratic hierarchy ever try to think? If so,
2. Then, why should Moon Rd. and Assiniboine residences be out of campus mailing addresses—especially for cheques from the East Office building, and not bills?
3. Why can't York enjoy cable TV reception?
3. Why should Parking office tow one's car to Armstrong's Garage, when there is the University pound?
4. Why offer summer courses, and yet close the library abnormally early?

—Kateba-Mushanga
Faculty of Environmental Studies



excalibur

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THURSDAY, AUG 07, 7:30 P.M.
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Trustees' divestment review flawed

By GENE DESFOR
and DAVID HIMBARAGene Desfor and David Himbara are
co-chairmen of the York University
Divestment Committee.

□

On May 5, the Board of Trustees of York's Pension Fund decided not to divest its holdings in corporations investing in South Africa. The Board refused to divest despite a motion by the All University Pension Committee proposing divestment; a motion which was endorsed by the York University Faculty Association, the York University Staff Association, the Osgoode Faculty Association, the Canadian Union of Education Workers, the York Student Movement Against Apartheid, the Political Science Graduate Students Association, and President Harry Arthurs. Well over 85 percent of the membership of the Pension Plan is represented by the faculty and staff associations.

The Board, while proclaiming its "strong desire to authorize a policy of divestment," based its decision on a review of reports submitted by the Pension Fund's investment managers, and a subsequent legal opinion. The Trustees have a duty to the Pension Fund members to invest their funds in a prudent manner. Before deciding about divestment, the Board wanted to know the financial impacts of this policy on the Pension Fund's performance, a perfectly reasonable bit of information. The reports received from the investment managers, unfortunately, do not provide sufficient analysis or information from which a reasonable decision could have been made. Three points can readily be made that demonstrate the inadequacies of the reports:

□ The reports do not even list the holding that would be affected by divestment. Without such fundamental information how can one possibly know what the impact of divestment would be? As well, the reports mistakenly include the banks as an area of the Pension Fund that would be seriously affected by divestment.

Yet Canadian Chartered Banks are no longer making investments in South Africa and are attempting to recover previous loans. Meanwhile,

the York Divestment Committee has never considered it necessary to sell holding in these banks.

□ The president and managing partner of one of the investment companies councils against divestment in his page and a half letter without any significant analysis. He concludes with the irrelevant and offensive remark that he adopted a black son nearly 20 years ago, demonstrating that he is really okay.

□ The report from Septre Investment Counsel says, "The major difficulty and expense [of divestment] would be in unwinding your [York's] involvement in our Foreign Equities Pool . . ." This refers to a market valued investment of \$13,406,967 that the Pension Fund has in a corporation called Septre Investment Counsel Foreign Equities. In other words, Septre has concluded that, from its point of view, the major difficulty with York divesting the Pension Fund is the selling of a \$13-million investment in Septre. This is a most obvious conflict of interest!

'The Board of Trustees is not acting reasonably and is not protecting the interests of the pension fund members.'

We believe that the reports submitted by the investment managers are inadequate on which to base a decision about a policy as important as divestment. For the Board of Trustees to use such unsatisfactory reports as the basis for their decision indicates they are not acting reasonably and are not protecting the interests of the pension fund members.

We would like to emphasize that the Divestment Committee believes that proper investment of the Pension Fund is absolutely necessary. It is our belief that divestment will result in the Pension Fund performing at least as well as it would have while including South African linked corporations. American studies have demonstrated that the South African free portfolios have yielded results at least as good as the unconstrained ones. A study done over a 10-year period, by R. Zevin, the vice-president of the US Trust Company, shows that a socially responsible

investment policy of no holdings in South African linked corporations provides yields which are as high as those achieved when portfolios are unconstrained.

The work done by the Divestment Committee has revealed another aspect of the Pension Fund of Trustees that we believe must be changed: the Board has no "standing rules." The Divestment Committee requested that its observers be allowed to attend the May 5 meeting so as to better understand the reasoning of the Board and to avoid the unsatisfactory communications which followed the previous meeting. The Chairperson of the Board refused this request. While attempting to determine the basis for the denial of this request, it became apparent that the Board has no "standing rules" or operating procedures. That is, the operating procedures of Board meetings are left to the whim of the Chair.

It seems that he/she decides when meetings are called, who is permitted to attend, which motions are recognized and voted upon, what constitutes a necessary margin for passage of a motion, as well as all the other standard rules of deliberative bodies. It was reported to us that the Chair even refused to recognize a motion that was introduced by a Trustee. This is totally unacceptable! We call on the Board to rectify this problem immediately.

