

R414 616



Dont' walk under Jacob's Ladder p. 10



York hoopsters ready to dunk Blues p. 14

MONDAY, JANUARY 14, 1991

VOLUME 25, ISSUE 33

excalibur

YORK UNIVERSITY'S COMMUNITY NEWSPAPER

York students' reaction mixed over Goods and Services Tax

By James Hoggett

While many students don't seem to mind paying the Goods and Services Tax on small items such as snack foods and parking, it is a much different story when it comes to textbooks and meals.

"I'm not very pleased," said Lisa Paulinic, a third-year BBA student. "I think books should be exempt from the GST."

Paulinic was in the book store buying textbooks for her second term courses. She purchased nine books and had to pay almost \$30 in GST.

I agree with the principle behind the GST, but I don't think that it's fair to charge it on textbooks," Paulinic said.

United Cigar Store manager Steve Sparks was expecting a much bigger backlash from customers having to pay the GST in his Central Square store.

"Things are going a lot smoother than I thought they would," Sparks said.

First-year history student, Ken Moran paid his GST on a can of juice which he bought at UCS.

"I don't like paying the tax, it would be a lot easier to swallow if it was lower than seven per cent," Moran said. "But what can you do, you got to pay it."

UCS has lowered most of their taxable products five to seven per cent, which has aided in this transition says Sparks.

"My biggest beef about the GST is that since prices are supposed to work out the same as before this tax, then why is the government having every retailer go through all the work in changing their prices?"

Another Central Square retailer that is unhappy about the tax is Donald Dianeza, owner of Onde Hair Design.

"I don't like being a tax collector for the government," Dianeza said. "I don't feel very comfortable charging the tax but thankfully my customers seem to understand that there is nothing that I can do."

"I'm not very happy about paying the tax," said third-year PhD student Rae Anderson, whose haircut cost her \$17.12 rather than \$16. "I'm really suspicious about the tax," Anderson said. "I have my doubts as to whether the government will use the money to lower the deficit."

Connie Morton, a third-year anthropology major objects to the GST being charged on campus cafeteria meals.

"Students have it tough enough without having to pay the GST," Morton said. "While I don't see a problem charging GST on restau-

rant meals, students shouldn't have to pay GST on meals bought in campus cafeterias.

Morton says that while she doesn't buy her lunches often, she will be cutting this down now that the GST has been implemented.

"I usually couldn't afford to buy my meals, even before the GST, but now it looks like I'll be buying them even less."

For some however, the GST is not a big concern.

Michell Geisler and Elliot Newman, both first-year students, eat out on average seven to eight times a week. They say that the GST won't stop them from eating out.

"I don't look at the GST as a problem," Geisler said. "I think that it will hurt us the most for the first half of the year, but since we can't do anything about it, we will eventually accept it."

Students also seem to be accepting the tax on parking rates. Parking in an unreserved lot now costs \$3.75, up from \$3.50, while reserved lot prices have increased 50 cents to seven dollars.

"Drivers are definitely not happy about the increase," said parking attendant Chris Larson. "They don't argue with us or blame the university, they just say that it's unfair and then pay the increase."



PHOTO BY CLIVE COHEN

Geez, that's a little more than I thought

United Cigar Store cashier Kim LeClair rings in a customer's purchase and charges him the eight per cent GST. Although students are disgruntled, most are agreeing to pay the extra cost.

CHRY recognition at national level

by John A. Vink

York's community radio station has received honorable mention for a current affairs broadcast dealing with sexual assault.

CHRY was one of four finalists in the 1990 Media Human Rights Award competition sponsored by the B'nai Brith League of Human Rights.

CHRY was chosen for its five part series "It's Not A Dick Thing" which aired last year during Sept. 17-21. The radio series was part of CHRY's current affairs programming, *Bread and Butter*.

The Media Human Rights Awards are presented to Canadian print, radio and television media for outstanding contributions in the area of human rights.

Out of a total of 77 submissions in the radio category, CHRY was the only community-based radio station to enter. The other three finalists in this category were all CBC affiliated radio stations — CBC Vancouver, CBC Toronto, and CBC Saskatchewan.

"This nomination has been great for us," said CHRY station manager Paul Conroy. "It helps people understand that we are on a competitive



Members of the Sexual Assault collective that produced the program, l to r, back row: Sherry Rowley, Kelly Rico, front row: Lavinia Lamenza, Denyse Stewart, Mary Jankulak PHOTO BY LISA RNR

level with so called professionals, and not just a bunch of kids having fun spinning records."

Although two other CBC stations won the award, CHRY was awarded an honorable mention at a gala dinner on December 10.

Denyse Stewart, the station's spoken word coordinator, said that the competition was difficult because CHRY has a considerably lower budget for programming in comparison to CBC affiliated radio stations.

"We can say we were one of the four finalists, so when we apply for money again, it adds to our argument," Stewart said, explaining that although CHRY did not win the award, becoming a finalist would provide good leverage in trying to obtain programming funding.

Several groups helped fund the project, including York's Office of Student Affairs, the Status of Women Office, and the Ontario Woman's Directorate.

According to Conroy, external funding constitutes approximately thirty per cent of CHRY's budget.

"Very often when a woman or child is assaulted, the argument has been that it's an isolated case, such as a man who is sexually frustrated," Stewart explained. "We say that it is a societal problem in terms of the way women are perceived."

The group that created the series met during the summer to discuss concepts they wanted to integrate into the project as well as performing much of the necessary research.

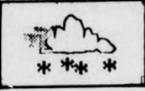
The first segment of the five-day series was an introduction concerning feminism and the relation of sex to power, called "Power Structure and Sexual Assault."

The following broadcast, "Social Attitudes Toward The Sexual Assault of Women," discussed the role of the family and domestic pressures in explaining the concept of sexual assault.

"The Role of the Family in Perpetuating and Supporting Sexual Assault" contained interviews with a woman who had survived an assault, while the fourth segment, "Systems That Deal With the Aftermath of Sexual Assault" defined some of the procedures after assault including the police, hospital and judicial system.

The series ended with a live interview with two women from the Woman's Legal Education Action Fund and the Rape Crisis Centre.

Weather Swammy

Monday  mostly sunny, windy High -2 Low -12	Tuesday  mostly cloudy, with flurries High -3 Low -7
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QUOI DE NEUF ?

Published by the Office of Student Affairs, 124 Central Square, York University

SOME PEOPLE WOULD RATHER DIE, THAN THINK, MANY DO... thoreau

BACCHUS - YORK

For more information contact Christopher Hastlow or Naomi Smith c/o Office of Student Affairs, 736-5144.

Are You At Risk?

Alcohol misuse represents a major problem in Canadian Universities and Colleges. Statistics indicate that 80% of students on any one campus drink alcoholic beverages. In fact, no other single population has a higher proportion of drinkers than the post secondary student population. Of greater concern, however, is that an increasing number of students are falling into what is called a "high risk category" and are suffering from negative consequences as the result of alcohol misuse.

Below are some questions that may enable you to identify if you are heading towards a high risk category. When answering, be realistic. Look back over the last six months or year. Don't answer how you think you should, be honest. There is no right or wrong, this is simply a test that will help you evaluate your past behaviour.

Insert the number beside each question that best describes your response: 1 = Never, 2 = 1 or 2 times, 3 = Sometimes, 4 = Often

1. Have you ever driven a car after you have been drinking?
2. Have you driven a car after drinking what was in your estimate "too much"?

3. Have there been times when you have allowed yourself to be a passenger in a car where the driver has been drinking?
4. Have you ever missed a class, not gotten some homework done, or spent the night before an exam in the pub, perhaps even received a lesser grade because of your alcohol use?
5. Has your health or body ever suffered from the misuse of alcohol? Have you ever blacked out, been hungover all day, or found U.P.W's (unidentified party wounds) the next morning?
6. Have you ever had an incident where after drinking you've gotten violent or verbally abusive with a stranger, or even worse a friend?
7. Have you ever gotten into situations where you have been sexually active with a person that perhaps you normally wouldn't be? Or you forgot to put on a condom?
8. Have you ever not been able to keep control of a situation because of your drinking? Think of "control" in terms of when you drink, how long you drink, how often you drink, or how much you drink?
9. Have you every sat around the "morning after" and bragged to your friends about how much you drank and how "hung from hell" you are?
10. How many times, while answering these questions, did you reflect back on a personal experience? How many times while answering the above questions did you laugh, thinking these questions are stupid and have no bearing on your life? Maybe you should go through them one more time.

There is, of course no way to score this kind of evaluation. Instead look at the risks.

If many of your answers were in the "sometimes" or "often" categories, you need to be aware of the dangers. Being at risk means that in any one of these situations there is the potential for something bad or even tragic to happen. If you are at risk, work on lowering the potential for danger. Try to make decisions for yourself. Know that if you get excessively drunk your risks greatly increase. Sometimes changing behaviour is difficult because we have habits that are hard to break. Talk to a friend or your roommate, what are friends for? But you must be prepared to listen to them, they are simply telling you what you have already decided to do. Some might say "yeah, but these things just happen. We're in university, these things are just part of having a good time." If you believe that, then maybe you shouldn't be in university. Remember, this is a place for intellect and for growing up.

Look at the risks involved; being arrested for drinking and driving, perhaps being killed or even worse killing someone else; having to lose a course because you got too far behind or losing your whole year for that matter; having health problems, experiencing rape, sexually transmitted diseases, these consequences are no laughing matter and they "just don't happen." They happen when we make bad choices or fail to use common sense.

Most students say that alcohol is part of their university experience. Most students have found a way to make the use of alcohol a positive part of those things that are important: friendships, relationships, experiences. Don't jeopardize those valuable things. Keep alcohol a "part" and not the focus. Make decisions you can enjoy. Make decisions you can live with!

BEWARE!!

*If it sounds too good to be true, it probably is...
You don't get something for nothing!*

- * never sign up for a travel package without reading the fine print.
- * watch out for those travel reps who request payment in advance - and always be sure to get a receipt.
- * be wary of holiday bargains.
- * find out exactly what the price of the trip includes - and what it doesn't.

