

R4/4 616

GST-Free



# Attention Trekkies

# Puck problems:

## Hometown refs in Trois Rivieres p. 11



MONDAY, JANUARY 28, 1991

VOLUME 25, ISSUE 37

# excalibur

## YORK UNIVERSITY'S COMMUNITY NEWSPAPER

# Arthurs argues for tuition hikes

by Joseph Macchiusi and Peter Stathis

Ontario universities such as York are in crisis, according to York President Harry Arthurs.

Considering the province's desperate financial straits and multi-billion dollar debt and the necessity of improving the quality of education, Arthurs said he reluctantly supports a \$550 tuition increase for post-secondary students.

The Jan. 23 debate between Arthurs and York Federation of Students (YFS) President Jean Ghomeshi focussed on the controversial Council of Ontario Universities (COU) recovery plan on post-secondary funding. The speakers used the forum to reiterate stances already taken in previously published reports.

Arthurs, last year's COU chair, argued that a tuition increase was necessary because the NDP government would be unwilling to pay for the entire \$40 million shot in the arm that Ontario universities require. The key issue, he said, is not simply the tuition hike, but the entire COU plan and whether the government is willing to accept it.

Although Ghomeshi agreed with Arthurs about Ontario universities having been grossly underfunded, he blamed past provincial governments for creating the crisis.

Ghomeshi insisted it was ridiculous to make current students responsible for paying back money into a system that had been jeopardized by over a decade of financial negligence.

In his initial address, Arthurs went to great lengths to explain that he and Ghomeshi agreed on many aspects of university recovery. What they disagreed on, however, was where the funds should come from.

According to Arthurs, after six years of lobbying the government to address underfunding without any success, he and the COU had been left without any options.



York president Harry Arthurs and YFS president Jean Ghomeshi go head to head over tuition fees. A large crowd turned out to hear the two speak. Arthurs reluctantly sees



no other options. Ghomeshi is asking that York withdraw its support from the proposal.

The recovery plan would have students pay one third of the \$410 million boost, with the provincial government paying the difference.

In concrete terms, this would mean a tuition increase of \$550 passed on to each new student annually. This would be in addition to any regular increases due to inflation.

According to the COU plan, through OSAP refunds, students from lower income backgrounds would still be ensured equal access to university.

A contingency plan has also been proposed based on models in Australia and Sweden, where students could defer the pay-

ment of their fees until they had acquired jobs and their post-university incomes were high enough.

Ghomeshi began by listing a number of students he knew who had succumbed to the economic pressures of university and were forced to drop out. Students were not at fault for creating the present crisis, Ghomeshi said, and should not be expected to help pay the bill. Tuition hikes had always been higher than the rate of inflation, he argued, while government funding had consistently dropped.

Contrary to Arthurs' claims, Ghomeshi claimed that a rise in

cont'd on p. 3

# Student centre corporation accepts gender parity

by Jeannine Amber

In a move to increase representation of women in important administrative positions at the university, the Student Centre Corporation (SCC) has voted in favor of accepting gender parity.

Under the new legislation, it is hoped that women will hold five of the 14 board memberships and at least two of the five executive positions.

The SCC oversees the management and finances of the Student Centre which is scheduled for completion sometime this spring.

Currently, five of the 14 members of the board are women. The executive is composed entirely of men.

According to SCC chair Chia-Yi Chua, the corporation welcomes and encourages women to participate in the operation of "the single most important project for students at York."

"It's not just legislative quotas that we're interested in, it's the bigger issues of equality," Chua said.

Chua cited the preconceived notion that business and facilities management are traditionally male-dominated interests as being responsible for the lack of equal representation to date.

"We have a terrible track record for an institution where 56 per cent

of the student body is female," Chua said.

Caroline Winship, one of the four women currently sitting on the board said that instituting gender parity was merely a counting exercise, then it wouldn't address the real issue of power control. Winship, however, stressed that "the board seems committed to going further than counting heads."

Atkinson representative Anna Segal voted against the parity issue calling it tokenism.

"I find it insulting," Segal said. "If women feel they should do it (run for positions on the board), then they should do it."

The legislation, which is pending the approval of various constituencies, would include the following changes:

- From the YFS at least two of four representatives must be women.
- At least one of the two college representatives must be a woman.
- At least one of the university reps must be a woman.
- And of the student-at-large positions at least one must be filled by a woman.

During last year's General Elections, all seven students vying for the three student-at-large positions were men.

# Class schedule found vandalized

by Leslie Barrell

Anti-feminist and anti-women slander has left some students on York campus bewildered and disgusted.

On Jan. 7, a vandalized room schedule was found posted outside a classroom in North Ross, during an Atkinson College social work class.

The class schedule had been changed either by someone typing over the schedule or with access to the York computer system.

"Something like this a physical assault on all people, not just women," said Snatol Schlosser, a York theatre professor. "Whoever wrote this is out there and if I was a woman on this campus I would be really scared."

"These are not just isolated cases of guys fooling around. There are many of them," said Fiona MacCool of the Women's Centre. "We still have to let the people at York know that we are fighting a legitimate problem, the symptoms of a disease."

Tom Meininger, acting dean of Atkinson College, admitted that there was a serious problem at York. "It is high time for this [graffiti] to stop. It's not a perfect world, but we must keep trying to work out the imperfections."

Some students expressed concern that whoever tampered with the room schedule had done it

with forethought. There are fears that this incident is only an indication of the tremendous anger and resentment being harbored by some students.

"In the past year, anti-feminist graffiti has been on the rise," said Dale Hall of the Sexual Harassment Education and Complaint Centre (SHEACC). "People are not ignoring it and since Montreal, we are certainly not taking it lightly."

Mark Louie, a fourth-year student at Vanier College, said that

he was shocked to find that programs like the Security Service were necessary here.

"I spent two years at university in Calgary and it wasn't nearly as bad," Louie said. "I personally find what this person has done offensive, but I think a lot of males are still like that."

All students are urged to report material which they find offensive or discriminatory immediately to York Security at 736-5333 (ext. 33333) or to SHEACC at 736-5500.

