A complaint alleging unfair election practices has been made against president-elect Jean Ghomeshi, p.3

Excal's mascot election results in three casualties, p.7

Blue Steel
Jamie Lee
Curtis' new
movie is
disturbing
and sexist,
p. 12



THURSDAY, MARCH 15, 1990

16,000

VOLUME 24 ISSUE 35

CXCOIDUI

The view from the saddle

by John Andrews

ycling is Canada's fastest growing sport. Although almost every Canadian owns a bicycle, very few are familiar with the organization and specifics of cycling.

Canada has recently gained a lot of press in the cycling world due to 1984 Olympic silver medallist Steve Bauer, and such athletes as Alex Steida and Brian Walton. All of these racers are professionals, riding for the American based 7-Eleven team. Steve Bauer recently made headlines when he signed a three-year multimillion dollar deal. Although these three athletes can take some credit for cycling's growth in Canada, the real reasons seem to be positive advertising and the fitness craze.

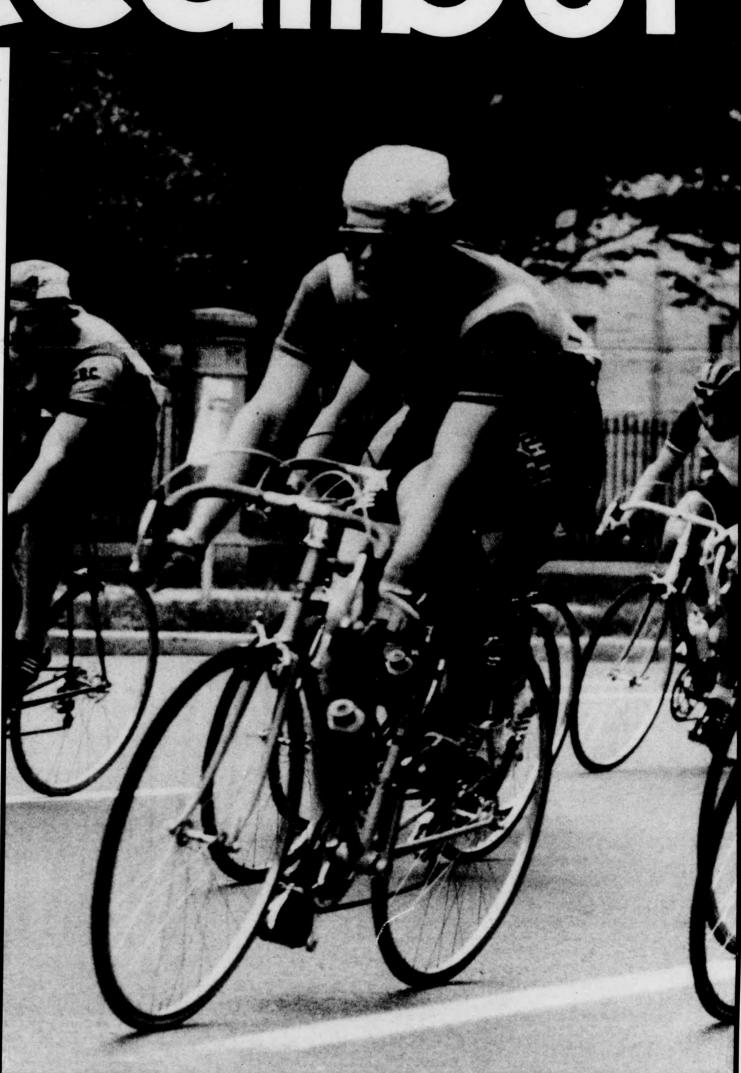
With so many different facets, cycling is an ideal sport to pursue. Many athletes begin cycling to help them training for their specific sport. while others take to it is a non-impact sport offering relatively injury-free training. Cycling offers the athlete overall strength and cardiovascular fitness. Contrary to popular belief, cycling does not just work the leg muscles; it is also good for your lower back, abdominal, shoulders, neck, arms and pectoral muscles. For someone looking for a complete workout without bulking up, this is the sport.

Racing in Ontario is fairly accessible and it is not that difficult for a dedicated rider to quickly move up to the top level. This is particularly true with women's racing, as the average turnout for a race is about 30 riders compared to the well over a hundred competitors in men's races.

Choosing the correct bicycle is the most important decision a budding cyclist will make. These days, one can spend well over \$4,000 dollars on a bike, so there is plenty of choice.

The first step is to decide what type of riding you want to do.

Whether it is racing, mountain biking, touring or commuting, you should cont'd on p. 8



FACULTY OF EDUCATION

Applying to the Faculty of Education's Concurrent Programme?

For applicants currently attending York University the deadline for the submission of the application package and all supporting documents is

MARCH 30, 1990

The following are the remaining dates available for applicants to complete the written exercise that is part of the application process:

Thursday, March 15 4:00 - 5:00 p.m. Curtis Lecture Hall D

Thursday, March 29 4:00 - 5:00 p.m.

Curtis Lecture Hall D

Wednesday, March 21 5:00 - 6:00 p.m. Stedman Lecture Hall F

Wednedsay, April 4 5:00 - 6:00 p.m. Stedman Lecture Hall F

Please attend the earliest session possible as space is limited. It is strongly recommended that you arrive <u>15 minutes</u> prior to the start time since we cannot accommodate more applicants than the lecture hall can hold.



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FACULTY AND STUDENTS

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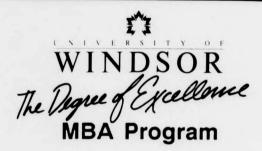
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HAVE YOU DROPPED OFF YOUR COLOUR PHOTOS FOR EXCALIBUR'S AMAZING PHOTO CONTEST YET?

THE DEADLINE IS MARCH 16 AT 3:00 PM.

Collins files complaint against Ghomeshi

word "vote," and the word

complaint has been filed with the Government Affairs Tribunal (GAT) against CYSF president-elect Jean Ghomeshi.
Ghomeshi won last week's

presidential elections by 258 votes with the largest voter turnout in York's history.

Kate Collins, who placed second in the elections, filed the complaint Friday. Collins alleges that Ghomeshi's campaign workers were seen wearing his campaign shirts and buttons, which were printed with the slogan, "Unite to fight for student's rights," on the election days. She also alleges that one of Ghomeshi's campaign workers walked through Central Square saying, "Unite to fight."

Collins states in her complaint that although the shirts



"vote" was not mentioned by the person moving through Central Square, this slogan constitutes advertising, which is not allowed on election days.

She also alleges that Ghomeshi's election expenses were closer to \$1.200 or \$1.300. Election regulations set a limit of \$1.000 per presidential candidate for expenses. She ob-

Generally, the

public doesn't

as a criminal

by Sally Johnston

of the problem.

regard tax cheating

offence. That's part

Cheating the taxman is fast

becoming a national pastime

which costs Canada \$4 billion a

One in four Canadians are dis-

honest when they fill out their

income tax forms, lying about the

amount they earn and the

The study was conducted by

justice experts at the University of

Toronto and York University. The

mail-in survey asked 260 residents

of Metro Toronto about their tax

behaviour. Thirty-three per cent

responded - not a high response,

but adequate, the researchers say.

They believe the findings are fairly

accurate, as they are similar to

results on tax cheating in large

studies in the United States and

who responded to the survey

admitted tax cheating in the past

five years. And they said they

However, 70 per cent said they

wouldn't cheat, even if they thou-

ght they could get away with it, as

it was the responsibility of good

citizens to pay taxes. The remain-

ing six per cent indicated they

might cheat if they knew they

could do so without being caught.

figures are not inaccurate; even

Revenue Canda says many Can-

adians are honest when it comes

to paying thier taxes, says Tony

Doob, a criminology professor at

The researchers believe these

knew others who do so too.

Twenty-four per cent of those

Great Britain

year, a study has found.

expenses they can deduct.

tained estimates from several different companies and alleges that he didn't pay fair market value for his shirts.

Everyone who ran for president had to sign a declaration stating they had read the parts of the CYSF constitution relating to elections, said Collins. "He would have known the absolute rules."

"Expenditures are the only logical thing to attack me on." said Ghomeshi. "I'm totally clean. The company that I went to [gave me] the same rates as they would give to anybody. There's no question that anybody could have gone to that place."

He said he was told that it was OK for people to wear his shirts and buttons on election day by chief returning officer Garry Choo. but he told people as soon as he could not to wear them. He says there are no rules in the constitution about buttons or sweatshirts.