Your best bet is to make your travel arrangements with a reputable travel agency which is licensed and bonded.



FACULTY OF ARTS Special Events for Outstanding Students 1990-91

● CAREER DEVELOPMENT SERIES:

Tuesday, January 22 - Senate Chamber (S915 Ross) 4:00-5:30:
Getting Into Law School: Andrew Ranachan, Admissions Officer of Osgoode Law School, will talk about law school admissions policies in general, and will tell you everything you need to know about getting into Osgoode.

● DISTINGUISHED YORK FACULTY SPEAKERS SERIES:

Each speaker has been invited to talk about some aspect of her/his professional development which will give students insight into academic life and the process of intellectual inquiry.

Wednesday, January 23 - Senate Chamber (S915 Ross)
12:00-1:00 p.m.: David Trotman, BA (York), MA, PhD (Johns Hopkins), Associate Professor of Humanities, Master of Founders College.

"Searching for the Rhythm: Reflections on a Fragment of a Life in Caribbean Scholarship"

QUESTIONS? COMPLAINTS? CONCERNS? QUESTIONS?

York is a large and complex institution. Through the course of your studies, you may encounter difficulties where expert advice and assistance are needed. Such assistance is available from the University Complaint Centre or one of the designated **Complaints Officers** representing each college and faculty, and the library, as well as from special centres such as the Sexual Harassment Education and Complaint Centre, and the Race and Ethnic Relations Centre.

For more information contact the University Complaint Centre, in the Office of Student Affairs, 124 Central Square, 736-5144.

Share your thoughts...don't share the needle...

The Metropolitan Toronto Housing Authority announces an ANTI-DRUG PROGRAM ESSAY

This competition involves the composition of an essay no more than 1,200 words, lines double spaced, with a specific anti-drug message. It provides an opportunity for participants to share their ideas about the drug problem and propose possible solutions. The competition is open to all individuals between the ages of 10 and 25. Contest winners will have their work published in a major newspaper. The deadline for submissions is 4:00 pm, Thursday, February 28, 1991. For full details contact the Office of Student Affairs, 124 Central Square, or the Metropolitan Housing Authority, Anti-Drug Program, 365 Bloor St. East, Suite 8000, Toronto M4W 3L4. (416) 969-6313

NEWS

YFS appoints commissioner

by Leslie Barrell

The York Federation of Students has recently appointed Elissa Horscroft as the new Equality Commissioner.

The Equality Commissioner is responsible for checking that the activities and publications of the YFS as well as those supported by the council are free of racist, sexist or homophobic material.

Horscroft has been involved in the York Women's Centre and has experience in lobbying for the rights of marginal and minority groups.

As Equality Commissioner, Horscroft will find herself very busy. Working as a liaison with the Sexual Harassment Education and Complaint Centre, York Security, the York Women's Centre, York University Race and Ethnic Relations Centre and the Lesbian and Gay Alliance at York, Horscroft is doing the work of ten staff members.

"Awareness is really important, but it's not enough," Horscroft said. "We need the tangible change as well. We want to actually see something."

Although the YFS and other groups have already lobbied the



Elissa Horscroft, YFS's new equality commissioner

York community on the damaging effects of prejudice, Horscroft feels that there is still a long way to go.

"The problem is that a lot of people don't realize how in depth the issues of sexism, racism and homo-

phobia are," Horscroft said. "They go past calling someone a name. Your prejudices are well-formed by the time you get to university. I'm hoping that maybe because we haven't lived in them so long that they are susceptible to change."

In the future, Horscroft hopes to launch a campaign alerting women to the availability of student government positions on campus and urging them to become more involved in their college councils and in the executive.

Horscroft wants to reverse the traditional stereotypes of women in politics as well. "I think women are a little hesitant to put themselves in a position where before they even open their mouths they have things going against them," Horscroft said. "There will be a part of the voting population that simply won't vote for a woman."

Horscroft's personality and outlook will be essential in bringing about positive changes in prejudiced attitudes at York. "You always have to believe things will get better", Horscroft said. "There is light at the end of the tunnel and the more we work the better results we'll get."

Flashback: 21 years ago York Prof denied immigrant status

A radical American historian who has just taken a job at York is being denied landed immigrant status by the Canadian government.

Gabriel Kolko, an internationally known scholar of American history, has received a tenured position with York's history department but has not been able to obtain the landed immigrant status needed to teach.

Without landed immigrant status, Kolko cannot apply for certain Canadian grants and may in fact be unable to remain in Canada at all.

Kolko has been a constant critic of American foreign policy and has written books on U.S. economic and military domination of underdeveloped countries.

In his book, *The Roots of American Foreign Policy*, Kolko calls for "profound social change" in the U.S. which he says is trying to create "total world economic integration not on the basis of equality but of domination."

York's history department and John Saywell, dean of arts, have declined to comment on the situation although they are negotiating with immigration authorities.

Sydney Eisen, history department chairman, said yesterday, "I'm very much interested in having Dr. Kolko here."

Kolko, who is now in Toronto, had "no comment" Tuesday night.

He said however, he has no idea why he would be refused landed immigrant status since he meets all qualifications.

Kolko, a graduate of Kent State

University, obtained his MA from the University of Wisconsin and his doctorate from Harvard.

His books include, *The Triumph of Conservatism*, *Wealth and Power in America* and *The Politics of War*.

Kolko believes the root causes of U.S. foreign policy are economic.

He has outlined America's attempt to control the world's natural resources and insists that such military ventures as the war in Vietnam are not 'mistakes' but, "the logical outcome of a consistent reality we should have understood long before the United States applied so much of its energies to ravaging one small nation."

"Ultimately, the United States has fought in Vietnam with increasing intensity to extend its hegemony over the world community and to stop every form of revolutionary movement which refuses to accept the predominant role of the United States in the direction of affairs of its nation or region.

"On the outcome of this epic contest rests the future of peace and social progress in the world for the twentieth century, not just for those who struggle to overcome the legacy of colonialism and oppression to build new lives, but for the people of the United States themselves."

September 17, 1970

SECURITY beat

n-secur10
c7

Friday Nov 14

Theft (personal)--Administrative Studies Building

A wallet containing \$300.00 and personal papers was stolen from an office left unattended and unlocked for five minutes.

Sunday Dec 9

Theft--University & Personal

After security responded to a prank alert at Stong residence, they returned to their patrol car to find that an unknown person had used a slim-jim to break into the security vehicle. The culprit did some serviceable damage to the interior radio and made off with two flashlights, a hand-held spotlight and a security officers hat with the badge number 24.

Wednesday Dec 12

Trespassing--Osgoode Hall Law School

A male previously given a notice of trespassing was arrested after being found in the junior common room. On being escorted from the premises he resisted being placed in the security vehicle. Serving him with a provincial offense ticket, Metro Police escorted the trespasser off campus.

Thursday Dec 13

Theft (personal)--Parking Lot 6A

An AM/FM car stereo was stolen causing an estimated loss of \$450.00. Although there were no signs of forced entry, the victim believes the car was definitely locked.

Thursday Dec 13

Theft (personal)--Fine Arts Phase 2

A wallet containing \$40.00, credit cards and personal papers was stolen from an unlocked, vacant office just before noon that day. During that same period, a white male, 5'11" approx. 175 lbs. and 20 yrs. of age was seen in the area.

Tribunal member charged

by Brent Poland

A member of the President's University Disciplinary tribunal has been charged with break and enter.

Richard Markovitch has been charged by Metro Police with breaking and entering, possession of stolen property and possession of burglary tools.

These charges stem from a York Security and Metro Police investigation into a recent number of thefts in the rooms of Stong Residence.



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Ottawa (Ontario)

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UNIVERSITÉ D'OTTAWA
UNIVERSITY OF OTTAWA

PERSIAN GULF UPDATE



Special update on the Persian Gulf with Professor Gideon Gera,

Iraqi and Arab Affairs expert, Tel Aviv University, visiting academic for York Centre for International and Strategic Studies

WEDNESDAY, JANUARY 16

ROSS N203

4:00 pm

presented by the Jewish Student Federation
and the York Political Science Student Association

FALL/WINTER SESSION 1990/91

KEEP IN MIND
THE LAST DAY TO PAY ACADEMIC FEES
WITH LATE SERVICE CHARGES IS:

FRIDAY
JANUARY 18
1991

Students who have not yet paid their academic fees and the applicable late service charges to complete the registration process by this date will be de-enrolled and their Winter Term courses will be cancelled.

Anyone wishing to register after this date must submit a written petition to the Registrar's Office no later than Friday, February 8, 1991. The appropriate form is available from the Registrar's Office, Suite C130 West Office Building, telephone 736-5155.

Petitions which demonstrate administrative default on the part of a University office or cover compassionate reasons are considered. The Registrar's decision is final.

Office of the Registrar
January 4, 1991

EDITORIAL

A big load from the government

The new year brings with it a brand new expense. Tax-mania is sweeping the nation and this time the ivory sanctuary of university won't save students from being hit as severely as other citizens.

The Goods and Services Tax has become an unkind reality that coincides with what we've been told is only a minor slump in the economy (recession). And as students begin to pay a federal consumer tax on many items and services that were once tax-exempt (all in the interest of fairness), we must finally realize that the protective dome of accessible education around us is being dismantled piece by piece.

First, we had to face the accrued effects of provincial underfunding, and now the federal GST comes on as the finisher to many low-income students' chances for an affordable post-secondary education in Ontario.

No one is all too happy about this GST.

Pacifying statements by Revenue Minister Otto Jelinek that there is no confusion about the GST are blatantly untrue. Many businesses still don't know how to apply the tax properly and some Canadian consumers seem to be disregarding it altogether.

Here's the good news if you care to be a little anti-authoritarian. You can't be arrested if you refuse to pay the GST. Some people are starting to sense that this is an ideal form of civil disobedience and protest against unfair financial policies.