Meanwhile in South Africa the emergency decree continues and people continue to be killed. The Eminent Persons Group reported in early June that "while the [South African] Government claims to be ready to negotiate fundamental change, not to countenance the creation of genuine democratic structures, not to face the prospect of the end of white domination and white power in the foreseeable future."

The report concludes that the absence of economic sanctions and the South African Government's belief that they need not fear sanctions deters meaningful change. Economic sanctions may be the last opportunity to avert the worst bloodbath since World War II.

In August the Commonwealth countries will meet to reconsider imposing economic sanctions and here at York, we are continuing our struggle to free the Pension Fund from corporations that support the criminal apartheid system.



Reya Ali

I had a number of qualms about writing an article about a discussion paper which is supposed to be confidential. However, one must note that the Gilmor paper, a first draft looking into the nature and funding of

York student government, is probably the most circulated confidential document on campus, and one which has received no formal notice of confidentiality. But because of the significance that this document holds for the future of York, I feel compelled to make a few points.

The paper, prepared by the Provost of the University of Guelph, is highly commendable in the stand it takes, recognizing the necessity of changes in the underpinnings of student government at York. Its very audacity in bringing a change to what can be termed a medieval system, shall bring upon it the wrath of many of the vested interests of the system who for their own reasons shall seek to stifle the recommendations of the paper. The discussion paper establishes four major characteristics which student government at York should implement:

- the necessity for a separation of roles of the graduate and undergraduate governments is formally recognized by Gilmor. This separation, which has not previously existed, is in keeping with a standard format of the university system in Ontario and the division of the Faculties at York.
- Gilmor believes that the academic heart (and organizational lines) of the university lie in its faculties, not in the colleges. Further, if students are going to be able to organize effectively and have an impact on the allocation of resources, the University Academic Plan, the development of their programs, and on the evaluation of their professors, it will be done in terms of their discipline, which is logical in the context of York being a multiversity. The Colleges of York, whatever their merits, are not the academic heart of the University.
- There is recognition in the report of the necessity for a strong central student government, a body capable of speaking authoritatively on behalf of all undergraduate students without the divisiveness that accompanies the present system. There needs to be a body that can act as an advocate, and a watchdog without having to constantly worry about its source of funds or upsetting college councils who take no part in the political concerns of a central government. In a university characterized by decentralization, there is the necessity for a strong central government.
- The report recommends moving toward an activity fee system so that students are aware of the amount of money they are paying into their student government. There is also the motivational aspect that student governments must seek to get in touch with their constituencies if they expect to be able to sustain themselves. They will need to mobilize 25 percent of their constituency, through referenda, in order to raise fees. This means that councils will have to concentrate on the long-neglected commuter students.

The two most controversial of Gilmor's recommendations are those regarding the realignment of student government along faculty lines and the centralization of the whole political system. The new faculty-based governments will be

inextricably linked together by common membership in the Council of the York Student Federation (CYSF) alongside with three representatives from the non-faculty colleges. This should be relatively easy to do as all of the faculties presently have groupings within them that are organized but not funded. Many have been pleading for years for recognition but have been deterred by the preponderance of the college councils' claims to be the only legitimate government (and the consequent neglect of the majority of students at York). Organizations such as the Faculty of Education Students Association, the Creative Arts Board, and the Undergraduate Business Council lack the monies to function properly while at every other university in the province, they are governments in their own right. They will also be fairly simple to peel away from the College system.