DATE DEC 23, 1990 YORK UNIVERSITY CLASSROOM SCHEDULE REPORT BF2003

SELECTED ROOM TYPES: ROOM: R	MONDAY	TUESDAY	WEDNESDAY	THURSDAY	FRIDAY	SATURDAY
0800						
0830						
0900	SP 1000 .06A	SP 1000 .06A	FR 1080 .06B	SOC14090P.03	FR 1080 .06B	
0930	SP 1000 .06A	SP 1000 .06A	FR 1080 .06B	SOC14090P.03	FR 1080 .06B	
1000	L1W2060 .06A	IT 1010 .06B	IT 1010 .06B	SOC14090P.03	IT 1010 .06B	
1030	L1W2060 .06A	IT 1010 .06B	IT 1010 .06B	SOC14090P.03	IT 1010 .06B	
1100	L1W2060 .06A	SOC13060 .06A	ARTH3230 .06A	SOC14090P.03	IT 1050 .06C	
1130	L1W2060 .06A	SOC13060 .06A	ARTH3230 .06A	SOC14090P.03	IT 1050 .06C	
1200	FR 3080 .06D	SOC13060 .06A	SOC13930 .03M	MATH2039 .06	IT 1000 .06C	
1230	FR 3080 .06D	SOC13060 .06A	SOC13930 .03M	MATH2039 .06	IT 1000 .06C	
1300	CH 3010 .06B	PSYC250A.03	CH 3010 .06B	MATH2579 .03	CH 3010 .06B	
1330	CH 3010 .06B	PSYC250A.03	CH 3010 .06B	MATH2579 .03	CH 3010 .06B	
1400	PSYC3110.06A	PSYC250A.03	PSYC6060B.03	PHIL2010 .06A		
1430		PSYC250A.03	PSYC6060B.03	PHIL2010 .06A		
1500		PSYC250A.03	PSYC6060B.03			
1530		PSYC250A.03	PSYC6060B.03			
1600		SOC12050 .06B	PSYC6060B.03	SOC13660 .06A		
1630		SOC12050 .06B	PSYC6060B.03	SOC13660 .06A		
1700			EDEN620 .04Y			
1730			EDEN620 .04Y			
1800			EDEN620 .04Y			
1830			EDEN620 .04Y			
1900	SOM3420 .06	POK52410 .06B	EDEN620 .04Y	POK52410 .06B		
1930	SOM3420 .06	POK52410 .06B	EDEN620 .04Y	POK52410 .06B		
2000	SOM3420 .06	POK52410 .06B	EDEN620 .04Y	POK52410 .06B		
2030	SOM3420 .06	POK52410 .06B	EDEN620 .04Y	POK52410 .06B		
2100	SOM3420 .06	POK52410 .06B	EDEN620 .04Y	POK52410 .06B		
2130	SOM3420 .06	POK52410 .06B	EDEN620 .04Y	POK52410 .06B		

**FUCK YOU AND ALL THE FEMINIST BITCHES IN THIS INSTITUTION  
CAPITULATION IS THE BEST STRATEGY AGAIN TO MEN  
IT 11K**

This inflammatory class schedule was found pinned to the door of an Atkinson classroom in January

# QUOI DE NEUF ?

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



1991

## STUDENT ART COMPETITION FOR MURAL AND SITE SPECIFIC INSTALLATIONS AT YORK UNIVERSITY

\$1,000 for a commission for the new Student Centre Building, and three awards of \$1,000 for locations in the Ross Building and the Colleges.

### Deadline for submissions:

Thursday, March 14, 1991, 3-5pm at the Fine Arts Faculty Common Room, second floor. Application forms are available at the YFS/FÉY Office, Office of Student Affairs (124 Central Square) and the Visual Arts office in the Fine Arts Building. Ask for the complete list of 33 student Mural Award winners of the past and visit their sites.

## YOU'RE NEEDED

The Volunteer Centre needs volunteers in the following areas:

- \* Teaching Assistants
- \* Court Worker/Probation Officer
- \* Women's Shelters
- \* Hospitals
- \* Distress Lines
- \* And Many More Areas!

For more information, drop by the Volunteer Centre at 112 Central Sq.

## CULTS

"When you meet the friendliest people you have ever known, who introduce you to the most loving group of people you've ever encountered, and you find the leader to be the most inspired, caring, compassionate, and understanding person you've ever met, and then you learn that the cause of the group is something you never dared hope could be accomplished, and all of this sounds too good to be true - it probably is too good to be true!"

Jeanie Mills,  
former member of the People's Temple, murdered a year after the Jonestown suicides.

For more information on cults and cult proofing contact:

The Office of Student Affairs,  
124 Central Square  
York University  
(416) 736-5144

## 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.*



## NEED DIRECTIONS, ADVICE, ASSISTANCE?

Drop by the Office of Student Affairs  
124 Central Square 736-5144

Information York  
Off-Campus Housing  
Foreign Student Services  
University Complaint Centre

The office hours are:  
Monday to Thursday - 9 a.m. to 7 p.m.  
Friday - 9:00 a.m. to 5:00 p.m.

### EXAMS...COMING UP!

Pick up your  
"How to prepare for Exams"  
sheet

The Office of Student Affairs,  
124 Central Square  
York University

## 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



Some of the recipients of the Canada scholarship award gather to grab their \$2,000 cash award last Wednesday

## Canada scholarships awarded

by John A. Vink

MDS Health Group Limited, who operate clinical laboratories in Canada, will be providing seven annual \$1,000 awards over three years to outstanding Canada scholars at York.

Recipients must be in their final year of study in the field of biological science such as biochemistry, genetics and microbiology.

This year, 82 York students received Canada Scholarships which are worth \$2,000 annually and renewable up to three additional years for a total value of \$8,000.

"The future of our economy and our ability to provide the high standards of living that we now enjoy will depend on the development of our

human resources in science and engineering," said MDS Director of Research William Davidson in his speech to students and faculty last week.

Developing Canada's engineering expertise has become a high priority for the federal government.

Each year, the government grants 2,500 Canada Scholarships to first-year university undergraduates entering natural sciences and engineering studies.

The Canadian Council of Professional Engineers predicted that Canada will be short 30,000 engineers by the end of this decade.

"We could be fighting to keep our own Canadian-trained scientists and engineers in Canada," said Ordetta

Cordu, a representative from Industry, Science and Technology Canada.

After each student had been presented with an award by Cordu and congratulated by York President Harry Arthurs and Dean Kim Innanen, York Chancellor Dr. Larry Clarke presented the SPAR Chapman award to Ty Man Wong for his outstanding performance in Space Science.