Even if you don't pay it, the vendor or business is still required to remit the GST amount to the federal government. Many businesses are upset that the government won't help them to enforce collecting the unpopular tax.

Thus, they are left with two options: sell the item and absorb the cost, or refuse to sell the item (which breaks the oral contract that a customer and vendor enter into at the beginning of a transaction). This second option becomes more difficult when a service has already been provided such as a haircut, tune-up or taxi-ride.

Finance Minister Michael Wilson has guaranteed that "most students will be better off under the GST than they are now" because students are eligible for the GST Credit.

It would be nice to believe Mike, but it remains a mystery how \$190 per year will compensate students for paying tax on their books, meals, clothing, transportation, and beer during the academic season.

Some organizations like the York Federation of Students which have publicly denounced the tax and decided to absorb many of the extra costs on principle instead of forwarding them to York students.

What is most distressing about the whole GST issue is the federal government's total disregard for the wishes of the majority of the population and specifically about the continued demands of student groups across the country for more financial aid.

In this regard, whether or not the GST will help to encourage Canadian manufacturing, or help to reduce our burgeoning deficit is of little consequence.

The Canadian democratic system needs a drastic enema starting with this government. Things have become too congested in recent years. Indeed, there is a wonderful place where the Prime Minister and Mikey can put their GST.



LETTERS

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

EXCALIBUR

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

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

The distinct opinions and articles appearing in *Excalibur* belong first and foremost to the individual writers and are not necessarily shared by any other *Excalibur* staff or board member.

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

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Correction:
 Alan Grad's letter in the Dec. 5 issue of *Excalibur* questioned whether Arabs can work out their problems all by themselves. The term Arabs implied the Arab states not the Arab people in general.

President Ghomeshi responds to criticisms

An open letter to the York student community.

As we approach the end of the first academic term, I feel it necessary to respond to recent questions and criticisms from some York undergraduates that have been directed towards me and the YFS/FEY.

Indeed, I wish to restate my principles and intentions as the president of the central student government.

First and foremost, I have been repeatedly accused of unfairly taking "one-sided" approaches to various campus issues. In reality, the suggestion that I have prompted one side on a number of political concerns is completely true, but this has in no way been undemocratic.

I have not engaged in any chiliastic attempt, as some have suggested, at imposing my own random "political propaganda" upon York students. On the contrary, I am simply trying to live up to the election platform upon which I was democratically elected to act.

Perhaps a midterm refresher on the content of my election promises is appropriate (in case anyone has forgotten the platform that was posted around the university during the campaign period). Among the highlights were:

1. to fight for a provincial government freeze on tuition fees — concomitant with a referendum on joining larger student lobbying groups and an explicitly OFS/CFS position.
2. to democratize the CYFS (YFS/FEY) through measures such as the formation of a Clubs' Coalition (the coalition has been formed and is functioning with efficacy in working towards complete self-determination for clubs).

3. to provide full funding to the Women's Centre (with last year's federation atrocities still in memory, \$5,000 has been committed to the centre so far, in addition to resources being put towards battling sexism, homophobia and heterosexism on campus).
4. to begin an awareness campaign to fight racism on campus (for the first time a student government at York has committed time and resources to this issue; it must remain a key priority).

Second, having stated the above, it is important to note that if students have legitimate concerns about YFS activities, club funding, the OFS/CFS referendum etc. . . . we must address such problems, and learn from imperfections for future circumstances.

But it is clear that the arguments expressed by those students organizing the colorful banner in Central Square, or protesting my attendance at the Mulroney visit demonstration have little to do with referendums or macaroni. Doubtless, the underlying question at hand is whether student government has a place in addressing "political" issues on and off campus.

On this basic question, I must once again emphatically state that I believe student government not only *should* address education-related political issues, but has a responsibility to education-related political issues, but has a responsibility to do so. How can anyone effectively argue that the GST, cuts in social programs, or attacks on lesbians and gays do not affect students and accessibility to post-secondary education?

The YFS/FEY is a political body, and may make decisions that do not reflect the view of every student at

York (that's what we have elections for!).

Silence in the face of, say, massive cutbacks in federal government transfer payments, or institutional racism, is a political statement also . . . consent.

Finally, if my pro-choice, bilingualism, anti-administration, anti-war, anti-Mulroney government stances offend some students on campus, I understand, but I will not apologize. I'm initiating the types of changes and actions that voters democratically — and in record numbers — elected me to pursue during last year's elections.

I challenge my opponents to enter the Presidential election race of March 1991 on the platform of undoing all of the progressive reforms the YFS/FEY have engaged in this year. You will have your opportunity . . . if that's what York students want.

Sincerely,
 Jean Ghomeshi
 President YFS/FEY

CHRY was insensitive

To the editor,

I've never been terribly bothered that a small portion of my money is funding York's radio station CHRY. However, after seeing their unprofessional conduct at the Memorial for the victims of the Montreal Massacre, I really question how wisely my money is being spent.

This was an extremely emotional time, and as I arrived at the Scott

Cont'd on p. 5

LETTERS

Cont'd from p. 4

Religious Centre's chapel for this event, I needed a few moments of silence to compose my thoughts and myself on such a solemn occasion. I was not alone. Everyone else maintained silence for much the same reasons.

Everybody, that is, except for a very loud CHRY producer who was busy talking (or arguing) with the people in the studio over his headset. This individual was completely oblivious to the packed room around him, who were attempting to concentrate on other things. His insensitivity to the moment was appalling. However, he persisted in continuing this extremely distracting discussion in the chapel in spite of the three or four around him who asked him to keep his voice down.

It didn't end there. When the proceedings were under way and people began to speak out in heartfelt reflection, the CHRY reporter in the back could still be heard making commentary while others were attempting to speak. It's very difficult to speak, much less listen to someone else, when you can hear, "That was an impassioned speech by another student, blah, blah, blah, ..." even when you're sitting up front.

Surely, in such a small venue as the Religious Centre's chapel, they could have monitored the proceedings from outside the chapel — the doors were open so they could have seen any necessary visual cueing, and by wearing the headsets they could have heard the speakers since the majority of them were speaking into CHRY's mike. If they had done that, there certainly would have been less distraction because they would have been further away.

CHRY was insensitive to the feelings of all of us who had come to reflect upon and mourn the victims of a tragic injustice. Their insensitivity was incompetent and extremely unprofessional.

As long as they show this level of incompetence in covering events that require a certain degree of sensitivity, they should be denied access to such events. We had come to mourn, and CHRY had no right to turn it into a circus.

Yours Truly,
Graeme Burk

Promoting vulnerability

To the editor.

This morning (December 6) I woke to the reminder by the radio announcer that a year ago to date a dreadful massacre occurred at école polytechnique in Montréal. It was a painful memory of the violence levelled toward women and amid all this the radio announcer mentioned his name over and over while simultaneously lumping the 14 women into the stereotypical role of victim.

I tried desperately to recall at least one of the women's names but I could not. I could, however, remember his name. I wouldn't realize until later why. Maybe it was the fact that I had a Mass Communications exam today and my mind was focused on problems such as the "symbolic annihilation of women" by the media but this problem became blatantly obvious as the day progressed.

The *Toronto Sun* featured a full colour photo of this monster who spread so much grief and hatred one year ago. *Excalibur* referred to this beast by name but never once mentioned one of the single women, only lumped them (again) as helpless victims. The *Vandoo* dedicated an entire page to this deviant but no mention of the life he so haphazardly plucked from existence. This continued into the evening with similar features

lending negative attention to one man and yet refusing to acknowledge the women except as poor dead women.

Have these women only become important in their deaths? Has this become another chance for the media to promote the vulnerable femme fatale? Why weren't these women glorified in life, as women courageous enough to buck the system by choosing to study in an area once dominated by men? These women were important because of their lives, not their deaths! Damn it, why can't you see what you are doing?

Your lip service to the repression of females is just that. In concentrating on the killer and accentuating the victim you only make other women scared to go against the grain. You enforce the stereotype and give glory to the idiot who "showed those feminists just who's boss!"

I urge you to examine more carefully the things you publish. If you are sincere in your desire to eliminate racism and discrimination you need to re-evaluate some of those inbred stereotypes and toss them out forever.

Sincerely,
Colette Boileau

Acceptable racism

To the editor

In light of the current discussions of institutional and overt racism — I would like to add to the current vocabulary the term: "acceptable racism." What is "acceptable racism?" Well an example will serve best to illustrate the point. Like most members of the York community, I was angered, embarrassed and surprised when I first saw the now infamous cartoon in *Excalibur*.

I was upset that a newspaper from the institution at which I am to be educated had been so blatantly insensitive and outrightly offensive to a minority, which in part, comprises and contributes to this academic enterprise. I was very surprised to realize that the target had been the strongly vocal and supported black community. I was surprised because the media usually ridicules less vocal, less supported minority groups: groups whose ridicule is often accepted, expected and enjoyed.

Racism, like many things, seems dictated by fashion. Today's American comic platform tends to weigh heavily on the use of Saddam Hussein jokes about his possible employment at Seven-11's. How much of this is Western frustration aimed at Hussein's regime and how much of it is an implicit indictment of descendants of the Middle East in general?

There was a time not long ago in Canada and the U.S. that the same feelings erupted into the government sanctioned imprisonment of thousands of Japanese immigrants, whose only crime was their heritage. This unforgivable act was done in the name of "national security" and in the interest of stopping a ruthless regime that had also persecuted a whole race in the name of purification and "national security".

It was widely accepted by media in the West at that time, that Oriental people could be portrayed as emotionless automatons, coke-bottle eyeglass caricatures spouting pigeon English, or soulless sadists who torture indiscriminantly and are justifiable slandered and slain by the brave and noble white-man (usually that most popular of heroic bigots — John Wayne). Today it's done in the name of humor, but its tone seems to hint at the current hostility eschewed by the global trade war.