Ghomeshi said that if it was wrong for people to wear these items. the poll clerks should

have gone out of their way to stop it.



He said he had 500 buttons made and by the end of the campaign period there were about 30 left. He said there is no way to control that many buttons after they are distributed and that he couldn't have stopped everyone from wearing them.

Collins said that as a candidate it is his responsibility to

follow the rules

She added that her goal with the complaint is not to change the election results. She said she wants people to realize the results don't reflect a fair campaign or election. "This could lead to an even less accountable CYSF than in previous years."

Many candidates broke the election rules, according to Ghomeshi. "There is evidence to show other presidential candidates at or near polling booths. Also, there was a vice-president on the present CYSF executive who was campaigning for a candidate."

Ron Kelly, another presidential candidate, said he saw a polling clerk let people rip off their own ballots in Calumet around 12:15 p.m. last Tuesday.

"There really is no place for these kinds of official complaints," said Ghomeshi. "In general terms, it was a big victory and we should just get on with it. With all respect to Kate, the students have voted for what they want."

Across Ontario

compiled by Donna Mason

Asbestos at Ryerson

Parts of a ceiling collapsed on the seventh floor of the Ryerson Business Building recently, exposing asbestos fibres. Leaky pipes and a weak ceiling appear to be the cause of the collapse. The ceiling and walls are water damaged, said Ron Lunn of the faculty of business and technical communications.

There were asbestos fibres on the floor and two large holes in the ceiling, said Anne Pettypiece, a business and communications professor. The faculty feels they are risking their lives working in the building. The air will be tested in the building this week.

There may be a link between the deaths of some Ryerson instructors and the asbestos in the building, said Pettypiece. She said four former Ryerson instructors have died of cancer after retirement.

from The Eyeopener, Ryerson

Solar Powered Car

Queen's University's Engineering Solar Team has received a \$38,000 grant from the Science Culture Canada Programme of Supply and Services Canada to supplement funding for its project, said Craig McMahon, the project manager.

The project includes designing and developing a solar powered racing vehicle for the World Solar Challenge, to be held in Australia in November. This international competition, from Darwin to Adelaide (3,000km), involves 35 university and corporate teams. The project began in May 1989 and is expected to be finished this May.

from *The Queen's Journal*,
Queen's University

1 in 4 Canadians lie about income tax

University of Toronto, one of the report's authors. He wrote the report with Neil Brooks, associate dean of law at Osgoode Hall law school.

Wealthy people and selfemployed businesspeople are the worst offenders, often inflating or even inventing expenses. Season tickets to hockey, for instance, become "entertaining clients."

These are the people who have the greatest opportunity to cheat because they assess and pay their own income tax, rather than having it deducted from their paycheques automatically, says Doob.

The majority of taxpayers — 15 million of the 17.5 million in Canada — have little opportunity to cheat even if they want to because their income tax is deducted by their employer, he says.

Failure to declare tips, interest earned on savings or investment earnings is another means of dodging income tax, the study revealed.

Cash earned from 'moonlighting' is also frequently hidden from the taxman, says Doob.

"Most workers feel they should pay tax on income from their regular job, but if they have a second job or earn extra on the side they see it in a different light," he says. "Moonlighting is seen as being outside the realm of proper taxation."

Undeclared income is seen as a less bad way of avoiding taxes than falsifying deductions, says Doob.

The study also found that tax cheats consider it worse to steal, vandalize or defraud a government programme of \$1,000 than to hold back the same amount in taxes.

At least part of the problem is that penalties for tax cheating are not tough enough, suggests the report.

So rarely does anyone go to jail in Canada for income tax evasion, it's almost a mystery why so many quietly hand over their taxes, says the report.

"From the perspective of deterrence, the more interesting question may be why anyone complies with the tax laws rather than why some do not," it says. One solution would be for financial institutions to take income tax off at source rather than depending on people to voluntarily declare it, suggests

It's only recently that banks have been required to supply Revenue Canada with information about interest-bearing accounts, says Doob.

"Income, such as profit on sale of a house that is not your primary residence, should be reported in the form of an information slip," he says. "But every time there is an additional attempt to automatically gather information on income people get upset. As you should be reporting it anyway, what's the problem?

Generally, the public doesn't regard tax cheating as a criminal offence. That's part of the problem.

The researchers plan to expand the survey to 2,000 taxpayers across Ontario in early 1990, to see whether Metro's tax cheating problem is shared by the rest of the province.

courtesy of Canadian Science
News.



Mr. M'Boob (York student Bruce Russell) tickles the ivories last week in DACARY Hall.

editorial

female film-maker perpetuates sexism

Last Thursday MGM/UA sent one of our arts editors to New York City to see the new movie *Blue Steel*. She was flown to New York along with about 40 reporters from the United States and Canada to see the film, have lunch and attend a press conference with star Jamie Lee Curtis and writer and director Kathryn Bigelow.

The movie is about a psychopath who becomes obsessed with a female police officer after he sees her shoot an armed robber.

It is a typical action film about a good cop and a crazed killer. The movie is filled with violence, death and disturbing imagery connecting violence with sex.

But what makes this film particularly disturbing is that the women who are the primary creative forces have left no distinguishing mark on it. Sexism and violence plague this film as much as in similar films made by men. The women have forfeited an opportunity to make an original comment about violence directed at women, guns and sex, women in the police force...

Bigelow said, during the press conference, that violence is "wonderful in the safe confines in a beautiful room." Curtis said, "There is a large audience who, in fact, totally enjoys, on a very positive level, this experience."

Feminism has been successful to the point where women are being taken seriously as writers and directors in Hollywood. Unfortunately the women involved with this film have appropriated an often used male formula. Curtis, according to the press kit, discovers her strength, but this strength is the ability to kill. She still does not have the inner strength to stop her father from beating up her mother.

Excalibur was told that this movie is aimed at "the university crowd." Canadian universities, however, have experienced enough real violence this year from the Montreal murders to the "No means harder" campaign at Queen's which incited violence. Although violence has not been prevalent at York, sexist fraternity posters still appear and there was a reluctance to give full funding to the Women's Centre.

Influential women in Hollywood have made a movie that values the ability to kill. And violence continues on university campuses. If women perpetuate sexism, how can we expect men to stop?



HEY ROSLYN!

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letters

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

Les Miz reviewer called elitist

Dear Editor:

I just re-read Darren Alexander's critique of *Les Miserables* (March 6). Nice article, Darren. Now, let me get this straight. (This might take awhile, as I'm an uncultured, unbuttered slice of whitebread.)

You object to the "exclusivity" of this stage production. Fine. However, your article almost implies that any non-white theatre patron would not be welcomed at Les Miserables. I'll need to ponder your critique again to make sure I didn't misread you.

You spend time attending theatrical "stuff dealing with contemporary issues and innovative ideas." I think that's great. Also, you've READ The Hunchback of Notre Dame — we applaud your literary pursuits. So, if I might continue your line of reasoning, a person who enjoys Les Miz couldn't possibly handle a real "serious" piece of theatre, nor could they be adept enough to read a classic that's easily available at the video store.

Now who's being elitist?

OK, you didn't like Les Miserables. Your crowd doesn't go for the mass audience stuff. Maybe it is exclusively for the well-off. Maybe it's a lot of things. But, maybe your article has forgotten what Les Miz really is: ENTERTAINMENT. (That's it.)

Should a person feel guilty for being white and having an enjoy-

able evening out? At least, I've heard it is an enjoyable evening out.

I hope you do succeed in your chosen art form. I hope everyone does. But maybe you can keep in mind that, although the rest of the world may not be as artistically in tune as you, the rest of the world doesn't want to be condescended to.

You're outraged? Renounce your whiteness to the world. Give all your possessions to charity. Don't generalize. Don't assume. Don't write until you can be objective, and understand what it is you're writing about. See another perspective.

P.S. I hope I havon't missed your assault on *Phantom of the Opera*.

Student wants \$ back; appalled by ad in *Excal*

Dear Editor:

I am writing this to point out a grave injustice that you have ignorantly allowed to take place. As a woman and a student, I am appalled at your decision to run the *Bad Influence* film ad. This ad objectifies and demeans women.