Although York has a 38 per cent female enrolment in the Faculty of Pure and Applied Science, this ratio climbs to nearly 50 per cent at the Canada Scholar (87%) level. Because of this, York receives an unusually high proportion of scholarships compared to other universities.

# SECURITY beat



Wednesday Jan. 9

Theft (personal) — Osgoode Hall Law School  
A student left a leather jacket unattended for a few minutes at the Osgoode library. When she returned the jacket had been stolen.

Friday Jan. 11

Attempted Theft — Parking Lot 6A  
A student reported that an unknown person had made an unsuccessful attempt to enter her car through a passenger door and hot wire the car's ignition system. A suspicious car was seen driving in the lot earlier that day but there are no suspects.

Tuesday Jan. 22

Impaired Driving  
Security officers stopped a car driving the wrong way on Ottawa Rd. and determined that the driver was impaired. Metro police were called in and the driver was taken into custody.

### \*\*Security Alert\*\*

A security officer's badge that had been stolen before Christmas has yet to be recovered. The badge, '24, could be used to impersonate a security officer in order to gain access to offices or cash pickups. Any one seeing badge '24 being used should report the incident to security control centre ext. 33333 or 736-5333.

## York students fill a lecture hall to listen to tuition debate

cont'd from p. 1

tuition would automatically exclude a section of lower income students from a post secondary education. He cited a tuition freeze in Quebec which resulted in higher enrolment of students from lower backgrounds. By implication, a tuition increase at York would have the opposite effect, Ghomeshi said.

Ghomeshi lamented the lack of consultation between York and the

YFS while the COU proposal was being drafted. The COU had alienated students and faculty by acting alone without the input of the Ontario Federation of Students (OFS) and the Ontario Confederation of Faculty (OCUFA), Ghomeshi said.

He explained the OFS "Agenda for Budgetary Reform," a four step plan he feels would eliminate the need for tuition hikes.

The plan includes a more progressive taxation system, a net wealth tax, a minimum corporate tax, and a revision of the GST which is considered regressive to students. According to Ghomeshi, these reforms would raise enough revenue to effectively eliminate tuition fees within a year.

The YFS president went on to criticize Arthurs' plan for overhauling

the Ontario Student Assistance Program (OSAP) and contingency repayment proposals.

The OSAP pool was already too small to support existing student demands, Ghomeshi said, and their estimate of \$116 per week for students' living allowance was ridiculously low in realistic terms. Furthermore, he argued that a greater demand from students for repay-

ment would leave a smaller piece of the OSAP "pie" for everybody.

Conversely, according to Ghomeshi deferring payment for university until after graduation would leave most students burdened in debt with double digit interest rates.

Ghomeshi got in the last word at the forum and called for Arthurs and the university to remove their support from the COU proposal.

The Undergraduate & Graduate Business Councils present:

## CA\$INO NITE

Blackjack  
Wheels of Fortune  
Crown & Anchor

Thursday, January 31  
9 pm to 1 am  
Bethune Dining Hall

Cover: \$5 incl. \$2 in chips  
Proceeds to CHILD FIND

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# ISRAEL WEEK

Monday, January 28  
OPENING DAY

12:00 noon  
**STUDENT SUPPORT FORUM FOR ISRAEL**  
West Bear Pit

12:30 p.m.  
**ISRAEL WILL LIVE!**  
Malawah, a Band with Taste  
West Bear Pit

1:15 p.m.  
A Model of Coexistence:  
**BAHAI FAITH IN THE HOLY LAND**  
SLIDE SHOW & PRESENTATION  
with Ted Taylor, ABS York  
West Bear Pit

4:00 p.m.  
**Israeli Consul-General Benjamin Abileah**  
Stedman Lecture Hall C

Tuesday, January 29  
**NO GUTS, NO GLORY**  
Israel Programs Day

11:00 a.m. - 4:00 p.m.  
Representatives and Displays from:

Hebrew University  
Tel Aviv University  
Ben Gurion University  
Bar Ilan University  
Kibbutzim  
Yeshivot  
etc.

West Bear Pit

12:00 noon  
"The Challenge of Aliya",  
Tamar Meroz, Aliya Director  
JSF Portable

Wednesday, January 30  
**ISRAEL & THE ENVIRONMENT**  
TU Bishvat

11:00 a.m. - 4:00 p.m.

Israel Reforestation Project  
"Help replenish Israel's trees and environment" - J.N.F.

Representatives from:  
Jewish National Fund  
Society for Preservation of Nature in Israel

Fruits from the Holy Land  
Judaism and the environment info

12:00 noon  
**Water and Politics in the Middle East**

— A Looming Danger?  
with Morris Zilka, Executive V.P.  
Jewish National Fund,  
former Deputy-Mayor of Jerusalem  
224 Stong College

Thursday, January 31  
**ISRAEL AND EXODUS**

11:00 a.m. - 5:00 p.m.  
Israel and Exodus Display  
West Bear Pit

12:00 noon  
**Ethiopian Jewry Update**

Daisy Benchimol,  
Canadian Association for Ethiopian Jewry  
West Bear Pit  
Co-sponsored by the African Student Association

1:00 p.m.  
Operation Exodus Update,  
Eli Rubinstein,  
United Israel Appeal  
West Bear Pit

**In The Shadows**

A documentary about the plight of Syrian Jews  
West Bear Pit  
(Repeated throughout the day)

## EDITORIAL

## Single issue media

Unless you've been living on another planet, without cable TV, you're probably aware that there's a war raging in the Persian Gulf.

It's difficult to miss. From the moment we wake up, we are bombarded with information on the war, whether it be from newspapers, TV or radio. If you want 24-hour war coverage, all you have to do is tune into CNN. Isn't this great? . . . Hardly.

We have absorbed ourselves in war to the point of obsession and it is affecting our health, work and basic everyday life.

We live, breathe, eat and sleep it — experiencing its horror vicariously. And although we're on the side-lines, it seems to loom everywhere, if not the physical images, certainly a sense of terror or tension at what we're not being told or shown. The saddest part of all this is that many other distresses are going almost unnoticed. For example, Gorbachev's systematic crackdown in the Baltic states had initially received some coverage, but now it has dwindled to almost nothing.