The most subversive element of

Cont'd on p. 7

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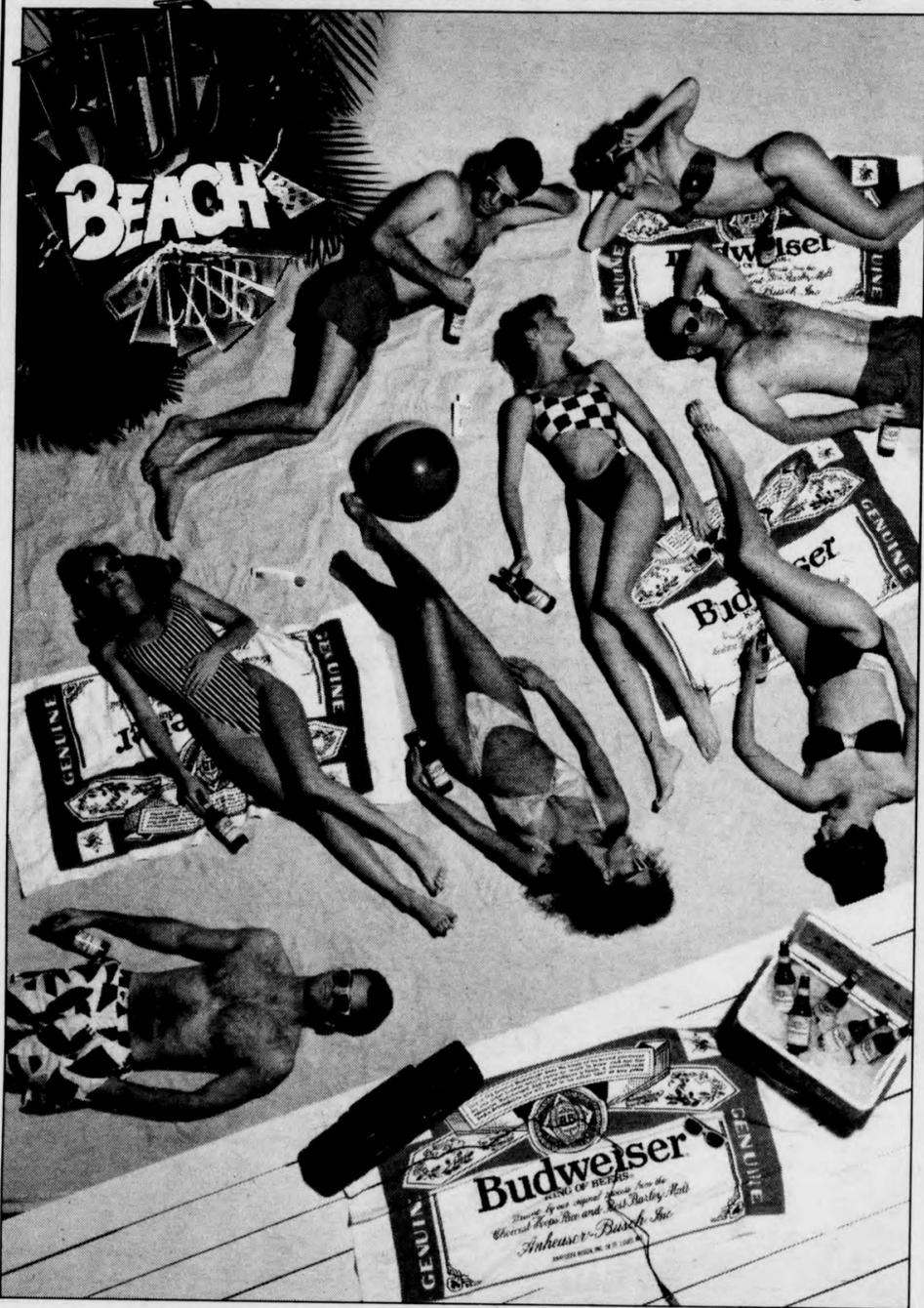
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LETTERS

"acceptable racism" is that it tends to be contagious. It poisons future generations and is impossible to contain. Bigotry is also not limited to whites alone. Lately I have witnessed a rather peculiar phenomenon — more often than not, previously oppressed minorities use a convenient form of amnesia when it comes to other minorities. Being the member of an oppressed minority does not give you the right to oppress others.

Racism will probably always exist: Society evolves too slowly to show any encouraging signs to the contrary. The louder the voices of opposition, before and after the fact do more they will protect us.

Don't accept racism! Not in any form, against any group. If it offends a people, then it is up to those people to object. To demonstrate, voice their anger — to make it clear that we will not accept such offenses.

A. Fang

Inter-Arab solution

To the editor,

Re: Dec. 5 issue of *Excalibur*

Alan Grad questions the credibility of Arab leaders where a solution to the inter-Arab conflicts is concerned. He points out Iraq's invasion, Syria's involvement in Lebanon and the expulsion of Yemenese from Saudi Arabia. However, he fails to mention that Lebanon has been the battle field of many wars, such as the Israeli-Arab conflict, the presence of Syrian troops was the result of an invitation by some factions to protect them, while the occupation of south Lebanon by Israel is illegal.

As for the expulsion of Yemenese; well, Bush himself said that any one who supports Saddam will be treated as an aggressor as well. That's one effect of American intervention!

Asher Levy said that "failed diplomatic attempts to dislodge Iraq from Kuwait make it increasingly obvious that reason will not work with Saddam." Well we did not give Arab diplomacy a chance. The U.S. and U.N.'s diplomacy was a call for unnecessary, destructive and murderous war!

Menahem Neuer as well as Asher Levy ask us to thank Israel for its intervention in Iraq ten years ago, when it bombed a nuclear power plant! Israel itself has a large nuclear capability which threatens neighboring Arab states, and leaves Israel as the sole power in the region.

Considering Israel's aggressive actions in the region for decades, we have much more than Iraq to fear. So the world was more than right in its condemnation at the time.

For all the accusations by Menahem against Yasser Arafat, I'll respond with a phrase Arafat said in an interview as Palestinian embassies were being opened all over the world except in Canada, U.S.A. and Israel (who would not recognize 'Palestine'). He said: "We've tried war, let's try peace; let's give peace a chance". But Israel did not agree to a dialogue with the Palestinians.

Menahem, I don't care what accusations you invent against Yasser Arafat; but I don't feel that you can deny a population their right to self determination and independence because you disagree with their leader who, by not "praising" Bush, is disagreeing with the handling of the whole Gulf issue and is calling for an Arab resolution.

As Asher said, Hitler and Hussein cannot be compared; and thus Menahem cannot imply that Saddam's threats are against Jews, since they are only against the state of Israel.

The Jewish feeling of insecurity in their homeland is a result of Israel's policies towards Arab nations. The day Israel and U.S.A. agree to an

international peace conference with Arabs is the day Palestine is liberated and Israel is secured.

I think that the U.S. and the U.N.'s double standards in the treatment of Palestine's occupation by Israel as opposed to the treatment of Kuwait's occupation by Iraq, are back-firing on them. If their policies were consistent all the time, Saddam would not have stood a chance with anyone.

Basil El-Abdallah

Sanctions need time

To the editor,

We should not accept the annexation of Kuwait, but we must have the patience to let economic sanctions work as they probably will in time. This could be a great opportunity to set an example to the world of solving disputes peacefully, but without appeasement.

The sanctions may take a long time to work, but there is no guarantee that war will solve our problems any faster. Indeed most wars in this century

have taken many years and countless lives to resolve.

Yours sincerely,
J.M. McNamee

Erroneous impressions

To the editor,

This is in response to Mel Ransom's defense of the York University Licensing Program (Lexicon, Letters to the Editor, Nov. 21, 1990). I wish to correct some erroneous impressions which Mr. Ransom (no pun intended) has created.

1. "Students do not pay any royalties for the use of York names on products."

That is correct, the suppliers are forced to. But when the total for my house's shirts was bumped up by 6 1/2 per cent last year it really felt like students were paying for it.

2. "Many companies use the York name to enhance the value of their products and profit from the sale of these products."

Good Mel, two for two. But what about the residence groups, clubs

and sports teams who put their money together to buy themselves jackets, shirts etc.. No money is made here. Why tax them?

3. "We think the University should share in some of this profit because York's names are being used: so we are charging manufacturers a very modest royalty fee."

First, using York's name on a garment should please the institution. It amounts to free advertising. Second, you are skimming "profits" from groups who are set up to be non-profit (student governments, clubs etc.).

4. "Manufacturing companies may try to pass the cost of this on to the consumers if they think the customer will pay it."

Thinking that manufacturers will "eat" this cost is downright stupid. Passing it on to the student is the obvious solution. What choice does the student/customer have but to pay it?

5. "As the University starts to share in and benefit from the profits of outside companies, these funds should be used for the direct benefit of York students for such things as student bursaries, scholarships, athletics etc. I am on record as saying York students should get the direct

benefit from the revenues of the Program."

We know what an administrator's words are worth, don't we? Might I suggest York students would gain **maximum** benefit by disbanding the Licensing Program. Having students collectively pay a huge amount of money, out of which comes Mr. Ransom's and his staff's salary as well as the expense of keeping a roomful of t-shirts, sweat pants and jackets, and then giving us back the "change" does not seem beneficial. Taxing students to pay for their own bursaries does not seem real fair either.

My experience with the tax has led me to use cheap, "fly-by-night" type operations (which, logistically, the University can't police) who do not insist on the royalty. The University has put the thumbscrews to the bigger suppliers to force them to comply and to report those who don't. Doesn't York administration have something better to do than this?

P.S. Don't pay your parking tickets either, you can graduate without paying them.

Bill Lloyd
ex Don, Bethune Res.
ex VP, Bethune College Council

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OPINIONS

The Eagle and the Bear, in restrained Harmony

by Walid Abdul-Massih

The United States and the Soviet Union — symbolically known as the Eagle and the Bear — seem to be in a period of restrained harmony.

The visit of former Soviet Foreign Minister Eduard Shevardnadze to NATO headquarters in December 1989 was a sign of the times. NATO (the North Atlantic Treaty Organization) was formed to counter Soviet pressure on Western Europe in those faraway days of Joseph Stalin and Harry Truman.