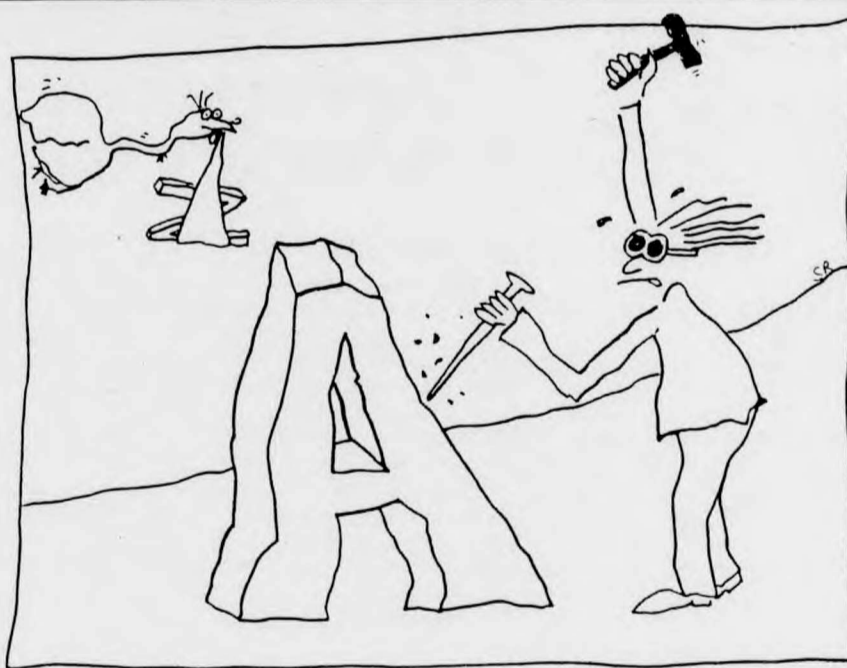
The benefits of organizing student government along faculty lines are many. The ability of the students at York to organize, socialize and participate in the decision-making at York shall increase. They shall have the finances with which to develop an *esprit de corps* in their areas and the long neglected commuters could begin to be reached through the organization of a system of discipline and perhaps class representation at the Faculty level.

It is also clear that the CYSF and the Graduate Students Association (GSA) are beneficiaries in this manner. The underfunded and resource plagued central undergraduate union shall have its finances, organization and mandate clarified and strengthened. It stands to become an effective central government alongside its counterparts at Western, Queens, U of T and Ryerson, if the present executive is willing to stand up and act on this matter. CYSF may, if it acts, develop a research and services arm, coordinate and publish academic evaluations for the undergraduate faculties at York, and become the central forum for the students at York.

CYSF shall be able to represent all York undergraduate students externally and back up its lobbying efforts with the necessary legal and technical expertise. It will be able to carry out more effective campus-wide social events with the necessary monies. CYSF will also be able to support the ethnic, religious and athletic clubs on the campus without those clubs having to go begging from college to college with results that are often not worth the time and effort.

The new composition of the CYSF Board of Directors will make sure that every faculty from Arts to Osgoode participates in the formation of the policies that affect the qualities of student life. If the "monies without encumbrance" recommendation is adopted, CYSF would receive their grant money from students directly without it going to the colleges first, as it does at present. No longer will students ask, "Why can't I vote? I am a York student."

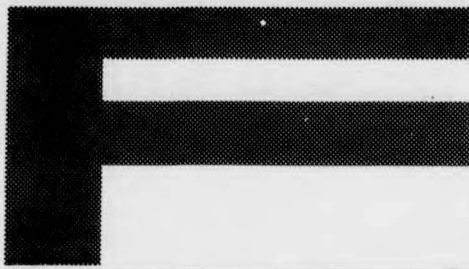
If CYSF does not grasp this opportunity to strengthen itself, this opportunity which would allow it to speak to its sister universities on an equal basis, this opportunity which would unite the campus, then it shall fail as a central government.



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By ZENA McBRIDE

A member of York's faculty was recently granted Ontario's highest honour for teaching excellence. Shelagh Wilkinson, professor of Humanities and director of the Women's Studies program at Atkinson College, is one of 11 professors chosen to receive the award, which is presented annually by the Ontario Confederation of University Faculty Associations (OCUFA) to acknowledge outstanding ability in the field of education. Anywhere from seven to 12 awards are granted each year, but when one considers that OCUFA represents some 12,000 professors, the achievements of each recipient can be no less than extraordinary.

Such is the case of Wilkinson, who is described by colleague Letty Anderson, Master of Atkinson College, as "truly larger than life. She has the strength of 12 people."

Since she began teaching here in 1969, Wilkinson has contributed a great deal to the academic process at York. She developed five new courses in Humanities, English and Women's Studies, and was responsible for the establishment of the Women's Studies Programme at Atkinson. She is also the founder and editor of the internationally acclaimed *Canadian Women's Studies Journal/les cahiers de la femme* (located in 212 Founders College) and has published several other works which are considered "vital resources for curriculum building in women's studies courses in Canada," according to Anderson.

In 1983, Wilkinson initiated the so-called 'bridging' program, comprised of courses taught off-campus, which are designed to reach out to and encourage students who desire to attend university or college, but are reluctant to do so. The bridging program has lured many new students to Atkinson, especially women, who are attracted to the Women's Studies program offered at the college.

An Atkinson graduate herself, Wilkinson strongly advocates "education until the day you die," and praises the college's emphasis on part-time education. "York started with Atkinson," Wilkinson said. "It was unique in that it was a program specially designed for adults."