It is not only global problems that people are neglecting, we are also ignoring problems on our homefront. Our economy is mired with a recession, burdened with high interest rates, and further threatened by the breakdown of global trade talks. Unemployment is soaring out of control, as word of more layoffs are received almost on a daily basis, and we are still trying to adjust to the introduction of the goods and services tax (GST). Why are people not showing concern for these problems? For example, since the war broke out, the government's GST hotline has been receiving fewer and fewer calls. Surely, Canadians have not come to accept the tax this soon.

Canada's problems don't stop at economics either. There exists the real danger that our nation may break up. The threat of Quebec's separation has increased, the crisis with our native people has not yet been settled, the Tories have stripped CBC and VIA down to their bare bones, post-secondary schools continue to suffer from underfunding, there are too many people dependent upon food banks for survival, and people continue to live in the streets because they can't afford a home.

We're in a mess. And the Mulroney and his beleaguered federal government know it, registering the lowest ever (12 per cent) popularity in nation-wide opinion polls.

What coverage have these domestic issues been given lately? Next to nothing. They have all been put on the back shelf since the outbreak of the "international" war.

Blame for this must be shared by both the media and the public. People have been concerned about the media's manipulation and its agenda setting, however, this is exactly what is continuing to happen. Instead of complaining that the media is flooding our brains with government propaganda, maybe we should be concerned with the issues which the press is not covering?

The daily events happening in the Persian Gulf are terrible — no one can deny that — but we cannot let the war eclipse our daily lives. While this may be extremely difficult for those with loved ones trapped in the Middle East, for the rest of us life must go on.

Some might argue vehemently against this point but, unfortunately, it is self-evident. Just look around you. We still have to pay our bills, write essays, fight rush-hour traffic on our highways and public transit. We can't just hold our breath and wait until the war is over.



## 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.

## Petrified by war coverage

To the editor,

I've been reading the articles and letters in the Jan. 21 *Excalibur* and the Jan. 16 *Lexicon*. Frankly, I'm petrified at what the two papers have covered in these issues, namely, the war in the Persian Gulf.

The most frightening thing about this war is that I watch soldiers who are between two and three years younger than I, going to fight. Every time I see these carefree men who claim to be prepared for war, I picture myself with an army haircut in khaki attire.

Personally, this image is all too real, because I am an American citizen. While Canadians may be conscripted, the draft will almost definitely begin with Americans.

It has been frightening to hear the talk about drafts, but at the same time I feel that I cannot sit in my comfortable Thornhill home while people die to protect my freedom.

Freedom is a very precious thing, and fighting for freedom is honorable in my mind; however, I don't know that I am willing to sacrifice my life for others. Maybe I'm selfish. Then I notice a point mentioned in *Excalibur* that others have died to fight for my freedom. After reminding myself that this is true, I am ashamed for not being on the front lines. This does not change the fact that I am petrified with fear.

Another issue for me is a moral one. I don't know if I am capable of killing another human being. The movies on Viet Nam seem to indicate a need to rid soldiers of all emotion except anger. I don't think I could be that angry, but maybe it's possible that I could. Maybe I too could kill. I wonder how this would change me.

I feel as if my life at this time is a seesaw, after worrying about the draft, I watch the highly sensationalized war on television. I feel a surge of patriotism welling up into my heart. I feel that I must DO something personally because I see the things Hussein has done. I see Israel being bombed and people dying from fear. Fear of nerve gas caused the death of a three year old child and elderly people. Fear of terrorism caused buildings at York to be evacuated. Fear of terrorism caused the synagogues at which I teach and pray to be policed, searched, and locked up. THIS IS WHERE I PRAY, DAMMIT! And I try to forgive myself for the hatred that surges, boiling to the surface of my body. My fists clench; my hands sweat; my muscles tense; my jaw tightens. It is just as I become this angry that I understand how I could kill without remorse and I return again to a shocked state.

I understand the peace activists, but I do not agree with them. In the end I must support the war, but I wish it was not necessary to do so.

It is truly a shame that we live in a world in which freedom is not a right, and I hope to God that peace will come soon. If war continues, I will continue my inner struggle with which I'm sure each person of draftable age must cope. I wish you all good luck.

Aaron Tornberg

## Blood donor discrimination

To the editor

On Jan. 21, I was prepared to offer my support and my blood to one of Canada's most respected institutions, the Canadian Red Cross Society.

When I approached the station they had established in Central Square, I was requested to complete their donor health assessment questionnaire.

According to this questionnaire, its primary functions are to "make sure you are in good health," and to protect "those who will receive your blood." This questionnaire, however, does more than protect the blood supply, it enables Red Cross to discriminate against gay donors.

Question no. 12 of the questionnaire refers to the deadly disease that affects everyone, AIDS. This question is designed to prevent donors who are engaged in high risk activities from having their blood used for "patients."

The reasons behind this question are noble and the information provided by the response is necessary, but the criteria the Red Cross use to define high risk activity is outdated. According to them, if a male has "had sex with another male" since 1977 he is at risk. This is not true. Homosexual activity does not place one at risk, whereas engaging in any type of unsafe sex does.

There is not any stipulation anywhere in the questionnaire regarding heterosexuals who place themselves at risk by not practicing safe sex. Why not? I know "gay" students who have never placed themselves at risk, and have enjoyed intimate physical relationships with other men. I also have "straight" friends who have engaged in unsafe heterosexual sex. There is no doubt that the latter individuals have opened themselves up to HIV infections, while the former individuals have protected their health.

The Red Cross' mishandling of AIDS in relation to risk activity is (at best) pitiful, and (at worst) unforgivable. Their ignorance regarding HIV and safe sex have not enabled them to completely protect their blood

cont'd on p. 5

## 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.

EDITORIAL: 736-5239  
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## COLUMN

# The dissent of (wo)man

by Sue Pennypacker

As university students and future members of the workforce, the day-to-day conditions which people face in their professions are of great importance to us all. While I'm sure that we don't expect full-time employment to be an easy ride, we certainly don't believe that our prospective occupations will take place in hostile environments.

The liberal work ethic, "work hard and you will be rewarded," is a principle on which the majority of us have been raised. Unfortunately, it's not that simple. This perspective fails to recognize the systemic discrimination against minorities.

Last fall, a Kingston woman was awarded \$48,000 in a sexual harassment case. This woman suffered from the mental and physical stress of this harassment for 14 years before she quit her job. The man who was accused of sexual harass-

ment seems to have been upset at the fact that he was making less money than a woman. He constantly made comments about her appearance and the quality of her work. She complained to the owner of the company, but he simply brushed her complaints aside.