The biggest story on the world scene these past 45 years has been the jockeying of the two superpowers. But now, things have changed.

What can we expect next in the superpower relationship? The phrase Cold War, coined in 1947, reflected frustration that the temporary alliance between the Soviet Union and the United States was unravelling. America's pledges to Eastern Europe about their right to national self-determination clashed with Soviet security needs.

U.S. policy makers knew what the general public did not. Soviet Premier Joseph Stalin strongly indicated that he would withdraw the USSR from the fledgling United Nations organization if Soviet choices as to the legitimate new government of Poland were not installed.

This distressed Western allies greatly because Adolf Hitler's invasion of Poland — with Stalin's connivance — had caused World War II.

Sixteen of 20 leaders of Poland's World War II underground movement languished in a Soviet jail despite heated Western protests.

The Soviets countered U.S. misgivings by saying American moves to fortify the islands of the Pacific paralleled what Moscow was doing in Eastern Europe. Roughly, this was true.

But clumsy Russian diplomatic moves gave Washington planners the image of an intransigent bear, surly about having to move from lands it had occupied after victories in the war.

Soviet pressure on Iran and Turkey led to U.S. President Harry Truman's decision to dispatch an aircraft carrier to Istanbul.

When Canadian authorities exposed a Soviet spy ring, evidence came in of Soviet looting in Manchuria, and U.S. and Soviet diplomats made no headway on a post-war settlement of the German question, Washington had had enough.

In vain, apologists for Soviet behavior pointed out the almost pathological Russian fear of outsiders and mistrust of Western intentions. The fact that invaders that raped Mother Russia 14 times since 1800, and 20 million Soviet citizens and soldiers died in World War II, was all counterbalanced in most Western minds by Soviet intransigence and their foreign minister Molotov's blustering.

On March 5, 1946, Truman shared the stage in Fulton, Missouri, as Winston Churchill delivered his "Iron Curtain" speech (a keen analysis of Soviet intentions). "I do not believe that Soviet Russia desires

Are we seeing a new era of peace?

war. What they desire are the fruits of war and the indefinite expansion of their power and doctrine."

The United States, it has been argued, almost had to intervene in Korea when North Korean troops launched an invasion against the American-supported regime in South Korea.

The precedent of unopposed communist forces pouring over the border of a divided country sent chills throughout the world. Securing South Korea's borders was an understandable American war aim, but the fateful push across the 38th parallel into the communist North was not.

The seeming success of limited war doctrines in Korea convinced U.S. advocates of intervention in

South Vietnam that success could be achieved through graduated escalation.

Meanwhile, the Bear was taking advantage of the Eagle's Vietnam debacle. In 1971, at the Strategic Arms Limitation Talks (SALT), Washington accepted a bare 3-2 Soviet lead in intercontinental ballistic missiles. By 1974, the United States possessed only half the destructive power of the Soviet Union.

The Watergate Affair, the induction of three Presidents from 1974 to 1977 and a mood of narcissism characterizing the "Me Decade" of the 1970s — all of this distracted many westerners from the new, and ostensibly defensive, Soviet military buildup.

Then came December 1979, when the Bear moved south: The Red Army invaded Afghanistan (an event to prove economically disastrous for the Soviet Union).

Detente died as President Jimmy Carter implemented a military buildup that mushroomed dramatically under the Ronald Reagan administration. More than one-trillion dollars poured into the U.S. military budget in the early 1980s.

Meanwhile, storm warnings emanated from Western Europe: the continent was becoming disillusioned with both the Eagle and the Bear.

Cracks in NATO were evident in 1982 and 1983 as the United States installed short-range rockets to counter Soviet SS-20 missiles. Enormous Western-European peace rallies had a distinctly anti-American tinge.

"Euronuclearism" was in the air. The continent, awash in painful re-triggered memories of World War II,

rejected its role as meat in the nuclear sandwich.

The anti-American rallies and protests of the early 1980s were followed by 1989's anti-communist demonstrations in Budapest, Prague and Bucharest. The Eagle and the Bear seemed to stand on the sidelines transfixed.

So what is next? Are we seeing a new era of peace?

One perceptive but unoptimistic European prime minister observed: "When the ice breaks up, it can be very dangerous."

The duel between the Eagle and the Bear helped bring about the unity of Europe. But can such unity resolve superpower differences?

Tragically, any economic storms among the United States, the European Community (EC), Japan and lesser powers are simply clouds compared to the geopolitical storms ahead.



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COLUMN

The dissent of (wo)man

by Sue Pennypacker

Upon the inception of this column, I should have set out my goals, and my idea of feminism. I decided instead, and perhaps foolishly, to begin with a general overview of some of the issues facing women today.

I want to present the York community with an alternate perspective, a second look at the issues which we all face as members of this community and our society as a whole. To me, the title of this column is a reflection of my desire to examine society from a feminist point of view.

Any criticism of this column's title is well taken. I must respect the opinions of various women's organizations on campus; not only because of their significant contribution to the position of women on campus, but because we are working towards the same goals. I feel, however, that I must explain what the title means to me.

First, the title of this column is a play on the work of Charles Darwin — *The Descent of Man*. The word descent is exchanged for a word with

a different spelling and meaning. In addition, the letters "Wo" are added to the word "man," in order to create the word woman, and to correct Darwin's neglect of women. I found it ironic that in a title dealing with the evolution of human beings, Darwin failed to include women. Although gender neutral terms were not considered during this period of time, the term human did exist.

While the literal meaning of the column's title does not deal with the descent of women, a phonetic sounding-out of the title indicates an awareness of women's growth in our society.

The separation of the letters (Wo) from the word man was also done on purpose. When writing, I use parentheses to further explain and emphasize an idea. While I can understand the reasoning behind the criticism that parentheses around the letters "Wo" marginalizes women, this is not the intention of the parentheses. In fact, the intended meaning is exactly opposite to this interpretation. Instead, the parentheses are meant to emphasize, and criticize the fact that the word man is often used (incorrectly) to mean

human or person.

Read literally, the title means two things. It suggests that feminists (who are generally — but not always — women) reject a patriarchal society and world view. A feminist perspective examines society in a different way. This perspective dissents from the phallogocentric view which dominates our values and beliefs.

On the other hand, the title can also mean that the male perspective ignores the female experience. The position of women is often trivialized and rejected either tacitly or openly by our society. Essentially, the two words are separated by parentheses to emphasize the struggle between feminism and patriarchy.

Perhaps, while reading this column, you are saying to yourself, "Yeah right, four (or five if you count woman and man) words doesn't mean all this!"

You must realize, however, that a small phrase can have many meanings. I feel that the title of this column (on careful reading — using my interpretation of course) accurately portrays my goals and perspective. This does not mean, however, that I am not open to change.

Bold predictions for 1991

by Brett Gellert

It's my job to keep the public well informed. I know most of you don't believe that. I don't take it very seriously myself, but what the hell.

The best way to understand current events is to know about them before they happen. So I sat down, and with the aid of several litres of Renegade Beer (an attempt at beer that a friend brought back with him from Lakehead University) I made a few predictions. For those of you who are slightly interested: Renegade Beer closely resembles the stuff that they use to fix pot holes, but it isn't too bad if you mix it with enough Bacardi Rum.

Anyway, here are the predictions: — The big news on the political front is the tragic death of George Bush. Anyone who remembers the ex-President's tough personal stand against eating broccoli (absolutely true) will be surprised at his ironic death. "The president died while eating a salad. He is believed to have choked on a piece of broccoli," a political aid will tell a press room full of reporters, tears rolling down his cheeks.

— President-elect Dan Quayle immediately creates a bill declaring broccoli a lethal weapon and tries to gain popularity by showing that he can pat his head and rub his stomach at the same time.

— On the Canadian political scene, Joe Clark in a rare moment of comic spontaneity during a House Of Commons vote declares that his name is Chuck Q. Farley.

— Prime Minister Mulroney creates a new food tax that will help to fight off the recession. Mulroney claims Canadians will be much better off in the long run. Three weeks later, during a visit to a shopping mall, the PM is found buried under a mound of rib roasts, bananas, and non-dairy creamers. A mob of cheering shoppers say, with a great deal of sincerity, that they have "no idea about what could have happened, honest."

— People in Ontario are stunned to learn that Premier Bob Rae's nickname in high school was "Boner."

— Margaret Thatcher steps from the political ring to the boxing ring. The "Iron Lady" defeats Holyfield in the first round. She later claims that her arms feel good and that she is bulking up to take on the now 600 lbs. heavy George Foreman.

— Dan Quayle in an effort to



change the image of the United States changes his country's name to "Happy Land."

— On the sexual front. All men claiming Sexual Performance Anxiety from wearing condoms are vindicated in the eyes of their snickering lovers when a group of researchers prove that latex causes impotence.

— Madonna in an attempt to revitalize her image makes an appearance on Sesame Street — Big Bird is found several days later wearing a torpedo bra and making lude comments to a bunch of sailors.

— Sly Stallone in an effort to give

his career more momentum claims he is getting back to the basics of movie making. His new movie, shot in black and white and with no sound, features an ex-boxer who becomes a soldier of fortune.

— Arsenio Hall is beaten to a pulp by Sean Penn after Hall keeps patting Penn on the back saying, "I love your work, man."

— Sean Penn is immediately called in to put a stop to Roseanne Barr and Tom Arnold's repulsive campaign to show they are just "regular folks." After Penn is beaten to a pulp by Barr, network executives put in a call to Margaret Thatcher.

— Last but not least. A change in the vocabulary of Canadians helps to show our strong national identity around the world. Due to a severe dislike of Finance Minister Michael Wilson, the phrase "kicked in the testicles" (or the near equivalent) becomes "kicked in the Wilsons."

Casino Nite

To help kick off the new year, York's business students are putting together the 4th annual Casino Nite with missing children in mind.

As in previous years, proceeds from Casino Nite will be donated to charity.