Although Women's Studies did not gain official program status until 1980, courses on the subject have been offered since 1972. Each succeeding year new courses were added to the old, building up steadily to a full-fledged discipline in which 36 people are presently enrolled. Wilkinson said that she and her colleagues had little difficulty convincing York's administration of the importance of a Women's Studies programme; they just needed a "full-time person to direct the programme." That person was Wilkinson.

What exactly comprises Women's Studies? "Men's studies modified," described Wilkinson. Such subjects as History, Literature, and the Humanities are studied from a new feminine perspective. "Hundreds of books have been written (by men) about death, but the process of birth has never been examined," said Wilkinson. Furthermore, female authors have long been excluded from course reading lists, but "many women writers from the 15th and 16th centuries are now being uncovered."

Wilkinson is completely dedicated to the elevation of the status of women around the world. "In 1974, I went to Oxford on a doctoral fellowship, doing research on John Locke, and I discovered that nothing had changed there (for women) from the time that Virginia Woolf wrote *A Room of Her Own*," Wilkinson said, explaining that this triggered her decision "to devote the rest of (her) life to women's studies." Wilkinson's travels around the world since then provide some hope that things are indeed finally changing for women.

1985 was declared by the United Nations as the beginning of the decade for women. In July of last year, a convention was held in Nairobi, and Wilkinson was chosen to attend as one of the Canadian delegates. Some 13,000 women from 134 nations were present. "Having it (the convention) in Africa politicized us in a new way," said Wilkinson. "There is an internationalism beginning in feminism." The content of the *Canadian Women's Studies Journal/les cahiers de la femme* attests to this.

"Women in other nations are suppressed,

Awarding-winning Atkinson professor travels globe to teach women's studies

but they are also organized," Wilkinson stated, "and we need to keep aware of the tremendous exchange of ideas that went on between the countries. There is an emphasis on all of us learning together."

An example of the kind of work prompted by the conference is the research group begun last year at York to sponsor international scholars. Wilkinson cites the fact that three of her students from the SNDT Women's University in Bombay are currently doing their dissertations on Canadian female authors. "If I can take pride in anything I've done, it's that," said Wilkinson.

How does one become an outstanding educator? According to Wilkinson: "Nobody teaches one to teach . . . Basically, you take the best professors you've ever had, and learn from them." The key to effective teaching lies in evoking student response, in "getting them to ask the right questions. You have to lead them in an exploration . . ."

In Wilkinson's opinion, the only way this can be achieved is by impressing "one's own enthusiasm for the subject upon the class." When the teacher is inspired, then the students will be inspired also, Wilkinson feels. But how does one maintain enthusiasm from one class to the next? "You try to do different things," she relates. "When you stand in front of a class for the first time, you have to gauge your audience and know where they are coming from; then you alter the method accordingly . . . If a teacher fails to convey information to the students, it's not the students' fault; it's the teacher's."

Wilkinson was in Greece this summer at a follow-up conference to the one in Nairobi when news of her award was received. She was thrilled to be chosen, but admits that she knew very little about the award before she won it, and had given no previous thought to winning it.

The excellence award was created in 1973, when it was realized by OCUFA that teaching itself was given very little consideration as an important component in a professor's job (the emphasis at that time was mainly on research). Thus, an award was devised to specifically honour those professors who make significant contributions in educational technique and course development. Candidates for the award are nominated by students and/or colleagues, who must support their choice with extensive documentation outlining the nominee's achievements. A committee comprised of both academics and students then reviews each nomination and selects the professors most deserving of recognition to receive the award.

Wilkinson is the 36th professor from York to win the award which makes York the record holder for teaching excellence awards in Ontario universities. Western is the next closest with 25 while the University of Toronto has 15.

Putz and Bou among highlights of diverse talents displayed at Montreal's annual comedy fest

By MELINDA LITTLE

Andrea Martin is an accomplished actress, but falls short as a stand-up comedian. As hostess of the English language offering at the International Comedy Festival in Montreal (July 10-19) she not only succeeded in 'outshining' the worst performers but also the garishly bright lights that were used for the taping of the festival's television counterpart *Just for Laughs*.

The festival organizers brought in comics from all over the globe (including Spain, China and Australia) to perform in the French (first week) and English (last week) portions of the festival, housed in four local clubs.

The biggest of these was the Theatre Saint-Denis where on July 17 twelve comedians were gathered in an attempt to split sides with their routines. For the most part it was successful. The performers used a wide variety of comedic styles, from European clown to stand-up comedy.