Although the harassment in this case was not of a sexual nature, it was clear that the victim was being harassed due to her gender. Because she did not fit the traditional feminine role (sweet, little housewife, no brains, certainly not fit to work in a job superior to that of a man), she was ridiculed and made to feel worthless.

This feeling was probably reinforced by the inaction of the company owner—he obviously thought that the matter was unimportant and unworthy of his attention. She worked hard, but was not rewarded by a friendly office atmosphere.

So great... Now we have this wonderful precedent, and all women (and other minorities) will cease to

suffer harassment in the workplace.

Wrong! While some companies may undoubtedly act more promptly in cases such as this, the action will probably be due to the monetary, rather than the moral penalty. Harassment in the workplace will not be discontinued because the attitudes will be change.

In other words, the symptoms will be alleviated, but the cause of the trouble will remain untouched. We will still face hostile situations in the workplace due to human characteristics that have nothing to do with our ability to perform our jobs properly (ie. gender, race, age, class).

Let's be realistic, and get rid of the liberal work ethic. It assumes that all workers are white males with equivalent opportunities and that they who work the hardest shall prosper the most. In a pluralistic society, this assumption of uniformity rings false.

In order to live in a society free of discrimination, we must challenge the status quo and confront shortcomings.

## LETTERS

cont'd from p. 4

supply. Thankfully, all the blood they receive is tested for HIV.

Furthermore, their policy not to accept blood from gay men regardless of their sexual history is discrimination on the basis of sexual orientation. They are allowed to get away with this injustice because they are a non-profit, volunteer-based organization.

I believe that York University should not allow the Red Cross the privilege of soliciting blood on this campus until it ends its discrimination against gay men. I for one am incensed that there were here earlier this week, and I will not venture to donate blood until this insult is rectified.

Sincerely,  
Steve Cooney

## Excal needs a good kick

To the editor

What's happened to your newspaper? A year ago I enjoyed insightful, well written articles pertinent to the York community. I opened the Jan. 16 issue only to find very little of what's supposed to pass as journalism buried amid ads, terrible cartoons, and the latest Ben Johnson gossip. The last number of issues have been just as poor.

York is one of Canada's largest, brightest and most progressive universities. By no means is *Excalibur* reflecting this fact. York students pay an annual levy to keep the paper alive. Those of us who still read it expect more than one to two worthwhile articles a week.

After five years at this university it would be so refreshing for me to see our student paper take a more progressive stance. It just might be the kick in the ass that *Excalibur* needs right now.

J.A. Boyden

## Death thwarts education

To the editor,

I am a student who is active in clubs and student issues at the University of Victoria. During a recent visit to York I picked up a copy of *Excalibur* (Mon, Jan 21). I had hoped to find

news and perspectives about events at York, whose active student interest groups are well-known. I was dismayed to discover that half of the contents of the paper were advertisements, and that the remainder did little to convey important events and questions facing students at York and across the country.

Despite numerous articles on the Gulf Crisis, there was little analysis of the situation. In this time of heavy censorship and misinformation in the mainstream press regarding this war and its human and environmental consequences, an alternative perspective, particularly one focussing on the many ways students are affected, would be valuable.

For example, any students who are called up will lose their entire semester, not to mention the fact that death is an impediment to education.

Also, money for education and for social programs, which benefit many students, is likely to be in short supply as the government scrambles to fund the armed forces.

Is the GST (all seven per cent of it) really going to be used to reduce the deficit? Already students are losing through the GST as it is applied to, among other necessary goods, books and supplies. Now the extra money won't even be available to shore up social programs.

I was told during my visit that your paper comes out twice a week. Perhaps you should consider publishing on a weekly basis to give you more time to develop your coverage.

Lisa Crampton

P.S. I thought the Budweiser ad contrasted nicely with the ad for counselling of date rape victims.

## York needs to tighten its security

To the editor,

Can a bomb threat turn into a real bomb? Can the killing of innocent women like what happened at the Ecole Polytechnique in Montreal on December 6, 1989 happen at York? Yes.

If any one of these things does really happen at York there is no way for the security service to communicate with the students and staff in an emergency situation.

On Jan. 17 I was in Central Square when security went through the building telling people to evacuate. Once outside no one had any idea what was going on. Security only told us that it was an "emergency situation," and that we should move away from the building.

Last December in Montreal we saw 14 innocent young women killed. Here again the student's and staff's safety was in jeopardy because of inadequate facilities. This can happen again, maybe at York.

It is time that we tighten security around York. Along with a security officer telling people to leave a building a Public Address (PA) system is essential. President Arthurs can use the \$550 tuition increase to pay for this PA system.

Isn't it time that York update OUR safety, before a real bomb appears or innocent women are killed? Hopefully, the new buildings will include a PA system for everyone's safety. Let's all hope that safety comes before a real emergency happens!

Richard Daniel Abel

## Smokers show lack of respect

To the editor,

I feel that there is a basic lack of respect shown by the persons smoking in the Central Square/Ross/Curtis complex.

This is no more true than at a time when some compatriots are attempting to help those in medical need, notably while giving blood.

This selfless act should be commended and not condemned by the actions of others who are smoking in the above ground areas. These areas are currently non-smoking areas and are signed as such (at expense to the university).

There is no way the university can, or should ensure that the air of all of these areas will not mix, thereby affecting everyone (most, unwillingly).

It is totally reprehensible that smokers do not respect the effort of persons while in the process of giving life.

in solidarity  
Ilpo Lehto  
CUPE Local 1356  
President

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I WRITE WITH AN  
**AXE**

OPINIONS

**the case for conscription**

by J. Hagey

**Dear Axey,**

by Brett Gellert

Excalibur has been getting letters over the last few weeks on questions that no one is willing to answer.

The university staff are busy building multi-million dollar buildings while the student administration is deciding on whether or not we should belong to the "We Support Multi-Lettered Organizations That People Really Don't Give A Damn About" League.

The editor in his great wisdom, and because I was just sitting around making fun of the guy who does Cyrano, requested (forced) me to answer some of the more urgent sounding letters.

The first question comes from a Poli-Sci major who asks: *Is Brian Mulroney for real?*

Excellent question. Yes, unfortunately the PM is for real. I think as Canadians we'd like to imagine he wasn't for real, much like headcheese.