This year, the undergraduate and graduate business councils decided to help an organization that had not been given much attention before — Child Find.

Child Find is an organization that searches for missing children through investigation and networking with municipalities.

Missing children is a rapidly growing problem in Canada. Most recently was the case of Toronto's Andrea Atkinson.

It is in the hope that the proceeds from Casino Nite will help recover missing children before tragedies, such as Andrea's, occur.

Casino Nite '91 is hoped to attract some 300 students, and generate substantial funds needed for Child Find.

In past years, the event has been a successful charity fundraiser. This can be attributed to the fact that casinos are pretty scarce (controlled by provincial law). In fact, there is only one year-round casino in Canada — in Winnipeg, Manitoba.

York's Casino Nite is a unique and pleasant change to regular social events.

Students will be able to try their luck at one of 20 Blackjack tables, or take a chance on a spin of the Wheel of Fortune, including horse races, crown & anchor, and more.

Music, cash bar, food items, and hundreds of people will also be on hand.

With inflation and GST burdens, the Councils decided to give students a break by maintaining past years' admission fee of \$5 and giving them \$2 worth in gambling chips. Door prizes will also be awarded.

Casino Nite '91 will be held at Bethune Dining Hall on Thursday, January 31 from 8 pm - 1 am.



The Toronto Art Therapy Institute and the Institute for Arts and Human Development at the Lesley College Graduate School in Cambridge Mass. have completed arrangements for a co-operative program of studies leading to a masters degree in the expressive arts therapies. Students and graduates of the Toronto Art Therapy Institute 2 year diploma program, are eligible to apply to the Lesley College Masters degree program in the Expressive Art Therapies where their graduate-level training at the Toronto Art Therapy Institute will be given credit as part of the Lesley Masters program.

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Official Languages Monitor* Program

Under a program funded by the Department of the Secretary of State of Canada, the Ministry of Education in conjunction with the Council of Ministers of Education, Canada, invites students to apply for the position of second-language monitors (French or English) for the academic year 1991-92.

Monitors (Part-time)

Official-language monitors must be full-time postsecondary students usually studying in a province other than their own. They will work between six and eight hours per week under the supervision of a second-language teacher. Some francophone monitors will be assigned to French schools outside Quebec. For eight months participation in the program, they will receive at least \$3,500 and one return trip between their home and the host province.

To be eligible for part-time monitor duties, students must have completed at least one year of postsecondary studies or will have completed such studies by the end of the 1990-91 academic year.

Monitors (Full-time)

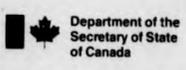
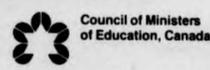
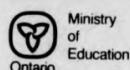
Full-time monitors must have completed at least one year of postsecondary studies. Duties consist of assisting second-language teachers (French or English) in rural or semi-urban areas usually in a province other than their own for 25 hours per week. Some francophone monitors will be assigned to French schools outside Quebec. Monitors will receive up to \$10,000 for 10 months of participation. They will also receive two return trips per year between their home province and the host province. They may also receive a settling-in allowance of up to \$770 and a maximum of \$1,110 for commuting expenses within the host province.

Application forms and program brochures may be obtained from placement offices in postsecondary institutions, or at the address below:

Manager, Monitor Program
Ministry of Education
Education Liaison and Exchange Branch
14th Floor, Mowat Block, Queen's Park
Toronto, Ontario
M7A 1L2

Duly completed application forms must arrive at the address indicated in the information package, postmarked no later than February 15, 1991. Qualified candidates will be required to attend an interview.

(*applies to men and women equally)





Behind Jacob's Ladder

by Stuart Irvine

Following up on 1990's high-grossing film, *Ghost*, Bruce Joel's screenplay for *Jacob's Ladder* is even more deserving of critical attention.

Jacob's Ladder tells the story of Jacob Singer, a postman and Vietnam vet who is experiencing bizarre hallucinations.

Jacob sees demons everywhere he goes, and as the events become even more terrifying, he starts doubting his sanity. Rather than give in to this "insanity", Jacob begins searching for an answer.

During this search, he comes across other vets from his platoon suffering from similar nightmarish hallucinations.

Jacob's Ladder was directed by Adrian Lyne, who has made a killing with "style over substance" films in his career (namely *Flashdance* and *9 1/2 Weeks*.)

With *Fatal Attraction* Lyne suggested to the movie-going world that he would be leaving that brand of filmmaking to those who do it well, like Tony (Revenge, *Days of Thunder*) Scott.

Jacob's Ladder has made Lyne's separation complete. It is a multi-textured psychological thriller that begs its audience to pay attention. Movies that expect the audience to think are few and far between and it's an added pleasure when one of those movies is this good.

As Jacob Singer, Tim Robbins gives a tough yet tender performance, one that Adrian Lyne needed for the film.

"He's got huge vulnerability and intelligence," Lyne explained. "And he brings a certain lightness to the part, which provides a balance to the darkness of the piece."

Robbins, best known for his comic roles in *Bull Durham*, *Erik the Viking*, and this summer's clunker *Cadillac Man*, jumped at the chance to play the beleaguered Jacob.

"Emotionally, physically and psychologically it was the most demanding role I've ever played," Robbins said. "The movie is about his escape from his personal heart of darkness and the effort to transcend this terrifying experience. It's a psychological thriller of a kind that I don't think we've ever seen."





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ARTS

"Emotionally, physically and psychologically it was the most demanding role I've ever played"

Elizabeth Pena is just as impressive as Jacob's girlfriend Jezz. She displays a remarkable ability to change her emotions almost instantly. At one moment she sympathizes with Jacob's plight, but then changes her disposition to toughen up Jacob and make him fight harder.

With *Jacob's Ladder*, Pena easily makes the jump from her smaller roles in *Batteries Not Included* and *La Bamba* to leading lady status.

Danny Aiello has a small but effective role as Louis, Jacob's chiropractor and friend. Aiello once again exhibits the likable tough guy image that he's been known for in films like *Moonstruck* and *Do The Right Thing*.

"He's an angelic character," said Aiello of Louis. "He loves Jacob like a son. He helps Jacob see the light by giving him information that makes his life easier to accept."

On the other side of the camera, Adrian Lyne was trying to prove that he should be taken seriously. He chose the right film to demonstrate his intentions.

Following the success of *Fatal Attraction*, Lyne was given the opportunity to make whatever film he wanted. *Jacob's Ladder* was gaining recognition in Hollywood as one of the best unproduced screenplays around. Adrian Lyne was sent the script and after reading it he knew he wanted to make it.

Lyne took the script to Paramount and following studio head Ned Tanen's approval, *Jacob's Ladder* was given the green light.

As is so often the case with studio heads, Tanen switched studios and the new Paramount regime was not as enthusiastic about *Jacob*. Enter Carolco Pictures.

After bringing the script to Carolco, *Jacob's Ladder* was once again given approval to start production. At the same time however, Adrian Lyne was given the opportunity to direct the newly released *Bonfire of the Vanities* with a powerhouse cast that includes Tom Hanks, Bruce Willis, and Melanie Griffith.

Despite the temptation, Lyne stuck with *Jacob's* bizarre subject matter and little known cast. Bruce Rubin's script made the decision for him.

One major problem for Adrian Lyne during the shooting of *Jacob's*

Ladder was how to represent Jacob's hallucinations on the screen.

Not being a tremendous admirer of slimy special effects make-up, Lyne decided to take the bold step of setting up Jacob's horrific images to be filmed directly in front of the camera.

Lyne explained that he had interviewed many special effects companies including ILM (George Lucas' company) and discovered that with every one of those companies, one technician would do the same effect for every film he was currently working on. This meant that as many as five or more different films would have very similar looking special effects. What Lyne wanted would have to have an original look to it.

One major inspiration for the special effects in *Jacob's Ladder* was artist Francis Bacon. His terrifying paintings usually featured blurred figures with a streak of red through them suggesting they were ripped apart or bleeding.

This chaotic effect inspired Lyne who believed that to terrify the audience he would have to leave a lot to the imagination.

"I think this sort of thing works best if you only get a glimpse of it," Lyne said. "Your imagination has to fill in the rest. You should always see

it for just a beat less than you want to."

In their bizarre way, Lyne's effects remain faithful to those of Francis Bacon.

Adrian Lyne currently has several movie projects in the works. One of which is another adaptation of Nabakov's *Lolita*, which was previously filmed in 1962 by Stanley Kubrick.

Even though a great admirer of Kubrick's, Lyne nevertheless felt that he hadn't really dealt with the book well enough.

Certain to be another change in Lyne's version will be the character of Humbert Humbert.

"James Mason's Humbert was too much of a scumbag," Lyne said.

One aspect of *Jacob's Ladder* which will linger long after the film is over is the ending.

As I was walking out of the theatre I noticed that some people enjoyed the ending, while others felt ripped off. My friends and I also felt the need to exchange notes on the ending. But it kept lingering. We kept talking about it.

I'm sure that's what Adrian Lyne and Bruce Rubin expected. They made the film so that it would affect people. It certainly accomplished that.



LOOK HERE: Director Adrian Lyne discusses a scene with Tim Robbins in *Jacob's Ladder*

Bashu, the Little Stranger is worth your time and money

by Dave Weissman
Bashu, the Little Stranger
(Film Company)

Braham Beizal's *Bashu, the Little Stranger* is the touching story of a young orphan's struggle for acceptance and understanding from a woman and her two children, and how they both overcome suspicion and language barriers to win a place in each other's hearts.

In the vivid and horrifying opening sequence, Bashu's village is the target of a bombing.

Stumbling through the haze and smoke of destruction, the 10-year-old boy sees his home destroyed and his father and mother killed.

Making his way to a truck, he stows safely away until he is north (the rice-growing district) of Iran. There he meets up with a small family (minus a father who is job-hunting), and gradually earns the

love and respect from the mother and her two children.

What makes *Bashu* a poignant film is that it draws attention to the problems of the human condition in all of us and our inability to overcome our distrust and prejudices of others in order to gain a better understanding of one another.