One of the most unusual and more sophisticated comedians was Pep Bou, a Spanish performer whose entire act consisted of play with soap bubbles. His routine was the closest to pure clown. It was simple, silent, and very tender. At the successful finish of a difficult trick he would look up at the audience with an expression of surprised pleasure, which seemed



SHELAGH WILKINSON: Atkinson professor of humanities and director of Women's Studies programme was recently honoured with an OCUFA teaching award, which recognizes outstanding ability in the education field.



magical. Imagine a 3,000 seat theatre lit only by six, brightly coloured cigarette smoke filled bubbles which Bou carefully blended by literally picking them up in his hands and physically mixing them, creating new colours and shapes without the bubbles bursting.

In contrast to Bou's style was Toronto prop comedian Marty Putz, whose assault on the audience was hilarious. Armed with a belt of ammunition, he picked on people not only in the front row, but in the balcony as well, a group of people that no other performer addressed directly. Putz has the amazing ability to appear completely vulnerable yet at the same time completely in control. Within seconds, he united the entire audience until by the end of his act everyone responded to his request for cat noises.

True stand-up comedy, the kind where the only thing separating the performer from an audience hungry for gut-wrenching laughter is a microphone, was well represented, but only in quantity. Steve Mittleman was introduced as the best looking man since Tom Selleck and responded, "I don't have fantasies. I am a male fantasy." Yet he quickly slipped into predictable, self-effacing sex jokes. Helen Lederer, one of the three English acts, should have been left at home. Her routine consisted of barely audible

nervous high-pitched mumblings about boy-friends and sex.

Hale and Pace, again from England, were featured twice in the show. As *The Two Rons* (before intermission), they dressed as thugs in tuxedos, threatening the audience. Few laughed, for there was little energy and nothing new in their routine. After intermission they re-told the classic tale of Cinderella, substituting a flipper for a slipper. Yet their timing was so good that it seemed mechanical.

An appreciated gust of fresh material was American stand-up comedian Marsha Warfield. Her relaxed matter-of-fact delivery was evidence of a confident performer who actually had some fun. She posed some unusual questions to the audience, such as, "Why do dead people get to ride in such nice cars?"

The last act of the evening was Louie Anderson, an American comic whose description of "mom" was so oddly precise it was comfortingly funny. Mom to dad quietly driving car: "Oh, look, dear, that's where Shirley's daughter works." But no one knows who Shirley is.

The evening was graced with the presence of Jerry Lewis who wasted about 10 minutes of valuable time promoting his next film and mugging it up for the television cameras.

Salvador's scope overshadows individual experience

By STEVE MILTON

The American film industry has never enjoyed a cordial relationship with political oppression, particularly when it is sponsored by the American government. In the past 10 years three major feature films have been produced depicting Americans trying to come to terms with South and Central American dictatorships, of which Oliver Stone's *Salvador* is the latest. Like *Under Fire* and *Missing*, *Salvador* must walk the thin line between offending American audiences by being overly forthright in its condemnation, and embellishing standard Hollywood plot devices to the point that the political events become mere background. Unfortunately, *Salvador* fails to achieve a satisfactory balance.

The film describes the experiences of real-life journalist Peter Boyle (James Woods) and his sidekick Doc (Jim Belushi) as they travel through El Salvador covering the guerilla war against the government in 1980. Although in

'Pill-popping drunkards who have little or no regard for anyone but themselves.'

actuality Boyle was a radio-reporter, in the film he is a photographer, enabling the audience to witness many of that year's atrocities firsthand. (1980 was a pivotal year in the American involvement in El Salvador due to the assassination of Archbishop Romero and the rape-murder of four American nuns.)

Yet, the film's loyalty to the truth actually impedes its capacity to tell the story of the American engagement in the country. The attention to detail with regard to the political events of the period is laudable—what is even less commendable is the belief that Boyle's boorish exploits would advance the audience's understanding of the gravity of these events.

The film depicts Boyle and his partner Doc as two refugees from a Hunter S. Thompson type novel determined to act out Fear and Loathing in El Salvador. Both are pill-popping drunkards who have little or no regard for anyone but themselves (at least initially), with Boyle recommending El Salvador on the basis of its cheap booze and cheaper women. As Boyle admits in a moment of candor, "Okay, I'm a fucking weasel."