The only person I ever met who defended the PM was a guy I worked with in the summer named Kevin Travers. Mind you, he had one of the best senses of humor I've ever come across, so I think he was joking. I think most Brian Mulroney supporters are only joking: it's all part of the wacky world of politics.

From a Phys-Ed major this interesting question: *How many beers can someone drink before they think they can fly like Superman?*

For this question, we had to conduct a serious, scientific study. We got a two-four and an average male. The average male was my assistant Clem. My idea was to feed him beer until the desired effect (wanting to fly like Superman) was achieved.

After four beers, Clem became loud and extremely flirtatious. After five, he was knocked down and beaten rather badly by several enraged women from the staff. After six beers, Clem showed signs of imitating Adam West from the old Batman TV show. After 10 beers, he thought our word processor was the control panel of the Exxon Valdez. He kept leaning from side to side screaming, "We're gonna hit, hand me another hit, hand me another beer."

At 15 beers, he exhibited the desired effect. He leapt through the air (his boxer shorts on his head like some type of helmet) and crashed into the ground like a university elevator, screaming something that sounded like, "I will vanquish you."

So if you want to be Superman for a little while, it's going to take more than a case of 12 to do it.

The next question comes from a Fine Arts student who asks: *Do we really get our value for our entertainment dollar?*

Hell, I don't know. A good way to judge if you're getting your money's worth at a movie is to count the number of car crashes. If that number exceeds the number of dollars you paid, consider yourself entertained.

At operas, my only guess is to gauge the quality of the Mama Cass impersonators dressed in viking outfits.

In professional wrestling, the better match is the one involving a guy who can walk to the ring and still have an ounce of dignity left.

And a good baseball play is one in which the players lob food into the audience, preferably hotdogs.

Decent TV is any show that has people yelling "Mulroney Sucks."

Hey, son, how ya doin, kiddo? Come on over here and talk to your old man for awhile, eh boy? That's right, come on over and sit with me.

Gee, you are gettin' big, just look at you! Well, I shouldn't beat around the bush, son, I got some bad news for you. You're going to have to leave home soon and go on a little trip. Now son, don't look like that, it's not that me and your mother want you to go but it's out of our hands.

We, son, are just small cogs in the social wheel. Sometimes things are bigger than us, things like honor, responsibility, fossil fuels, government. Sometimes we can't think of just ourselves, we got to think of others.

So you are going to have to take this trip, my boy, a little trip around this great big ole world of ours. It'll be hot where you're goin', so stop with your frownin'. It's just like a big beach. It it was up to me you

wouldn't have to go, but nobody listens to your father, not anymore.

I'll try and explain it this way, see there's gonna be war. That's right son, just like you seen on the VCR, only this is bigger, more audience participation. That's right son, you get to take part in it all. No, it's not like video games neither son, just sit still and listen to me.

Now you're going to have to go and do a lot of things and take orders from people who you'd as soon spit on in the street, but you gotta take them orders, and you gotta take them good. Don't want to be a traitor to your country now, do ya? And you'll have to do some pretty hard things, killin' people and all. Some of it won't be pretty for sure, but you better do them, all the same, you got a long line of soldiers behind ya, lot of 'em in our family, so ya gotta keep the tradition strong, don't let us down.

I don't have any real experience to relate to ya, but we need to preserve our standard of living so you

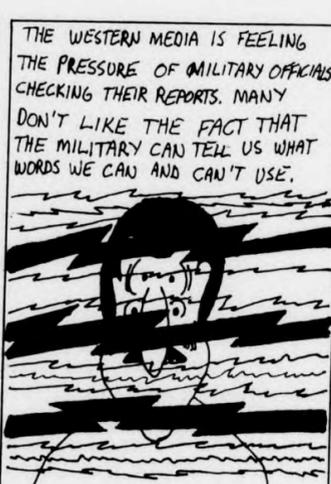
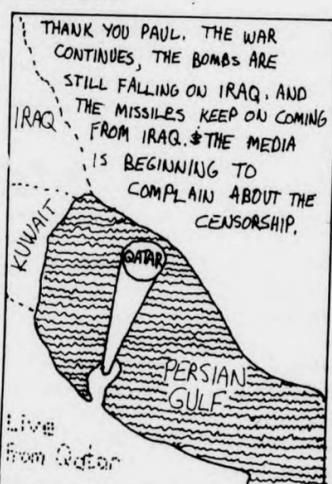
youngsters gotta go over there and defend it. What . . . yes, thanks to them feminists over the years your sister will be goin' with you. Can't be unfair to her on account of her gender, she's got her right to kill and burn as much as you do. Now don't expect to come back all in one piece, you probably won't. Oh, you'll lose an arm or some toes or something, everyone does, it's part of the game. Your grandfather wasn't so lucky, he lost half his face and his penis in his war. Sorry son, I don't have the time to go into what a penis is right now, maybe when you're older we'll have a talk but right now you got to get set for this adventure. It's comin' at you and you can't do nothin' to prevent it, so just enjoy what small parts of it that you can.

Now, like I said before, I wish that you didn't have to go, I wish there was another way around this but it just ain't so. No, they decided these things are too important to do their own fightin' so we poorer folks gots to go in their place. We go and meet the other important people's poor

folk and then we kill each other for them. No, I don't think these important people don't give a damn about us small guys either, but that kind of attitude isn't goin' to get you anywhere fast in this world, son, so mind your tongue. Besides we have to have gas or civilization as we know it would grind to halt, no more cars or planes, or trains or buses or boats. All our freedom of transit would be squashed, so you got to go and protect it, protect our freedom.

Stop cryin' son, I can't take it when you cry. Makes me think I'm askin' ya to do something terrible, and it ain't so bad. Sure, you'll have to maim some civilians, burn their houses and you'll have to go up to women as sweet as you mother and beat them and rape them, but don't think too hard on it, don't moralize, remember, war is Hell, boy, so you gotta do your part, so don't skimp on torturing babies neither, you gotta do your fair share. Now go get washed up for dinner and practice a new grace for the table, it's your turn tonight, son.

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# ARTS



## Writer gets caught in next generation

by Salman A. Nensi

Star Trek: The Next Generation  
—“Contamination”  
by John Vornholt

A mass murderer is loose on the *Enterprise*

While investigating the accidental death of one of the Federation's greatest scientists, Dr. Lynn Costa, who is serving aboard the *Enterprise*, Lt. Worf and Counsellor Troi begin to come to the awful conclusion that she was murdered.