The woman in the ad is actress Lisa Zane, a player in the movie. She is not so much as given an identity or a credit. She is turned away from the reader so we only see her bare back. The men in the ad, however, are allowed identities and credits as the main male actors in the film, Rob Lowe and James Spader.

Understandably, ad revenue is vital to a newspaper. But for a newspaper that receives \$4 from each full-time undergraduate student (there are over 20,000 undergrads), I would think that you

could be a little more choosy of what ads you run.

Furthermore, the fact that the ad was run in the issue for International Woman's day coupled with an editorial titled "Sexism, Homophobia, Racism Run Rampant at York" only intensifies the ignorance you have displayed in running the ad. I paid \$4 for a newspaper I am appalled with. I'd like my money back please.

Signed Joy Sculnick 1st Year English Student

editorial does not mirror ad content

Dear Editor:

Your comments in the March 8 ism do not seem to mirror the content of the paper. You describe a frat poster depicting a woman with her hands over her head, a man's "much larger naked torso" behind her. I'm not disputing the fact that this is an example of sexism at York, courtesy of a fraternity on campus, which is the point of your argument, but on page 11 you discredit an otherwise wellconstructed editorial. It is an advertisement for the movie bad influence starring Rob Lowe and James Spader, depicting a naked woman in the arms of a supposedly concerned man.

I wonder if your editorial is well placed, because it appears to be just another example of the "bandwagon" effect in the current fratbashing. Don't misunderstand me, I am not, nor will I ever become a member of any fraternity. I wouldn't give them the time

cont'd on p. 5

cont'd from p. 4

of day, let alone see if I measure up to their qualifications. It seems that your editorial is just more rhetoric, and that in the interest of profit, you have allowed an advertiser to use an old technique to draw crowds - the allusion that sex is available for viewing.

Rob Pratt

Student inspired by man in a wheelchair

Dear Editor:

On March 6, 1990 I went to the Map Library where I very rarely study. I saw one of the most touching sights of my life. I witnessed a handsome young man. about my age - he was no more than 23 or 24 years old, sitting in a wheel chair. He was definitely a paraplegic with limited use of his arms. I sat there and pondered how unfair this fuck'n (pardon me) life has to be. He probably was once a muscular young man - able to do battle at the call of his nation, able to jump hurdles, able to walk along the shores of the most beautiful beaches, able to experience the joy of sex, and able to stand on his own two feet.

But no more. Fate has decided that he will spend the rest of his life confined to a wheel chair. He is unable to do battle if called upon by his country, unable to jump hurdles, unable to walk along the shores of the most beautiful beaches, unable to experience the joys of sex, and unable to stand on his own two

lask myself, why do I feel sorry for this young man? Should I feel sorry? Maybe I should just forget about him. Let him be.

Interestingly enough, he was reading a book entitled, The Man Made Mind.

George Rappos. **CYSF** 4th Year Arts correct in denying abortion

referendum

Re: "Council members "hypocrits" as they vote no to abortion referendum," March 6.

Hypocritical or not, for one reason or another, the CYSF may actually have acted correctly in denying the proposed abortion referendum. I feel the CYSF decision comes down to a matter of numbers and principle.

Maybe the OFS has something to gain by taking a stance on the abortion issue. Does York? And why the rush to align with the OFS suddenly?

Queen's University held a similar referendum. However Queen's has been well-documented as a blatantly sexist hotbed this year and considering the small, homogenous sample, the results may not be all that valid.

More importantly, while abortion may well be a student issue, Judith Pearson (who decidedly expressed the Women's Centre's overtly pro-choice stance) must be dreaming if she thinks that anywhere near to 40,000 York students are going to exercise their collective political voice in the near future. Look around you. Less than 10 per cent of the student population - the highest turnout ever - voted in the recent campus elections.

Even if a respectable polling were to take place, what kind of majority vote would it take to tip the balance and qualify as an

"official" stand? Fifty-one per cent? Ninety-eight per cent? And can the "losing" side of the decision be ignored? With such a violently dichotomous issue such as abortion, the answer is obviously

It is my sincerest hope that all parties concerned can come to some sort of appropriate decision on this issue - a decision that accurately reflects the feelings of the student body, if that is

Pamela Jarvis

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Presidential candidate reveals campaign dirt

Dear Editor

Manuel Noriega would have been proud of the recent Third World Experience at York called the CYSF general elections. Firstly, as the presidential candidate who came last, it is incorrect to call this letter a "sour grapes" reaction. This letter will point out the reasons this election will go down as one of the dirtiest in the CYSF history.

An election so mired in irregularities and inconsistencies was further plagued by Chief Returning Officer (CRO) Garry Choo who, had he even read the CYSF constitution, surely could not have grasped its meaning. This campaign saw flagrant and abusive violations of rules against postering in classrooms.

When I went to Choo to complain, the response was one which ranged from indifference to an invitation to follow suit and poster in these areas as well. WHERE WAS THE OFFICE OF STUDENT AFFAIRS???

It takes an average of two hours for student affairs and caretaking to rip down AIDS Awareness

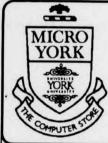
Week posters which are in the wrong places. This act is performed with furious delight and yet, posters belonging to presidential candidates Peter Merrick, Jean Ghomeshi and Ed Kim were on classroom walls for five days and nothing was being done.

On February 28, I called Norm Noddle at physical plant who assured me that all candidates would be dealt with. When I talked to student affairs, I was told that the fines would be \$50 each. This is bullshit. York students can now expect to see hundreds of AIDS Awareness Week posters gracing the walls of York classrooms everywhere, since a low fine will not deter me in the future either. Strike one.

Secondly, how can an election be considered fair when the CRO waits for such a long period of time before acting on complaints? I launched a complaint against Kim because one of his posters appeared in the Bethune display case in Central Square. The Government Affairs Tribunal (GAT) dismissed the complaint, yet I have not received anything in writing from them. Certainly, it can be said that the CRO is consistent in his failure to investigate complaints and enforce the rules. Strike two.

Thirdly, when Choo was informed by myself and others that Kim's posters were adorning the bookstore windows adjacent to the ceilings, I was told to (a) forget about it or (b) remove them myself. It is illegal under the CYSF rules to remove posters of

cont'd on p. 6



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Anti-semitism: an insidious disease

What is really being denied to them is purely and simply the right to exist.

by Walid Abdul-Massih

s the post-World War II honeymoon with the Jews over? This is the question that Jewish communities around the world are asking today with increasing frequency.

For most of the nearly 50 years since the end of the war, and especially since the Allied liberation of the Nazi concentration camps and the world recognition of the enormity of the crimes committed there by a "civilized" state, anti-semitism - the defamation, subjugation and persecution of Jews as Jews — was swiftly condemned wherever and whe-

never it appeared. Anti-semitism is an insidious disease. It can linger in the body politic almost invisibly for years without erupting

The Human Condition

Excalibur offers its space for submissions which promote a better understanding between people. We will accept typed, double-spaced copy up to 500

The topic of lesbianism is certainly one that people shy away from in the presence of others. It is a lifestyle that people are curious about for one reason or another, yet will not admit to for fear of accusation and isolation. I am not writing this to request that a tear be shed for every lesbian who has ever been subjected to discrimination. Instead, my purpose in writing this is to shed some light on lesbianism - not from the viewpoint of a professor, a tutorial leader or a textbook, but rather a genuine lesbian.

As the end of my first year at York draws to a close, it remains evident that many students are ignorant, close minded, defensive or simply out of touch with reality. Believe it or not kids, lesbians are everywhere. I am a lesbian. I do not hate men, I do not shave my head, I am not a victim of sexual assault or tragedy, I am not a phys ed major, I cannot stand hairy legs or armpits and my wardrobe does not contain one piece of leather - with the exception of my penny loafers. Furthermore, I cannot be described as androgynous. Being a lesbian is not a "waste" of my attractiveness or feminine qualities. I do not fit into

any of society's stereotypical roles. Nobody "turned" me into a lesbian — I simply fell in love with another woman. Without a doubt, someone reading this is thinking, "She just hasn't met the right man yet" - the right man being, of course, someone who can satisfy a woman sexually. The foundation of a lasting relationship is not sex hell, you can satisfy yourself if that's all you're after!

I am not on a mission to "transform" every heterosexual woman I meet. I respect the choices that other people have made, although they may be different from my own. I do not shove my personal life into the faces of others. I am not militant. I am hardly the one-eyed scary monster hiding in your bedroom closet.