It is difficult if not impossible to be attracted to these characters, despite their colourful denunciations of Yuppie life in the US (which is later recreated among the staff of the State department in El Salvador). Although likeability is not integral to recreating the journalist's experience, it is imperative in a film which is sufficiently critical of American foreign policy that the audience needs a sympathetic voice to make the critique palatable. Instead, the audience is distracted from the truly interesting political machinations afoot and is made to concentrate on the intricacies of Boyle's love affair with a local peasant woman.

This affair does have the advantage of illuminating how grand political events affect normal citizens, yet Boyle is portrayed as such an unsavory figure that the trials and tribulations of the American ambassador (whom we meet on a number of occasions) seem far more interesting and germane to advancing an understanding of the political situation.

Aside from these handicaps, the film labours under difficulties which are actually caused by the nature of its audience. Like films such as *The Killing Fields*, *Salvador* must attempt to depict an unthinkable violent world which seems sensational almost by definition from a North American perspective. Due to the tradition of gratuitous violence which is central to our visual media, it is always difficult to depict the scale of violence endemic to these countries. Thus a scene featuring a hillside covered by victims of right-wing death squads appears sensational and fails to generate the emotional impact which viewing the scene in person would provoke. The only film to evade this



HEY, THAT'S NOT FUNNY! In fact, little about Oliver Stone's *Salvador*, including its attempted humour, can be called amusing: It's not supposed to be. And yet, it's hardly provocative in its sensationalism, either.

conundrum has been *Missing* which deliberately limited the audience's exposure to dead bodies until a crucial scene when a familiar character is found, thereby bringing home the scope of the tragedy of all the corpses.

Clearly, there is a place for political feature films which are not merely poorly disguised docu-dramas. Part of the difficulty with films like *Salvador* is that by using journalists as their protagonists, the audience is led to witness as many pivotal political events as possible in an effort to set the political stage. In the process, however, the day-to-day experience of the inhabitants is lost, making the actual impact of

the events on people hard to capture.

It would be much more effective to abandon the omniscient eye of the journalist and restrict the vision to the main character(s) to a single piece of the action—this would portray the confusion and helplessness that people experience in such situations, and emphasize the emotional turmoil that they endure as a consequence. This would mitigate against the film's ability to serve as a primer for those unfamiliar with the political background of the country, yet the events' impact on people (ultimately the only real barometer of their importance) would be highlighted.

Innovative production tainted by Shakespeare's text

Toronto Free's open air Romeo and Juliet

By KEVIN CONNOLLY

Often, theatre is unsuccessful because a production does not live up to the text, or because a text has been interpreted in such a way as to obscure rather than illuminate the 'spirit' of the drama.

This year's *Dream in High Park*, a free production of *Romeo and Juliet* presented by Toronto Free Theatre, is quite the opposite. Director Guy Sprung's interpretation of Shakespeare's celebrated tragedy is (with minor exceptions) both innovative and enlightening. If there are any problems with this *Romeo and Juliet* they are Shakespeare's—in this case, it's the text which does not measure up to an excellent production.

This summer marks the fourth time Sprung and the Free Theatre have ventured into High Park's grassy amphitheatre to give Torontonians a free taste of professional theatre. And although things like lighting and the weather undoubtedly supply their share of technical problems, there are some invaluable benefits derived from *The Dream's* natural setting. With performances scheduled to begin at 8:15 each evening, twilight and nightfall coincide exactly with the first three acts of Shakespeare's play—it seems a small thing, but until you've experienced it for yourself, it's easy to underestimate the immediacy the natural setting lends to the drama.

And (at least) the first half of this year's *Romeo and Juliet* is mesmerizing. It seems that Sprung has profited from last year's rather unsuccessful staging of the same play. Stuart Hughes' Romeo is an infinite improvement over the self-conscious fidgeting of Paul Gross (last year's Romeo), and while Nicky Guadagni (Juliet) doesn't have the youth and beauty Olivia Hussey brought to Franco Zeffirelli's screen version, she's at least in the same general ballpark.

Indeed, Guadagni's Juliet may be the single brightest light among several outstanding performances; her soliloquies are beautifully understated, and she rises to the occasion consistently in a role which demands a deftness with the full range of human emotion. The balcony scene, following largely in the footsteps



'BILL, I TOLD YOU THOSE FINAL SCENES WERE WEAK' Nicky Guadagni as Juliet in Guy Sprung's High Park production of Shakespeare's classic teen sexploitation play.

of last year's effort, is again played for laughs but there is a sensitivity and gentleness in the humor that succeeds where its predecessor failed—we laugh with the lovers, with the hyperbole and wild fancy of young love. Hughes, for his part, plays off Guadagni beautifully, thriving in one of the most abused roles in Shakespeare.