Worf and Troi try to out think an assassin who finds that one murder is not enough to cover his tracks. Soon Worf and Troi are in a race to solve the mystery before the murderer can strike again.

John Vornholt, author of *ST:TNG Masks* and now *Contamination*, has been a *Star Trek* fan since the show first aired in the late '60s. He is also a fan of the new show which he finds very helpful in character development.

Even though Vornholt has now written two *Star Trek* books, he never thought of writing for *Star Trek* until his agent suggested it and it sounded like fun.

Before he wrote his first novel, *Masks*, Vornholt had been writing non-fiction, mostly about computers and other technical writing.

Although he had never written a full length fiction novel, he was not a stranger to the art of writing fiction having written animated cartoons, motion

picture scripts, plays and even song lyrics.

Vornholt felt that writing a *Star Trek* novel as his first fiction book had many added benefits.

“Normally if I had a first novel, with just my name on it, I would get limited exposure,” Vornholt said. “With *Star Trek*, one hooks up with a lot of readers who will, hopefully, follow when I write other kinds of books.”

The title of his latest book comes from Dr. Lynn Costa's area of study. She and her husband study micro contaminants and ways of keeping them under control. Dr. Costa is murdered in one of the special laboratories when a leak occurs and the lab is contaminated.

The inspiration for the book came from a magazine called *Micro Contamination*, a trade journal for ultra clean manufacturing.

“I found that really fascinating,” Vornholt said. “I thought to myself, that there would be an ultra clean lab like those in the magazine on the *Enterprise*.”

Vornholt warns that inspiration is not as simple as it sounds.

“I don't think you can sit down and say to yourself, “today I'm going to come up with a really good idea for a book. You have to just sort of leave your antenna open. You never know when you're going to come up with a good idea.”

Some writers find naming their characters and places difficult, but for John, it's easy. He has a system.



If not for the murder mystery that takes place on board in the micro contamination labs, our heroes in the tight shirts would be *Star Trekking* into the next dimension a long time ago. So Klingons circling Euranus beware, Captain Jean-Luc Picard and his crew are coming to ensure that justice is served.

“When I need a name, I look around. Whatever happens to be lying around with names on it, I use. Sometimes I'll modify the names after I get to know the characters better.”

Vornholt also uses friends' names, modified, of course.

Having found the transition from non-fiction to fiction relatively painless, Vornholt now feels comfortable with writing both.

“I can't imagine giving one up for the other,” Vornholt said. “I like writing lots of different kinds of things. Having now written a novel, I think I've written every kind of writing there is.”

Vornholt dropped out of college and travelled around Europe for three years. “That was fun because I had many unusual jobs,” Vornholt said. “I was an announcer at a western town in Spain and I also worked as a stunt-person in some West German westerns.”

With his adventuresome background and fondness for the novels of Edgar Rice Burroughs, it's no wonder *Masks* is an action adventure story.

“What's interesting about science fiction and *Star Trek* in particular is you can almost do any other kind of genre of book within the *Star Trek* universe. The genre is so pliable. *Masks* is a sort of sword and sorcery type of book, and *Contamination* is a murder mystery.”

Vornholt's favorite scene takes place deep within the *Enterprise* in the micro contamination labs.

Worf and Troi are led by a scientist through the various levels of clean rooms to the final room where Lynn Costa died. There is no dust or contamination at all in the clean rooms and those working in it, must wear suits to protect the air from them.

“On the show we only see a small part of the ship,” Vornholt said. “In reality the *Enterprise* is a huge ship, as big as the Paramount Studios lot and it's about 56 stories down. There's only a thousand people who live on the gigantic ship. The thing I like most about *Contamination* is the idea that there is all this stuff on the other decks that has never been shown. We know that on deck 31 there are science labs, but that's all we know. I extrapolated what I thought might be

down on deck 31. For me, that was the most fun.”

“The TV show, due to its nature, can't really give each one of the major characters something to do each week. That's why I think the books are so popular. In the books you have a chance to give everybody some good moments and some really good stuff to do!”

In addition to giving each character something special to do, Vornholt likes to have the action take place away from the main bridge.

“The TV show does scenes on the bridge so often and so well, that both of my books have very few scenes on the bridge. To me, that's the interesting thing about the books, You can get off the bridge and see other parts of the ship or go to another planet. I don't really want to try and redo what the show does.”

One of the best subplots in the novel came from a suggestion by Paramount. When they noticed that Vornholt had placed Troi and Worf together they asked him if he remembered the episode, *The Child*. John did remember and he also remembered the friction between Troi and Worf.

At the beginning of the novel, Troi has still not fully forgiven Worf for suggesting her child be destroyed to save the *Enterprise*. As the novel progresses, Troi works through her anger and feelings toward Worf. It's a great insight into Troi's character.

Vornholt's advice to would be writers is to remember that, “The key to really writing good books is to be able to write a good outline before you start the novel.”

Writing outlines is something with which Vornholt's non-fiction writing has helped. He also suggests you write about something that will look great on the book cover.

“I've always thought they picked *Masks* because they knew the idea of a culture that wore masks all the time would make a great cover.”

Having finished his second novel, Vornholt is planning his third *Star Trek* title.

“I guess I got caught up in the next generation.”



The search for the mysterious assassin by Counsellor Troi and Lieutenant Worf, makes for intriguing reading in John Vornholt's second installment of The Next Generation series, *Contamination*.

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## ARTS

# Middle aged guy with guitar

by Garth Hagey

joe hall  
Freetimes Cafe

The stage was set for a man, his guitar ("I'm Joe") and his aural assistant ("and I'm Joe's harmonica player") in the cozy cafe. The coziness was quickly disrupted by the bite of the cynical lyrics emanating from Joe's mouth. Teenagers wearing Megadeath T-shirts thought they were pessimistic!

Joe's been singing some of these songs for years. Songs such as "Poppa's Got Brain Damage" have been floating around Joe's repertoire for 20 years.