I am me. I am the person you would least suspect. I accept myself for who I am, thus I have a positive outlook on my lifestyle. My heart belongs to a woman —so what? I am a real person. As the Skin Horse said to the Velveteen Rabbit: "Once you are Real you can't be ugly, except to people who don't understand.'

In this sense, I would like to bring to your attention the antisemitic jokes told by Premier Bill Vander Zalm of British Columbia at the Social Credit Party's annual convention. Vander Zalm's apology took two pages, but it was not an apology for telling a joke or an admission that anti-semitic or racist jokes are not acceptable. B.C. politicians should be doing much more to foster good will, instead of perpetuating stereotypes of minority groups. I don't think he is mean-minded and I don't think he is a bigot, but he does not understand the sensitivities of Jewish people. I assume that this is a case of stupidity and ignorance and thoughtlessness. B.C. is being governed by a person who, more clearly than any other person in his position in Canada, doesn't understand the nature of the enterprise of governing.

How can a man in his position be so dead to the necessity of bringing a special kind of circumspection to his treatment of issues of race and ethnicity?

. . . he does not understand the sensitivities of the Jewish

As I mentioned earlier, the Premier belongs to the Social Credit Party. Major Cifford Hugh Douglas, the party's founder, often warned about Zionists, Jewish financiers and bankers conspiring to create a World Empire. Antisemitism cropped up among some rural factions of Canada's first Social Credit Party after it was founded in Alberta in 1932 by evangelist school principal William Aberhart. Social Credit began

letters_

cont'd from p. 5

fraudulent election

other candidates. Strike three. But it's not over

I would like to state, for the record, that I ran a clean cam-

Whether it was "Unite to Fight" sweatshirts at polling stations. which I witnessed, or vicious backstabbing at the expense of other candidates, these incidents represent what I believe is an election which was not only fraudulent, but a slap in the face to democracy lovers everywhere.

Ron Kelly Chair, York Council on the Prevention of AIDS

in Canada as a white Protestant party that was mostly anti-Catholic, and then it became a white Christian party with roots of anti-semitism and anti-anything that wasn't Christian. This view became outmoded in the past two decades among moderate socreds, but some fundamentalism like that shown by Vander Zalm still exists

The so-called political antisemitism employs a set of arguments which have no rational validity, but which have great emotional force, and which slip furtively over into racial antisemitism. The Jews, it is said, crowd into a certain number of lucrative professions, notably the so-called liberal professions. So let them be driven out. That will mean a certain percentage of competitors out of the way. In other words, wherever there are Jews, they will be considered superfluous.

What is really being denied to them is purely and simply the right to exist. We know moreover that the great mass of Jews is made up neither of bankers nor of financers, but of a population struggling against every form of urban poverty.

I do not underestimate the gravity of the great economic difficulties of our epoch, and of the general economic crisis of civilization. I think that it is not by hounding the Jews, but by transforming the economic and social structures. which are the real cause of those difficulties and of that crisis, that we can effectively remedy them. Anti-semitism merely diverts people from the real tasks confronting them. It diverts them from the true causes of their woes - which lie simultaneously in our egoistic and hypocritical hearts and in the social structures causally interrelated to our moral poverty. Antisemitism diverts people from the true causes of their sufferings to an innocent multitude, like a worthless crew which, instead of combating the tempest, would throw overboard some of their companions until finally all are attempting to cut each other's throats and set fire to the vessel on which humanity lost in dreams has taken passage

The most curious fact, moreover, is that many anitsemites declare that they have only praise for Jews they have known personally, but nevertheless feel that it is a sacred obligation to hate the Jews.

For me, anti-Semitism is one of the sinister symptoms of the general deterioration of our civilizaiton, a raging against the unfortunate and suffering.

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Mascot election posters send three to hospital

by Letitia Tendentious

hree York students were taken to hospital with minor injuries when a wall in the Ross building collapsed on them on Wednesday afternoon. Although the cause of the accident was not known, R. Donald

Security

A faculty member reported that a male shoved a female into the wall of a third floor hallway in Bethune College February 28. A search of the building located the male and identified both parties as students. Evidently, their argument resulted from the failure of one of the parties to return a borrowed

The manager of the Open End Pub reported that he had been assaulted when confronted by four very aggressive, intoxicated youths in the dining room. The youths refused to cooperate by settling down and were obviously looking for confrontation. They also refused to identify themselves and insisted that security had no right to demand their ID. The four were allowed to leave but not before one of their names was believed to have been obtained.

A student reported that threatening and sexist messages were written on the bulletin board outside the Founders' student council office March 2. Security responded and investigated a male suspect.

A couch was found damaged as a result of students jumping on it from an upper floor of McLaughlin Residence March 3. A suspect has been identified.

A security officer, when responding to a complaint that a parking attendant was having a dispute with a male at Ottawa Road March 4, attempted to arrest the same male and, in doing so, was dragged by the suspect's vehicle injuring his leg, hand and arm. The male was later handed over to Metro

A strong odour was reported in the Petrie Science Building March 5 and the building was evacuated. It was determined that the source of the problem was with the ventilation fans which were not functioning. The fans were corrected. The North York Fire Department was present.

A student reported that his black coat valued at \$129 had been stolen from a stand in the lobby area of Atkinson College March 1. One of its pockets contained residence keys and other personal items.

A student reported that her wallet was stolen from an unlocked room in the Lumbers Building March 5. The student had left the room unattended for 30 minutes. Estimated loss \$100

A student left her purse unattended for about five minutes in the Scott Library March 6 and upon return, noticed her wallet had been stolen. The wallet contained \$30 plus credit cards and personal items

An Excalibur staff member reported that his wallet had been stolen from his briefcase while left unattended in room 111. Central Square March 5. The wallet contained \$50 plus a number of credit cards and personal documents. Some of the latter were found outside Founders College

Cuddington, a witness to the incident, said, "It's obvious. It's those damn mascot elections

Luigi Manitoulin, a sanitary maintenance engineer on the night shift, agreed. "The candidates ran out of empty wall space, so they started putting their posters over everybody else's posters. They're already so thick that nobody can get in or out of Osgoode [Hall Law School] - okay, no great loss there. But, it's spreading to the rest of the campus.

'At the rate we're going, I estimate that people will have to walk single file through the halls at Ross before the end of the mascot elections. Eating pizza in the Vanier Dining Hall is already getting uncomfortable. It isn't that bad on a wall anchored by a pillar, but on an unanchored wall,

Although posing a potential health hazard, all of the candidates vowed to continue the poster barrage. "Get out of my face," the chipmunk commented, adding, "Umm, well, I didn't mean 'get out of my face' in the strictly negative sense . . . I meant it in the 'we're all in this together and my isn't it a lovely day?' sense. Remember my campaign slogan: He's not arrogant, he's my brother

The bear's answer was more on topic. "People are more interested in a candidate's image than her platform. It's a sad comment on the electoral process, don't you think? But, there you are: electoral success depends upon how well you disseminate your image. I believe it was Machiavelli who first wro - ooh! Excuse me, but I have to go steal food out of that camper's picnic basket!"

Manitoulin, who, by default, has become the administration's



On the campaign trail . . . The bear was out getting the "frightened tourist" vote, or at least something to tide her over until lunchtime.

spokesperson on the issue, argued that the mascot elections were becoming a threat to the environmental health of the world. "I haven't seen so much paper since the Jackson Creek Pulp Mill exploded," he said. "It's like they want to recreate the Amazon Rain Forest in Central

man was sanguine about the whole affair, saying that there were no rules to cover the situation. "In the absence of written rules, we've fallen back on the usual reference book: the Kaballah. And, while it clearly states that posters should not cover fire hydrants or health warnings, the Kaballah unfortunately says

MASCOT ELECTION

"Hey, I'm all for Gaia rights." the perezosa responded, "Earth First, Last and Always. Waste not, want not. Tippecanoe and Tyler, too. Issues, not answers! A stitch in time saves nine - whatever the hell that means. To be, or ... She spent the rest of the day putting up the last of her 50,000

Chief Rodent Officer Ira Nay-

nothing about the amount of posters a candidate can have.

"If you must go to class, wear a heavy coat; otherwise, be prepared for one hell of a paper cut. Personally, I'm staying off campus for the duration!" Ballots for the mascot elections appear in Tuesday's newspaper.

The pelican was unavailable for comment.