As good as the leads are, the show is stolen (as it should be) by Henry Czerny's Mercutio. Czerny's bawdiness is in all cases amply just-

fied by the text, and he lends an unexpected spontaneity to the famous Queen Mab speech. Mercutio is not, as some would have him, a 16th century Wildean wit—he is, in his own words, "a lusty gentleman," not to mention a slightly neurotic cynic. Czerny manages to give the role more than one original moment, making the most of the wealth of humor in his lines, adding slapstick to provide the necessary physicality. And he does all this while staying within the text—one can ask little more of an actor.

Sprung has chosen to stage the duelling scene between Mercutio and Tybalt almost playfully; neither of the feuding families' "first men" seem to be in any serious danger until the arrival of Romeo. Romeo is thus given added responsibility (if only as an unwitting ally of fate) for Mercutio's death, and his subsequent despair gains added depth and clarity.

This scene marks the high point of the production; unfortunately, it also marks the point where this relatively early Shakespearean text begins to fall apart. It is impossible (in my mind) to stop a significant part of the drama from dying with Mercutio while remaining true to Shakespeare's text. The late arrival of Friar Lawrence, though his speeches anchor much of the play's imagery, does little to compensate for Mercutio's loss, and any interest the intricacy of the remaining plot may hold for the audience is defeated by its improbability. Though there are a few fine moments, the last two acts, when taken as a whole, leave the audience feeling like the victims of a bad case of dramatic overkill.

The killing of Paris, though it ties up one of the plot's loose ends, still seems unnecessary and when old Montague stumbles in at the end with the news that Lady Montague has died in grieving for her son's banishment, it's difficult to keep from laughing. Sprung has made some adjustments to the play (the mime sequence which replaces the scene where the Capulets discover Juliet in her drugged state is one example), but he leaves you wondering why he did not make more.

Consequently, Shakespeare's "two hour's traffic" ends up being closer to three hours in length, and much of the early power is lost in the turgid pacing of the final scenes. As popular a play as *Romeo and Juliet* has become, the fact remains that (as iconoclastic as it sounds) it really isn't that good. The best things an audience can take from the play come most often in isolated scenes or speeches; as far as these go, Sprung's production has much to recommend, and little to apologize for.

Romeo and Juliet runs Tuesday through Sunday in High Park until August 15. Performances begin each evening at 8:15 and admission is free.

S P O R T S

Phys. Ed. students jet to Israel

By JAMES HOGGETT

This summer, York University has added a new classroom site to its Keele and Glendon campuses. The Department of Physical Education is holding the course—"Sport, Recreation and Leisure in Israel"—as close to the subject matter one can get: Israel.

The trip, which is organized by Dr. Joseph Levy, professor of Recreation at York University, runs from August 18 to September 8 and costs \$3,000 per person. The students will be staying at the Wingate Institute (near Netanya), which is the only university outside the Eastern Bloc devoted solely to physical education.

Originally Levy hoped to take at least 15 students on the trip, but he is not fazed by the low turnout. "I'm actually quite pleased with only taking five students," said Levy. "This is the first time I've done this type of thing so I think it's good to start off small."

Levy felt that one possible reason for the low turnout was due to the increased tension in the Middle East. "Some parents," Levy said, "might be reluctant to pay that kind of money to send their sons and daughters over the Israel due to the increase in terrorism."

During the students' stay they will tour Jerusalem, seeing such tourist attractions as the Via Dolorosa, the Old City, Mount Scopus, Mount of Olives, Mount Herzl, and the Hebrew University. As well, they will be visiting many sport and recreation sites during their stay in Israel.

"We will be visiting hospitals, nursing homes, community recreation centres, outdoor recreation centres and places related to sport tourism," said Dr. Levy. "The students will be observing front line recreation work with many of the immigrants in Israel."

Canada has a wide variety of

immigrants coming into the country every year and Israel is much the same, according to Levy, "Many people do not know that Israel, like Canada, has a great variety of immigrants," Levy remarked. "Now how does one go about integrating them and introducing recreation to these people who had no such thing back in their home country? That is one of the topics that the students will be observing," Levy added.

The students' schedule is very intense. On top of touring the sites they will also be attending an international seminar and workshop on outdoor education, recreation and sport tourism at the Wingate Institute. There they will meet with officials from countries such as Russia, Germany, and Japan to discuss the recreation programs of their societies. In addition they will be meeting with

the Israeli Minister of Education.