The adults in the film seem to have more difficulty with this problem than the children, who are seen easily making up with Bashu after a fight while their parents continue to argue amongst themselves.

The beautiful Nai (played by Susan Taslimi) encounters the same problem with the hardened and narrow-minded villagers, who are constantly urging her not to waste her limited food supply feeding a non-trustworthy, black boy.

The quiet irony is that their bigotry and indifference to Bashu only strengthens Nai's love and devotion for him.

When Bashu (Adnan Atravian) first meets Nai, he's wild and afraid. But Nai feeds him, locks him in the barn, and then sets out to tame him, by seeking a common language with which to communicate.

Later, when Bashu reads a hidden letter from Nai's husband expressing doubts about Bashu's acceptance into the family he runs away from the house in tears.

The villagers tell a despondent Nai that it's all the better that he's gone. But this only strengthens her resolve to find him in a violent rainstorm.

She finds him, she becomes ill and is unable to take care of her home. Bashu, who has carefully watched her performing her tasks assumes her role and nurses her back to health.

The story of *Bashu* is simple because life on this scale is simple, but the complex relationship between Bashu and Nai along with a timeless theme makes *Bashu the Little Stranger* a film worth seeing.

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AURAL SECTION

Boys From Nowhere are going nowhere

by Bruce Adamson

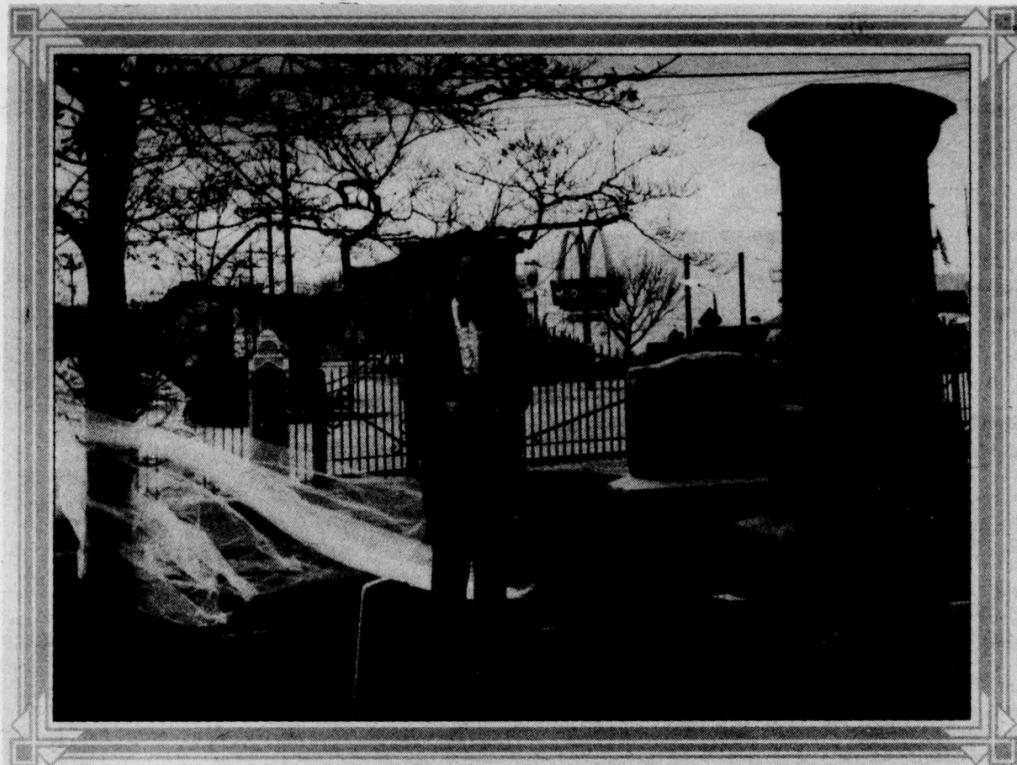
Boys From Nowhere
The Bridal Album
SkyClad Records

Since I'm press-kitless on this I'll assume that these guys are actually from Nowhereland. After checking out their current release, *The Bridal Album*, I sincerely hope that they go back and stay there for good, or at least wait until the remaining members of the Beatles decide to make their next film, "Sgt. Pepper Meets the Boys From Nowhere and Teaches Them How To Write A Song Fit For Human Ears."

What more can I say about this dross? The singing is inconsistent, the songs are bad, and the record itself sounds like it was recorded in a shoebox with tin cans for mikes and twine for cable.

Singer/guitarist/writer Mick Divvens, is a performer whose talent is, to be polite, "underdeveloped." At his absolute, complete and utter best he sounds a wee bit like Glenn Danzig; however, the remaining 99.9 per cent of his offering is poor.

Divvens' guitar playing has no saving graces whatsoever and actually verges on disintegration



during the acoustic vamp on "All Tied Up." And the songwriting! Forget it.

The question here is not one of

taste but of quality.

The Bridal Album is poorly conceived, inadequately recorded and ineptly performed. In short, it is

amateur in the very worst way and is the type of crap which gives hard rock a bad name. Sgt. Pepper, where are you?

The Fall

by Paul Meiorin

The Fall
458489 A Sides
Vertigo/Polygram Records

It seems a surprise to see a new Fall (not the season) release so soon after their last record *Extricate*.

Could it be that like Led Zeppelin whose fans already have their Robert Plant wristwatches and their Jimmy Page guitar phones The Fall also have to fulfill a demand for a new record package? This record title *458489 A Sides* is a rather roundabout way of stating that it is a compilation of The Fall's singles between the years 1984 and 1989.

Similar to the original records from which they have been lifted, these songs are difficult to criticize.

Over the thirteen years that The Fall have been toiling they have developed a loyal following. They have also placed their music in a category where it can be judged best on its own merits. The Fall seem to have a knack for unconventionality which makes it unfair to compare them to bands that conform to radio airplay guidelines.

The most familiar tracks to those devotees of 'alternative' music can be found on side two.

When "Hit the North," the first track on the second side was released in 1987, it actually received moderate airplay in those 'alternative' circles. It remains a Fall classic.

Great to listen to when looking at the autumn colours, "Victoria" is an old Kinks standard nicely reworked.

"Big New Prinz," is another strong song which was originally released on the *I Am Curious Orange* soundtrack to a ballet which The Fall were involved with. They played along with the live theatre performance.

Side one, keeps the listener continuously entertained with the aforementioned knack for the unconventional. "Cruisers Creek" and "L.A." exemplify this.

The compilation certainly provides a memory jog for The Fall fan who hasn't been through his/her old catalogue of Fall records recently.

It is a must for anyone you know who already has the Led Zeppelin chronology!

This package of singles from The Fall is a practical way to become acquainted with them. The only practical advice would be to call it *A New Listener's Aid*.

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ARTS

Jazzers make beautiful music together

by Trevor Campbell
Bluesiana
A&M Records

When I first heard the term "New Age" Music and learned of its low-key style, I immediately rejected it.

My denial of the New Age experience was not based on insight gained through hours of listening. I simply concluded that it was another fad for urban professionals to indulge in. I sensed that this ambitious generation, growing weary of their race for the brass ring, now needed to slow down.

I pictured people dressed in earth coloured sarongs sitting crossed-legged in their candle-lit living rooms, sipping herbal drinks and talking in hushed tones. Incense would permeate air that barely moved with the resonance of the pastoral waves created by this non-threatening music.

It made sense that after a day of high powered business dealings, that these people would need to slow down to an easier pace.

I prefer a balance of loud and soft tones as opposed to the monotonous tranquility favored by some "boo-

mers" of the present age. Be it jazz, hip-hop, or classical, I like dynamic music because of the varied moods it produces.

Give me a trumpeter's loud burst of notes racing up a scale that can go no further; the music extending itself into a tight mix that needs the release of a screaming crescendo that trails off into a low lament.

As I understand it, New Age music refuses this dynamism and instead prefers the middle-range where it can float, neither on nor above ground, neither in front nor behind real objects.

This music is an aural decoration meant to aid relaxation and designed to ease the listener into green pastures and azure skies.

I have not listened to much of this Zen-spirituality-captured-on-vinyl, but I am familiar with Zamfir, who was New Age during the Old Age. Assuming that the late seventies, early eighties, when Zamfir first gained prominence, was the Old Age.

For me, Zamfir represents a person who perhaps, at one time, was

employed in the relaxation tape business. He probably dabbled with his flute before realizing the similarities between the sound of his instrument and the sound of the summer breezes, often used on relaxation tapes.

Being smart and having access to the leisure-recording studios, he produced his first album, became a success, and waited for the New Age.

This theory brings me to the *Bluesiana Triangle*, a new album by the late Art Blakey, Dr. John, and David "Fathead" Newman, three musicians versed within the dynamic styles of jazz and blues.

Surprisingly this collection has very little to do with jazz and blues but instead approaches the muted tones of New Age music.

Each song floats along at a cut-time pace that rarely changes tempo. However, to my astonishment, these songs possess a strength that I never imagined could even remotely be associated with this genre.

Granted, Blakey et al are jazzers and bluesman first, and therefore I

could argue that *Bluesiana Triangle* is simply a laid-back collection mannered within these two styles. However once I heard the uninspired vocals on "Shoo Fly," and felt myself fading into conscious limbo, I knew that these three musicians had crossed-over.

Fortunately they have not compromised their past preferences but have instead infused the energy of jazz and the emotion of blues into their album. Thus creating a hybrid that produces pastoral images where a gusting wind occasionally rustles the grass.

They have achieved this blend by reducing the music's dynamic range while maintaining the tension and release present within their usual idioms.

After all, the root of "Bluesiana" is blues, a music style known to use redundant laments and low-keyed progressions.

Due to its emotive qualities, I could never criticize blues for being background fodder. Listening to good blues is like listening to a friend tell me an unfortunate story. By

empathizing with the storyteller I feel connected with them, I feel like I am helping them and therefore I feel good about myself.