New Parking at Western

There will be 400 new parking places at Western next year, and the University Committee on Parking and Traffic (UCPT) will only increase the parking fees by 5 per cent.

This plan will include the destruction of a small residence in front of Bresia College. "Some drastic measure was needed to improve parking on campus,' UCPT chairman Mike Ashton

Long term plans for on campus parking include the construction of garages and underground parking for new buildings. It will take two to three years to create the garages and underground parking.

from The Gazette. University of Western Ontario

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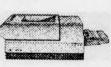


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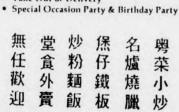
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Re: Cycling

Excalibur's John Andrews discusses the details of the sport.

cont'd from front cover

determine how much you want to spend and take some time to shop around. Often different shops carry the same bikes with price differences as much as three figures. Find a good shop with an experienced staff who will not try to talk you into something you don't want. Explain to the salesperson what type of riding you do and see what they offer. Prices are not concrete and a good bike shop should allow for some haggling, or throw in some accessories free of charge.

When looking for a bicycle, do not rule out buying a used bicycle. Being extra careful, you can occasionally find a used top of the line racing bike for half or even less than half of the original price.

The fit of the bike is of paramount importance; if the bicycle does not fit, the rider will be uncomfortable and subsequently lose interest. The general rule of thumb for the frame size is that, while you are straddling the bike, the top tube should be about two inches from your groin, four for a mountain bike. The saddle height is the most often neglected adjustment. For a proper fit, your leg should be almost fully extended, with just a slight bend at the knee. The fore-aft position of the saddle should be determined by dropping a plumb line from the outside of your knee. just behind the kneecap, to the floor. With a proper fore-aft position, the plumb line should intersect with the pedal axel. For men, the saddle should be parallel to the ground and for women it should be tilted slightly

To determine your handlebar's stem length, sit on the bike with your hands on the drops. Your arms should be slightly bent and your back relatively flat. If the stem length is correct the bars should obstruct the front hub from view. The same is true for mountain bikes.

Clothing for cycling has gone wild in the past five years. Cyclists used to ride in wool shorts, jerseys and tights. With the invention of lycra, not only are cloths more comfortable but they make you look and feel fast. Because of cycling, lycra clothing is now being used in many sports and even every day fashion.

Although shorts with a chamois in them are very important, the most necessary piece of personal equipment are the shoes. Cycling shoes have a stiff, unbendable sole usually made of nylon. This ensures that your energy is efficiently transmitted to the pedals without the waste caused by having your foot bend below the plane of the pedal. Foot retention is equally important and takes some getting used to, although once mastered, is indispensable. Toe clips and straps are still available but the new wave in cycling is the clipless pedal. The most popular brand of clipless pedals are made by LOOK, and operate much like a ski binding, in that you step into them. To release, you just twist your foot to one side and snap out. These pedals are very safe as they provide hands free operation and, in the event of a crash, they release upon impact. This is not the case with toe clips and

straps and many cyclists have been injured by flying through the air still attached to their bikes, only to have the bicycle break their fall.

Riding in traffic is the one thing that most people fear. In the past five

years, there has been an im-

provement in driver awareness, but

care is still needed both behind the

wheel and on the bike. The most important thing to remember is to be aware of what is going on around you. As a cyclist, you are a vehicle and actually have more right to the road than automobiles. Most cyclists make the mistake of riding too close to the curb. This invites cars to pass in your lane, often resulting in the

rider being forced into the curb. To ride safely, ride about one metre from the curb. This makes you more visible and forces cars to leave your lane to pass you safely. This also allows the cyclist to ride a straight and predictable line and avoid debris, potholes and sewer grates. Riding in traffic takes experience but, with

time, one can feel comfortable. Ride defensively and remember that a two-ton car can do more damage to you than you to it; ride intelligently.

The Ontario Cycling Association (OCA) is a provincially funded organization which is responsible for the administration of all facets of cycling. Membership is \$30 and offers an

informative handbook, newsletters and dates for tours and races. It also offers the cyclist third party insurance up to \$1 million, no matter where you ride. The OCA is located at 1220 Sheppard Avenue East, in Willowdale, or can be reached at 495-4141.

Racing a bicycle in Ontario

requires a licence. This can be purchased through the OCA only after attending a Learn to Race Clinic. A licence costs an additional \$50, on top of the OCA membership. The OCA also stipulates that a racer must belong to an OCA affiliated club. There are about 120 clubs in Ontario and about 35 of them in the Metro

Toronto area. They range in size from about 100 members (in the Scarborough Cycling Club) to the four members of a club called Sportbilly.

Paul Jurbala, former executive director of the OCA, said the number of licensed racers in the province has grown from about 400 in 1979 to well over 1,000 in 1989. While Jurbala does not expect to see a huge influx of racers, the sport is growing steadily.

Racing a bicycle is not for everyone. Most people believe that anyone can ride a bike, so racing can't be that difficult. This could not be further from the truth. Racing is extremely tough, both physically and mentally. Imagine racing along at 50km/hr with 120 other riders, each riding about 20cm apart. If someone makes a mistake, numerous cyclists will crash. Races range in distance between 60 and 200km and that means anywhere from one and a half to five torturous hours in the saddle.

Crashes do occur but are usually not too serious. The average injuries are skin abrasions known as "road rash" or "pizza" and bruised egos. Occasionally, someone will break a collar bone or dislocate a shoulder, but this doesn't happen too often.

In 1988, at the Niagara Grape and Wine Festival race, a junior named Jamie Kerr lost control of his bike on a rain soaked corner, went through a store window and consequently bled to death. This was a shock to the racing community and was an uncommon freak accident, but it illustrates the potential risks and bravery it takes to race.

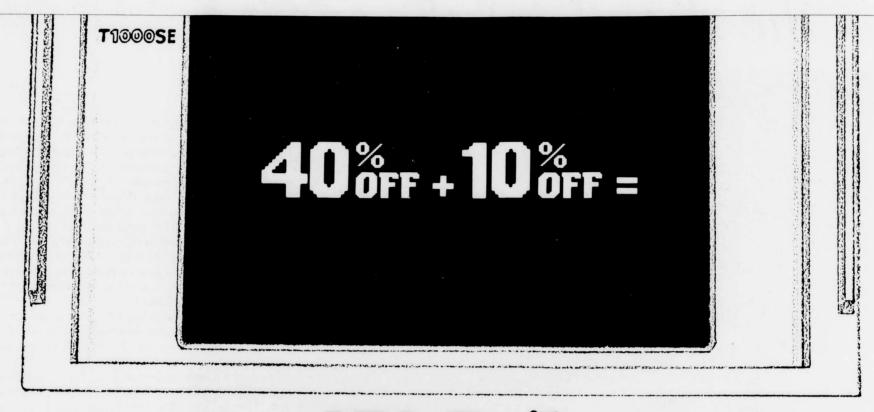
One of the greatest myths of cycling is why racers shave their legs. This has nothing to do with aerodynamics and is, for the most part, hygienic. Shaved legs are easier to massage and, in the event of a crash, it is easier to clean the abrasions and lessens the risk of infection. It is also less painful to remove bandages from a hairless leg. In this respect, shaved legs are somewhat akin to wearing a motorcycle helmet in that you don't need it until you crash. Shaved legs are also something of a status symbol in that you generally would not shave your legs inless you race, or ride an awful lot.

Jurbala said the overall OCA membership has stayed around 3,600 since 1986 and that only hardcore racers and tourists keep a regular membership. The real place to measure the growth of cycling is through the bicycle shop. Stores are making record sales with a strong consumer market based on upgrading equipment or staying with the latest fads in the sport.

Cycling is a fantastic sport whether you race or just ride around the block. It is a sport which anyone can participate in for the rest of their lives. The Ontario cycling community is friendly and has many veteran riders who are more than willing to share their colourful anecdotes and expertise with the new cyclist.

John Andrews has been riding for 13 years, is an NCCP coach and club president





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vineland: hippies last stand

by Ira Nayman

Vineland by Thomas Pynchon Little, Brown and Company

Well, OK, so what would you do if a William Faulkner First Novel Award Winning writer published his first novel in 17 years? This is a man, mind you, who had influenced a whole generation of writers including Kurt Vonnegut (Slaughterhouse Five, Breakfast of Champions), John Irving (The World According to Garp, The Hotel New Hampshire) and John Nichols (The Milagro Beanfield War).