"The whole point of the trip," said Levy, "is to find out what role recreation and leisure play in the life of Israeli society. It is just a coincidence that this international seminar is taking place at the same time as our trip, which makes it a nice added event for the students."

Levy has also been asked to be one of the speakers at the seminar. This comes as no surprise as Levy is by no means a stranger in Israel. In 1979 he was asked to be a consultant to the Israeli government where his main function is to advise the government on their national policy on Sport and Leisure.

"It is because of my ties here (in Israel) that I organized this trip to Israel," Levy said. "And if all goes well, there may be another trip planned for next year."

York's Johnson beats Lewis at Moscow Goodwill Games

By JAMES HOGGETT

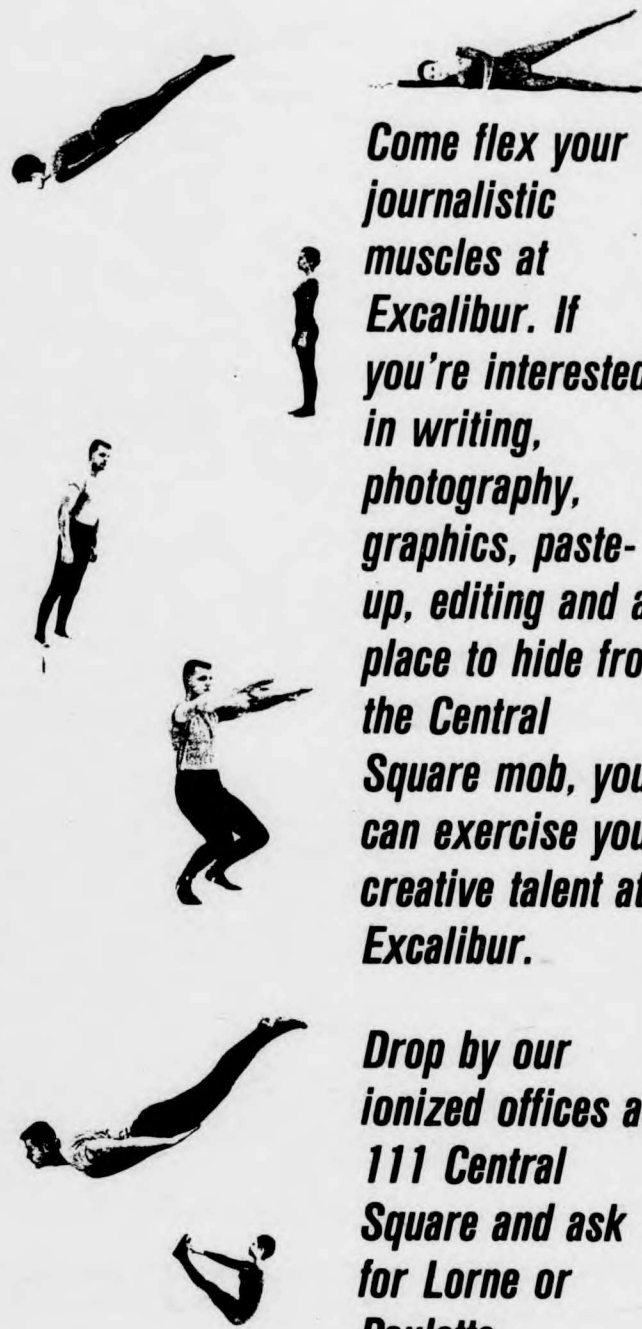
Ben Johnson, a member of the York Optimist Track and Field Club, defeated American Carl Lewis in the 100 metre race at the Goodwill Games in Moscow earlier this month. This confirms his status as the fastest human in the world at this time. Johnson's clocking of 9.95 seconds is the second fastest time ever and is the fastest for a 100 metre run at low altitude.

It was Johnson's second consecutive outdoor victory over Lewis this year, and third overall against the 1984 Olympic quadruple gold medalist.

In 1985, Johnson defeated Lewis

at Zurich and Lewis finished ahead of Johnson at Cologne (the last time Johnson has lost) in their only head-to-head confrontation. But in the world rankings at the end of the year, Lewis was listed number one and Johnson second. Johnson disagreed with the number two ranking and felt he deserved to be number one.

Johnson's next goal is to win three gold medals in the 100 and 200 metre races as well as the 4x100 metre relay at the Commonwealth Games in Edinburgh, Scotland being July 24 to August 2. He has already accomplished one third of this task, winning the 100 metre run on Sunday (July 28) despite a poor start.



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