Although *Bluesiana Triangle's* pace is consistent, the musical styles are not. This album moves from New Age, to folk, to progressive jazz with an ease reminiscent of Elton John's 1976, album *Blue Moves*. An album that also fluctuates between the twang of country music and the "cool" progressions of night-club jazz.

Indeed the "Blue" in both album's titles definitely alludes to the Afro/Anglo-American influences found in most contemporary North-American music.

Perhaps, because of the turmoil caused by the mixture of styles, this fusion of genres demands vibrant sounds. Either way, *Bluesiana Triangle* has made me re-evaluate my feelings about New Age music by challenging me to listen more sensitively. So with my ears opened wide, I am off in search of narrow dynamic ranges which might possess the energy that I previously missed.

Dark film uses comedy to avoid dramatic overkill

by Kim Yu

Cyrano De Bergerac
directed by Jean-Paul Rappeneau
produced by Hachette Premiere et Cie

Jean-Paul Rappeneau's *Cyrano De Bergerac*, starring Gerard Depardieu in the title role, is a dark and somber film.

The story is naturally familiar to all who endure the pangs of unrequited love. Cyrano, in love with his beautiful cousin, Roxanne (Anne Brochet), cannot bring himself to express this sentiment, especially after she reveals her secret adoration for Christian, (Vincent Perez), a Gascon under his command. Instead, in some masochistic twist, he convinces Christian to allow him to write letters of love for the inarticulate soldier.

Rappeneau, along with co-writer Jean-Claude Carriere, manages to inject humour into what would appear to be a tragic story. Winner of the Best Actor Award at Cannes last year, Depardieu gives a brilliant performance as the poetic swordsman with the slightly oversized proboscis. Playing on the audience's sympathies, he manages to convey noble suffering without becoming too melodramatic or sappy.

Perez is wonderful as the inept Christian whose limited eloquence amounts to repetitions of "I love you" and "I love you a lot." Brochet is also convincing as the delicate damsel who swoons with the slightest poetic provocation.

Cyrano De Bergerac features grand battle scenes and impressive cinematography. It was shot on location in France and Hungary, with over 2,000 extras. The death scene is a little long, but, then again, perhaps that is the challenge for a true thespian or film, lover.

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SPORTS



Beat those basketball blues

by Mike Raycraft

Perhaps there is nothing better for York teams than a clash with their cross-town rivals UofT.

Tuesday evening the tradition continues when the Varsity Blues travel north to Tait McKenzie to battle York in a basketball double-header starting at 6pm.

For coach Bill Pangos and his 1-1 Yeowomen, the match with UofT should provide some special incentive for both teams.

"This game will be emotional" Pangos said. "I'm sure UofT is ready to come back and avenge last year's loss. It is our first league game at home and our players, as I am, are looking forward to it."

Yet York will have to rely on more than free-flowing adrenalin if they plan to topple the Blues, ranked 7th in the nation.

"We will have to be on top of our game for the full 40-minutes. A let-down of any kind will allow . . . UofT to take advantage," Pangos said.

Part of the Yeowomen game plan

is to try to contain 6'4" UofT sensation Denise Scott.

"We are going to have to nullify her size advantage by . . . forcing her to take the outside shot," said Pangos.

But with or without Scott the Blues are a much better team than last year and York will have to do more than concentrate on one player.

"We are going to try to keep them off balance by throwing different defensive set-ups at them," Pangos said.

But the Yeowomen will still be looking to the likes of Cathy Mara and Jennifer Cushing for big games.

Pangos also added that a home win against their arch-rivals would give his players some much-needed confidence for the stretch drive.

As for the Yeomen, coach Bob Bain is downplaying York's battle with UofT.

"Although it is a rivalry and the players see it as such, it is just another game and what really matters is what gets added to the W or L columns," Bain said.

Don't get the idea however that

Bain and his squad will be taking the Blues lightly.

With a 1-2 record there is no need for the Yeomen to take any team lightly, especially when the York unit maintains play-off aspirations.

Bain, in his 17th year with the Yeomen, knows better than anyone that the road to success will pass through the Blues.

Yet, according to Bain, for their match against the Blues, York isn't hiding any special game plan.

"Versus UofT we will be just trying to do what we do best and that is to play a fundamentally sound style of basketball," Bain said.

Led by the likes of Mark Bellai and Clive Anderson, who are averaging 20.3 and 21.6 points per game respectively, this year's edition of Yeoman basketball has the potential to go far this season.

Despite things like game experience and quickness which must still be ironed out, Bain feels optimistic.

"This is a tightly-knit group who are focussed and determined," Bain said. "I'm very proud of their work ethic and in the long run we are going to be a better team for it."

Men's hockey team stuck in Christmas-time funk — thrashed in 2 tourneys

by Josh Rubin

For a team that's always near the top of the league, the hockey Yeomen sure have been taking a beating lately.

After a Christmas tournament in Winnipeg which included a 12-1 drubbing by Manitoba, the Yeomen had hoped to find success closer to home.

Taking part in the Duracell Challenge at UofT, the Yeomen were up against some tough but beatable competition.

But in what has become a familiar litany of woes for York fans this season, shoddy defensive play and lacklustre effort gave the Yeomen a sixth place finish in the eight team field.

The Yeomen were 1 and 2 against OUAAs rivals during the UofT tournament, with their only win coming against the hapless Queen's Golden Gaels.

In their opening matchup with Laurier, the Yeomen surrendered four goals in the first period alone, before settling down, dropping the game 5-1.

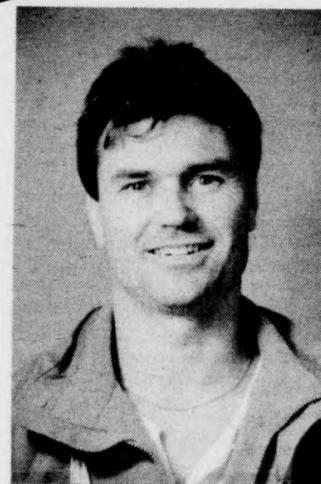
Next up for the Yeomen was the vastly overmatched Queen's squad which was battered mercilessly by the bigger York forwards.

Despite winning the game 8-4, the Yeomen still weren't pleased at giving up four goals against their Kingston rivals.

After his team closed out the tourney with a 6-4 loss to Waterloo, a frustrated Graham Wise suggested that motivation can be difficult.

"But as a coach, you've gotta get them up," Wise said.

Rookie defender Steve Catney also seemed frustrated by the Yeomen's problems.



WHY THE SMILE?: Maybe York Yeoman hockey coach Graham Wise knows something we don't.

"We've got to get into the game for the full 60 minutes," said Catney.

One of the few bright spots for the Yeomen was the new trio of Brian Macdonald, Jimmy Dean and Luciano Fagioli, which notched eight points against Queen's alone.

While the Yeomen historically haven't been a tournament team, their lapses at UofT are worryingly similar to the ones they have been facing all season long.

But three games against weaker opponents should provide the Yeomen with ample opportunity to prepare for a tough four game stretch which sees them take on Western, Windsor, UQTR and McGill.

The Yeomen's next home game is part of that stretch, a 7:30 start against UQTR February 1.

York Varsity Results Dec. 28 - Jan. 6

Women's Athletics

BASKETBALL

January 4 at Carlton
York 85 - Carlton 38
January 5 at Ottawa
Ottawa 45 - York 43

Men's Athletics

BASKETBALL

Nike Excalibur Classic Dec. 28-30

Championship Final:
UBC 84 - Brandon 78

Consolation Semifinal:
Ottawa 73 - York 72

LEAGUE GAMES

January 4 at Carlton
Carlton 97 - York 90
York's top scorers - Clive Anderson 32, Mark Bellai 30

January 5 at Ottawa
Ottawa 84 - York 79
York's top scorers - Clive Anderson 27, Mark Bellai 23

VOLLEYBALL

Mizuno Excalibur Classic
Jan. 4 - 6

Championship Final:
Calgary 3 - Laval 2

Seventh Place Match:
UBC 3 - York 2

WRESTLING

Montreal Open Jan. 5

York placed 6th
Scott Prokosh returned to action and placed 4th out of 11

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by Mary Cerisano

Aquarius (Jan.20-Feb.19)
If your advice is requested, demonstrate rather than explain.

Pisces (Feb.20-Mar.20)
An acquaintance may delve into matters that affect you and your friend. Politely tell this person to mind his/her own business.

Aries (Mar.21-Apr.19)
Just because you broke your New Year's Resolution doesn't mean you can't start over. The year is still young.

Taurus (Apr.20-May.20)
People won't appreciate your lectures; actions speak louder than words.

HORROR SCOPE

Gemini (May21-June20)
You're likely to be having doubts about a decision made earlier this month. It's alright to change your mind and set your nerves at ease.

Cancer (June21-July22)
If minor domestic problems are not properly handled today, things may get out of hand.

Leo (July 23-Aug.22)
Be sure to ask those you live with before you make any major domestic decisions.

Virgo (Aug.23-Sept.23)
You usually manage to balance your cheque book, but it may be time to review your finances and see if some expenses can be eliminated.

Libra (Sept.23-Oct.23)
Asking a favor of someone special may cost you more than its worth.

Scorpio (Oct.24-Nov.22)
There is no time like the present to improve friendships and finances.

Sagittarius (Nov.23-Dec.21)
"Positivity" is the way to be. Focus on being successful not on negative presumptions.

Capricorn (Dec.20-Jan.19)
You could find happiness in joint ventures. Analyze your involvements carefully.



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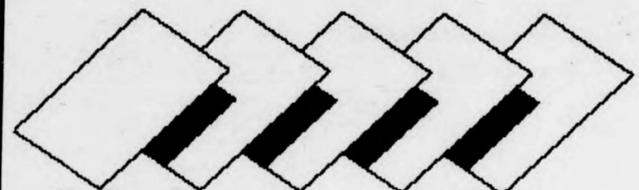
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PUB NIGHT

"GEE... WISH I COULD GROW A MOUSTACHE."



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