So, what if next to nothing was known about him? The back cover of his novel, a space usually reserved for a photograph of the author, is blank. The dust jacket contains no biographical data; the writer does not give interviews. So, what do you do?

You write about how there is nothing to write about, of course. But, the hype surrounding Vineland, Thomas Pynchon's fourth novel since V. was published in 1963, reached ridiculous proportions. Reviewers went on, sometimes at length, about the absence of information, as if celebrity was so important to them they had to write about it even when there was literally nothing to say. Vineland is not an easy read. Unfortunately, the hype about Pynchon has somewhat obscured the fact his latest novel is highly rewarding.

The story begins with Zoyd Wheeler, a '60s hippie lost in '80s America, having to perform his annual act of insanity in order to qualify for government disability. The media expects him to throw himself through somebody's front window like usual, but Zoyd has other ideas: he dresses in drag, borrows a pink chainsaw and heads out for what he believes is a badass logger bar. What happens next, like what happens in most of the novel, is as delightful as it is unexpected.

Vineland expands to include, among other things: the disintegration of the protest movements of the '60s; a Japanese "Karmic Adjuster" and his white female

This is what Thomas Pynchon would look like if he were a parking lot.

ninja sidekick; Thanatoids (zombies who may or may not be dead already) who, while waiting for death to overtake them, hold roasts for each other; Billy Barf and the Vomitones (a punk rock band) playing at a Mafia wedding; a fascist federal prosecutor with bad dreams; and the destruction of a Japanese building by something which may be related to Godzilla. If nothing else, Pynchon's scope is breathtaking.

The difficulties some people may have reading *Vineland* come from Pynchon's tendency to use post-modernist writing techniques. The structure of the story is complex, moving through different time periods and locations in a way not always easy to follow. (I prefer this to *V.*, however, with its alternating chapters in different time periods. *V.* may be clearer, but it doesn't seem as cohesive a whole.)

Furthermore, although primarily comic, there are passages in Vineland of straight prose, doggerel and lyricism that is difficult to categorize. These shifts in mood can be disconcerting. At just under 385 pages, the book may be too long for some (although it's less than half as long as Pynchon's most famous work, Gravity's Rainbow). And, the ending, a cross between thirtysomething and The Tibetan Book of

the Dead, doesn't really resolve anything.

But, man, is *Vineland* funny! Pynchon eschews the use of one-liners that pass for humour in our culture to get a deeper, more meaningful comedy, one which arises out of characters and their actions. His humour is firmly anchored in the absurdity of human behaviour.

Moreover, Pynchon uses language with a joy that has appeared all too frequently since James Joyce. Although he doesn't pun as often or outrageously as Joyce, Pynchon's use of the English language is just as precise; colloquialisms, slang, songs, bizarre metaphors and other devices create a dense prose which frequently catches the reader by surprise. One example at random:

"Under the influence of, by then, quarts of a house specialty known as Battista's Revenge, Hector went off mooning about his ex-wife, Debbi, who during the divorce proceedings, on the advice of some drug-taking longhair crank attorney, had named the television set, a 19-inch French Provincial floor model, as correspondent, arguing that the tube was a member of the household, enjoying its own space, fed out of the

house budget with all the electricity it needed, addressed and indeed chatted with at length by other family members, certainly as able to steal affection as any cheap floozy Hector might have met on the job. As long as she'd happened, moreover, to've destroyed this particular set with a frozen pot roast right in the middle of a 'Green Acres rerun Hector had especially looked forward to viewing, possibly thereby rendering moot her suit, he decided in the heat of his own emotions to make a citizen's arrest, charging Debbi with Tubal homicide, since she'd already admitted it was human . .

Pynchon's lightness of approach should not be mistaken, however, for a lack of seriousness. Vineland is about people betraying their beliefs, not to mention each other, the abuse of political power and the ultimate inability of action to eliminate human suffering. Weighty, worthy themes all.

By setting his story in different time periods, Pynchon creates parallels between specific historical events: the idealism of the Wobblies of the 1920s is contrasted with that of the counterculture of the 1960s; the Communist paranoia of the 1950s is compared to the drug paranoia of the 1980s. It's as if human behaviour runs in cycles that no amount of effort can change. In the end, the question a federal narcotics agent asks Zoyd seems to apply to all of us, "Who was saved?"

The parallels also contain an interesting stylistic difference. Although the present is treated mostly as comedy, events taking place before 1960 are written and spoken about in more serious tones. Pynchon appears to be portraying the present as a vast cartoon, while the past seems more dignified, people's lives seem less ridiculous.

Once again, Pynchon has captured the spirit of the age. V. was an evocation of the 1950s; Gravity's Rainbow focused on World War II and, by extension, war in general. Vineland is about the 1980s. New age mysticism. Conservative politics. Failed idealism. Television. (Especially television: all of the characters seem to define themselves, relate to each other and react to the world through the medium.) Few writers have been so consistently successful at combining the disparate strands of human behaviour to create a compelling portrait of a time and place.

Not that everything in Vineland is meant to be taken literally. Part of the reason for setting it in 1984 (aside from the mythic connotations of that year) is that we have a good idea that some of the excesses detailed in the book clearly did not happen. References to television shows which do not exist (ie - "John Ritter in The Bryant Gumbel Story.") reinforce this. It's as if Pynchon is challenging readers to decide for themselves what is plausible and what is not, to take an active part in determining what, if anything, the novel ultimately means.

Reading anything by Pynchon is like running a marathon; it takes a large amount of effort and can leave you exhausted. Nonetheless, *Vineland* is required reading. After all, books this good only come along once every 17 years.

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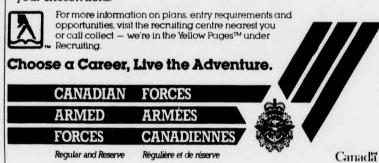
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blue steel disturbing image of violence and sex by Jeannine Amber

Blue Steel directed by Kathryn Bigelow MGM/UA

A new film starring Jamie Lee Curtis (Halloween, A Fish Called Wanda) opens tomorrow and it is sure to raise the ire of those concerned with the amount of violence on the cinematic screen.

Written and directed by Kathryn Bigelow (Near Dark, The Loveless). Blue Steel is the story of rookie cop Megan Turner (Curtis) who fatally shoots an armed robber in a hold up attempt. The gunman's weapon is never found and witnesses at the scene. apparently panicked into blindness, are unable to corroborate her story.

Consequently, Turner is suspended from the force. The gun in question has fallen into the hands of Eugene Hunt, a successful, and psychotic, commodities broker who was at the scene of the hold up. This is all established in the first 15 minutes of

The remainder of the movie is Hunt stalking Turner and Turner stalking Hunt. The whole thing culminates in a relentless shootout on Wall Street. Like most action films, the premise is not particularity complex and since the essentials of the plot are disclosed almost immediately, what tension is created is through the violence on the screen.

Bigelow is sure to come under heavy criticism for this film; particularly given that she is a woman and these types of films are often seen as directly or indirectly contributing to the violence perpetrated on women in today's society

Bigelow explained, at a recent press conference, that although some people may be adversely affected by the film, as a director this is not her responsibility. According to Bigelow. "The question of morality lies with the human being - the ability to differentiate between right and wrong. Unless it's a truly disturbed individual and then that person will be sensitive to anything. (For example) the news."

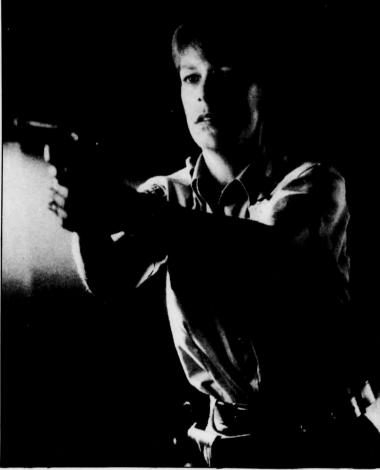
Bigelow believes these films are cathartic for many people. seeing them as "great social tools." She explained, "It's wonderful in the safe confines in a beautiful room . . . to experience a certain type of violent tendency [to] live out that aspect of your imagination or your sub-

conscious in a safe environ-

Curtis echoed this sentiment, saying that although she hopes no one will be motivated to engage in violence because of her film, "it is still entertainment and you [the film-makers] still have the right [to produce such films]. There is a large audience who, in fact, totally enjoys, on a

very positive level, this experience."

Bigelow is offering the disturbing message that, for some, violence, power and sex are inexplicably connected. Hunt is obsessed by the image of Turner as a women with the power to kill. He demands, in a moment of passion, "Take out your gun and hold it." Bigelow does not, however, address this phenomenon in any critical manner as something that is particular to the psy-



Jamie Lee Curtis plays a cop who is stalked by a psychopath in Blue Steel

chopath. Turner is shown caressing her gun [as a phallus] and enjoying the power it gives her.

In Blue Steel, Bigelow has created the scenario of a woman entering a traditionally maledominated sphere, attaining a traditional form of male power and consequently eliciting the attention of a deranged man. The similarities with recent violence against women is shocking and disturbing, but nowhere near as disturbing as Bigelow's reluctance to deal with these issues either on or off the screen.

Bigelow maintains, "It is not a gender thing, she [Turner] is fighting for her life." Bigelow insists that in writing the film, she was more concerned with creating a kind of "anyman." But Turner is not and cannot be an "anyman." She is a woman being stalked by a man. The fact that she is a woman is hardly as incidental to the plot as Bigelow seems to be suggesting. In this film. Bigelow demonstrates a marked lack of ability to deal with issues pertaining to women in a responsible manner.

This is further underscored by the inclusion of a wife abuse subplot. Turner's father beats her extremely passive mother and has apparently been doing so since Turner was a child. Bigelow said she included this sub-plot to help explain why the Turner character wants so badly to become a police officer. This is a fair enough premise and Bigelow does right by grounding the motives of Turner's character. However, what Bigelow chooses to do with this sub-plot is appal-

When Turner has the opportunity to use her power as a police officer to protect her mother and arrest her father, she sheepishly backs down. Although Turner is able to attain a certain amount of power outside the family, she is still emotionally ill-equipped to deal with the patriarchal power of the family.

Bigelow, when asked why she didn't follow through with the arrest, said she felt. "there was real love and compassion there. In other words, Bigelow is suggesting that if a daughter (or wife or mother) loves her abusive father (or husband or son) enough, she will not take available recourse to deal with his abusive behaviour.

This sub-plot that Bigelow sees as merely giving motivation to the character, becomes one of the most distressing aspects of the film due to Bigelow's inability to comprehend the implications of her own work.

The metaphor that Bigelow's film creates about women finding their power in a traditionally male sphere mirrors the development of Bigelow as a female director. Her work has always been violent and she has always worked in traditionally male genres (her last two films were about bikers and vampires) but, up until now, her work was always intelligent. original and inspired. Blue Steel is by far her most commercial film and the most 'macho.' It is also the most disappointing.

As a woman working in a genre as traditionally male-dominated as the 'action film.' one wonders what Bigelow, as a woman, has to bring to a film like this. Unfortunately we will never learn this from Bigelow herself. Bigelow adamantly denies the importance of her gender. She says. "To be honest. I think it's irrelevant Who? What directed it? The important thing is you either respond to it or you don't and I would love for it not to be gender

If a man had made this film, he surely would be the target of cries of sexism. Bigelow has proven that women are just as capable of working in a traditionally maledominated genre. She has also shown that women are also just as capable of making the same mistakes.

Arts cont'd

tales of ritualized sex

by J.A. Stephan

The Handmaid's Tale directed by Volker Schlondorff Nova Entertainment

he Handmaid's Tale is science fiction with a feminist slant. Based on Margaret Atwood's award winning bestseller, this screen adaptation remains faithful to the original. As opposed to the muddle of flashbacks that existed in the novel, the film unravels the story in sequence.

The plot revolves around one woman's experience in a radically altered society which is visually similar to our own.

The setting is Gilead, a hypothetical America taken over by right-wing fundamentalists in the twilight of the 20th century. Pollution, nuclear accidents and genetic experimentation have caused a "plague of barrenness" among the women. The new government, acting to preserve the species, subjects all women to servitude under the State.

Fertile females are ordered to serve God and their country by serving as handmaids. Each is assigned to a Commander, a member of the ruling elite, to be impregnated in a ritualized ceremony. The infertile women fulfil roles including wives, handmaid instructors/disciplinarians, domestic servants and prostitutes. The remainder are sent away to clean up toxic wastes.

The movie begins as Kate (Natasha Richardson) and her family make a failed attempt to escape Gilead. Now in military hands, Kate is tested for fertility and sent to a handmaid training centre. Instructors clutching cattle prods indoctrinate Kate to the philosophy of the State and pass her onto a Commander (Robert Duvall) and his wife Serena Joy (Faye Dunaway), a former television evangelist.

Ensconced in their house, Kate must, during her monthly peak of fertility, submit to a sexual ritual. Taken from the story of Rachel and her handmaid recounted in the Book of Genesis, Kate lies on her back between Serena Joy's



Robert Duvall (1) and Natasha Richardson (r) in the film version of Margaret Atwood's The Handmaid's Tale.

outspread legs and submits to the passionless thrusts of the Commander. If successful, the baby belongs to Serena Joy to raise as her own.

Screenwriter Harold Pinter and German director Volker Schlondorff present the morality of Gilead's social structure in a biased tone. An explanatory note opens the film, "Once upon a time a country went wrong, that country was Gilead." Judging the story by contemporary standards belittles the potential fear we might experience and lessens the impact of Atwood's Orwellian vision.

Because Gilead looks much like present day America, it is difficult to accept the premise put forth. One expects societies of the future to exist in visually altered environments, like the ones in Bladerunner or 1984. The only suggestions of technology are desktop computers and bar code I.D. bracelets.

State coordinated costumes, which serve to repress individual-

ity, are served up as brilliant blue for wives, scarlet for handmaids and grey for domestic servants. The absence of fashion is striking.

Although the dialogue is sparse. performances are impressive. Richardson captures Kate's frustration and strength in an aggressive manner that is not evident in the book. Portraying the wife's anguish with terrific subtlety, Dunaway is an all too beautiful Serena Joy. Duvall confidently displays the military discipline of the Commander in opposition to his potent desires. As Kate's love interest, Aidan Quinn possesses a seductive quality, and Elizabeth McGovern infuses humour into her performance as a rebellious handmaid.

Atwood said that the atrocities of *The Handmaid's Tale* are based on real events, but director Schlondorff is never able to infuse believability into his screen version. It remains an intriguing story, absent of emotional intensity.

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artscalendar

York dancers who are on the

compiled by Kristy Gordon

The Time Has Come To Change Our Minds — Trash (the age of consent) is a new play by Deanna Wilkins and R. Kelly Clipperton dealing with the sexual pressures of the 1980s. The play runs from March 15-17 at the Burton Theatre at 8pm. Tickets are \$4 in the Fine Arts Lobby. This play comes with an intriguing warning, it contains sexually explicit material and may offend (thus guaranteeing a full house).

The IDA Gallery (first floor fine arts building) presents **Sandra Gregson**'s MFA thesis exhibition featuring sculpture and drawing. The display runs from March 19-30 and is open weekdays from 10am-5pm.

Have you made plans to see the Scott Liddle Band and Big Ska Country March 16 at the Glendon College Cafeteria. Phone 487-6703 for more info.

"Spring Dance '90" features

brink of their professional careers. The performance will showcase original choreography by faculty members Donna Krasnow, Holly Small, Jean-Louis Morin and guest artist Phillip Drube March 16-17 at the Betty Oliphant Theatre (404 Jarvis). Call 736-5137 for more info.

The music dept presents visiting artist Larry Polansky, who will lead a workshop on electronic music and the use of computers in composition. The workshop will take place in 204 McLaughlin from 9am-12pm and 1-4pm on March 16. Phone 736-5186.

The **Percussion Ensemble** will perform under the direction of **John Brownell** March 16 at noon in DACARY Hall.

La Maison de la Culture presents **Puzant Apkarian**'s photographic exhibition 28 Men. This display runs until March 26 in Glendon Hall. The gallery is open from 11am-4pm. Call 487-

6730 for more info.

James Colema

James Coleman presents Box (Ahhareturnabout) in the AGYU (RN145) until March 30. The display features the use of sound and visuals which take the audience from the past to the present and into the future. The gallery is open Tues-Fri 10am-4pm and Wed 10am-8pm.

Set aside time for Lillian Allen and the Revolutionary Tea Party and Fujahtive March 24 at the Apocalypse Club (750 College Street), performing a benefit for El Salvador's Radio Farabundo Marti, the voice of the Salvadorean People in Struggle. Tickets are \$17 at the door. This event is sponsored by CKLN, CIUT and the York Women's Centre. For more info call 531-8497.

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JOIN THE AGE WAVE! The GESTALT INSTITUTE, a non-profit educational centre, invites persons 55 and over to explore in a workshop, Roles, Relationships, Personal Identity, Life Changes. April 9, 16, 23, 30, 1:30 to 3:30 pm. Call 977-0844 for more information about NEW CHOICES!

OPEN HOUSE Come share information about the GESTALT INSTITUTE and our activities in an informal setting with faculty and interns. Wednesday, march 21, 7-9pm. Refreshments served. There will be a video and talk by Faculty. Call 977-0844 for more information. THE GESTALT INSTITUTE 37 CECIL

GUATEMALAN THEATRE TROOP Cami nante will be performing this Saturday, March 17 at Trent University in Peterborough. Doors open at 7:30pm and tickets are \$5.00. Call 1-705-745-6891.

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THE HUNGARIAN-CANADIAN ENGINEER'S ASSOCIATION would like to honour students of Hungarian descent graduating from a degree course in 1990 at the annual Eotyos Lorant Ball, hosted this year by His Highness, the Lieutenant Gov-enor of Ontario. If you will graduate this year, please advise Profesor L.L. Diosady, Department of Chemical Engineering, University of Toronto, Toronto, M5S 1A4, indicating your name, adress, course and university

WORKING WITH JAPAN: Everyone talks about the importance of Japan to Canada, but what opportunities are being created and how can York students take advantage of them? To address this and other ques-tions, the East Asian Studies Programme and Founders College present a panel dis-cussion with Canadians now working on the Canada-Japan relationship. Time: Monday, March 12, 1990, 4:00pm. Place: Senior Common Room, #305 Founders College

ARE YOU BUSY ON APRIL 29? York Communication is organizing a Clean-A-Thon from 11 am - 5 pm. Let's clean up our city! For more information, come to the York Volunteer Centre or call us at ext. 33576.

LILLIAN ALLEN and the Revolutionary Tea Party Band will be performing at the Apocalypse Club (750 College St) Saturday March 24 This is a benefit for El Salvador, sponsored by the York University Women's Centrer. Tickets are \$15 and can be purchased at the Women's Centre, \$150 Ross

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THE SOCIOLOGY UNDERGRADUATE STUDENT ASSOCIATION is having a general meeting on Thurs. March 15 at 11am in McLaughlin Senior Common Room. The agenda is geared specifically toward SUSA elections for the 1990-91 academic session.

AES and CANADA COUNCIL present George Szanto: novelist, playwright and critic, reading from his forthcoming novel The underside of stones. March 22, 4pm. 201 Stong.

ROY McMURTY ON THE MEECH LAKE ACCORD presented by the Public Policy and Administration Students Association of March 21, 1990 at McLaughlin College, Ir. Common Room 12:00 noon

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March 9

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March 10

Bronze vs Regina 3-2 (5-15, 11-15, 15-12, 15-11, 15-7)

Final Standings

1. Manitoba

Victoria
 York

Tournament All-Star —Cheryl Guay

INDOOR FIELD HOCKEY (Women): March 9, 10, 11

CIAU/CWFA Championships Final Standings

1. Island

2. Ontario North

3. Prairies

4. Ontario South

5. Vancouver

6. Atlantic CIAU All-Star — Sharon Creelman

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York placed first. 60m — France Gareau placed

2nd

300m — France Gareau placed 2nd 600m — Nicole Sinn placed

1st 600m — Lara Leitch placed

2nd

1,000m — Nicole Sinn placed

1,000m — Lara Leitch placed

60m hurdle — Lesa Mayes placed 5th

4X200m — York placed

first
Team members:
Lesa Mayes

Karyn Humber Andrea Hastick

France Gareau

Long Jump — Andrea Hastick

placed 4th
Triple Jump — Andrea Has-

tick placed 5th Shot Put — Lesa Mayes placed 3rd

TRACK AND FIELD (Men):

March 8, 9, 10 CIAU Championships

York placed 3rd tied with Windsor.
60m — Dwayne Roker placed

2nd 300m — Vogner Castilho

placed 1st 4X200m — York placed 1st

Team Members:
Dwayne Roker
Vogner Castilho
Colin Inglis

Kevin Benner

4X400m — York placed 1st Team members:

Corey Burnett Vogner Castilho Kevin Benner

Darren Gardner 4X800m — York placed 5th

Team Members:
Darren Gardner

Kevin Benner Corey Burnett Mike Rogers

Pole Vault — Kevin Lake placed 1st

Long Jump — Tim Moller placed 6th Triple Jump — Vaughan Martin placed 6th

GYMNASTICS (Women):

Tim Moller placed 7th

Invitational York placed 6th

March 9, 10 National

GYMNASTICS (Men): March 9, 10 University Cup

Final Standings

2. University of Calgary

3. UBC
Top 3 scorers: Scott
McDopald (3 gold, 4 silver

McDonald (3 gold, 4 silver, 1 bronze). George Zivic, J.P. Kramer (2 gold, 1

silver, 1 bronze)

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

Jeannine Amber Roslyn Angel Trevor Burnett Frank Cameron Jennifer Crane Paul Gazzola Brian Gold

Kristy Gordon

Andrew Goss Michele Greene Tania Hewett Mary Jankulak Howard Kaman Jacob Katsman Anton Katz Jeff Kippel

Jennifer Salter
Jason Schwartz
André Souroujon
J.A. Stephen
Susan Vanstone
Daniel Wolgelerenter
Mark Wright

Toby Wunch

Shaun Lacob Linda Lake Donna Mason Stephen Mitchell Ira Nayman Stephen Perry Josh Rubin Riccardo Sala

YORK STUDENTS

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Women's rugby hits North York

by Josh Rubin

omen's rugby is coming to North York.
The Toronto Welsh Rugby Club, located at 401 and Bayview, is looking to sponsor a team in the two year old Ontario Women's Rugby League.

The league, the first of its kind in the province, currently has four teams located in Kingston, Ajax, Markham and Toronto.

It is looking to add two more teams for the upcoming season, which starts in April and runs until mid-November.

Both prospective new teams are located in the Metro area, one being the Welsh's club while the other is to be sponsored by the Toronto Barbarians.

In the past, league play has been dominated by the team from Ajax, whose players also form the bulk of the Ontario provincial

squad.

With the new teams, the league hopes to capitalize on the growing popularity of rugby in Canada, particularly the women's variety. According to team organizer Drew MacPherson, the Welsh hope to draw competitors from the North York area where rugby enthusiasts have, in the past, been forced to make the trek to Yonge and Eglinton (where Toronto's current team is based). MacPherson doubles as the captain of the Yeomen rugby team.

No experience is needed to participate and, says MacPherson, "It's a good way to learn a great sport, with the benefit of some top-notch coaches, too."

MacPherson encourages anyone intersted in joining the new team to call him at 667-8800. Further details can also be obtained by speaking to club president Bruce Hooey at 226-0831.

Gymnastics gold

by Josh Rubin

ed by Scott MacDonald's eight medals, the Yeomen have captured their 15th CIAU gymnastics title in the past 16 years.

The Yeomen won the crown despite losing standout performer George Zivic to a wrist injury.

Also performing well for the Yeomen at last weekend's championship meet was J.P. Kramer, who came away with two golds, a silver and a bronze.

Look to Tuedsays *Excalibur* for more extensive coverage of the Yeomen's triumph.

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THE CLUBS PAGE

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PRESENTS

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The Sociology Undergraduate Student Association

GENERAL MEETING

The future of SUSA: Elections for the 1990 - 1991 academic session

Place: McLaughlin Senior Common Room

Date: Thursday March 15, 1990

Time: 11:00 A.M.

ALL STUDENTS ARE WELCOME!

THE PUBLIC POLICY & ADMINISTRATION STUDENT ASSOCIATION PRESENTS:

MR. ROY McMURTRY

(FORMER ATTORNEY GENERAL OF ONTARIO)

SPEAKING ON:

THE MEECH LAKE ACCORD

DATE WEDNESDAY MARCH 21, 1990

TIME: 12:00 NOON

PLACE Mel. AUGHIN JUNIOR COMMON ROOM (room 014)

ALL WELCOME