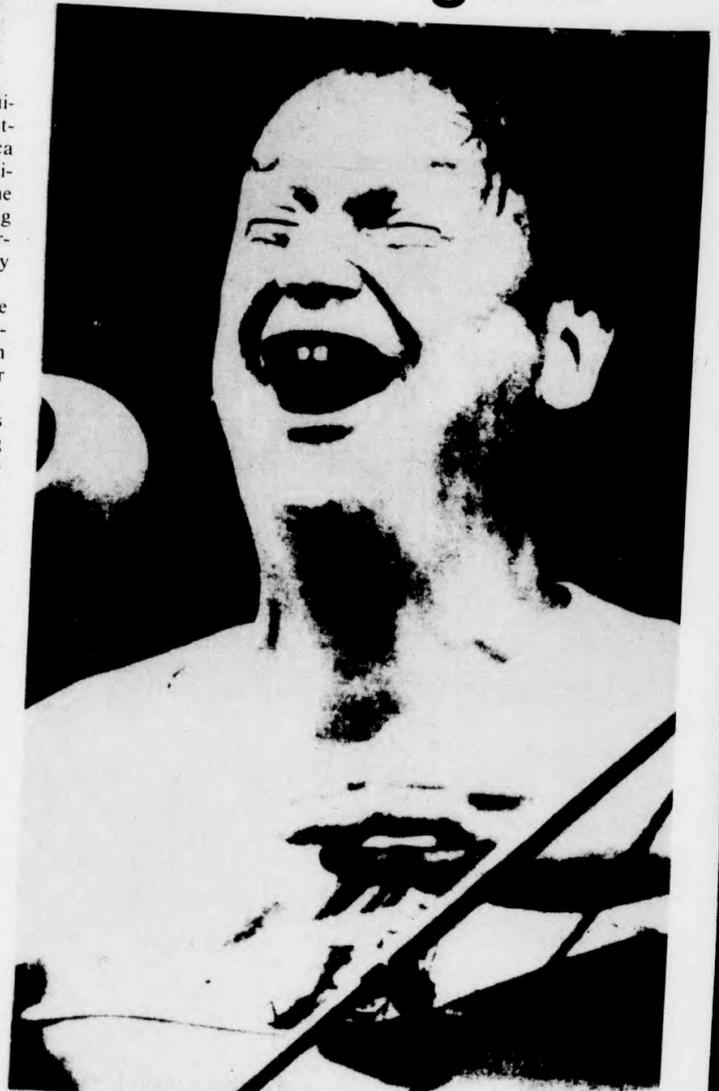
Joe does not dwell alone in his negativity, he invites us to sing along with chorus lines such as: "I'm fuckin' jaded and I want more drugs" (very poignant some how) and "I feel mentally challenged in the kingdom of the brain dead." (very poignant some how).

Joe played a great repertoire of his songs, sounding much better with only guitar and harp (and occasional mandolin) than the overproduced sound he got with the Continental Drift.

"You have to write a song about the GST Joe!" a enthusiastic listener urged. Joe gracefully declined, "No there's other people to write that song." And the other songs he writes, such as "Happy with my Hair": A long time ago a wise man/ It's not what's in it it's what's on your head./ Happy, Happy, Happy, Happy/ With my Hair./ I'm Happy, Happy, Happy, Happy/ With my Hair.

Joe played a stunning three sets flowing from the hazardously hilarious to the downright depressing. After all every folk singer has to have a dismal and dreary repertoire.

By the end of the night Joe could do no wrong, and so he did. Playing almost everyone of his underground hits, including the controversial construction worker tune: "Homo Love". He refused to play my



"I'm fuckin' jaded and I want more drugs." Long time cynic Joe Hall played 3 sets, including his depressed and lost repertoire, with the harmonica wielding Willie P. Bennett, "Mary Lou, would you like that on brown bread?"

favourite, "Travelling Without Deodorant." (very poignant some-how.) Joe, crass as ever, said we'd have to ad-lib it ourselves.

# Exotic locales bring poetry to life in a Tapestry of words

by Sally Teodoro

South of the Tudu Bem Cafe  
by Jan Conn  
Signal Editions

Jan Conn's third collection of poetry, *South of the Tudu Bem Cafe*, is a collection of pieces written in a variety of interesting and exotic locales, namely Brazil, Venezuela, London, Quebec, Jamaica, Mexico, Ireland and Guatemala.

Divided into four parts, each array of poems represents a stage in Conn's life, which helps the reader understand Conn's maturation process, not only in herself, but also in her poetry.

In her first section, entitled *Tapestry*, Conn displays a medley of emotions that make her face a somewhat loveless childhood. Her relationship with her father seems to be one of admiration and fear at the same time.

As each stage progresses, Conn's description of the countries she has lived in are depicted with such accuracy and emotion, that, especially in her descriptions of Brazil, Jamaica and Ireland, the reader can picture each locale.

Her description of these locales are among her more memorable pieces of work. Her poem "The Surf on Guanabara Bay", captivates her reader and transposes them directly to the spot. Stanzas such as "... past the white and black mosaic of sidewalks, the surf on Guanabara Bay looks elegant, boa-like ... the

kind of seductive, murderous green you swim into, stunned by colour and light ... " characterize the progression of her poetry and also the acceptance of her own situations.

Jan Conn's collection of poetry in *South of the Tudu Bem Cafe* is a very interesting and creative collection.

Her experiences in different countries, starting from her childhood to the present day, draws an acceptance of herself through her poetry. Her readers, after reading this collection, come away with a sense of completion and satisfaction that Conn herself displays in her poetry.



Jan Conn enjoys exotic locales and a sense of satisfaction that a job done well can bring.

HOCUS POCUS

# KILGORE TROUT IS BACK

by Garth Hagey

*Hocus Pocus*  
Kurt Vonnegut  
Putnam-Berkley

My name is Garth Alexander Hagey. Kurt Vonnegut published a new book called *Hocus Pocus* last year and I promised a copy in September. Cursing the arts editors, I thought it had been stolen by many of the K.V. fans in the office. Finally, after coming back from the December holidays, the copy was waiting for me. I have now read the book and able to report its merits. Good for me!

\*\*\*

The master of science fiction's story appears within the book, found in the most prestigious of publications. Although his name is never mentioned, Vonnegut fans know who he is. Hi ho.

\*\*\*

The rest of the story is traditionally Vonnegut, but entertaining enough to be admired by his true fans. For any of those who are new to Absurdity and Vonnegut I suggest you read *Slapstick* and *Cat's Cradle* first. By then you'll be hooked.

\*\*\*

Kurt is 69 and been living in Manhattan since 1970.

\*\*\*

Going down like ice cream like a Vonnegut novel should it can be read in one night. This anti-hero, who

'authors' the book, is awaiting his fate at the end of events he revues for us throughout the novel. The old man sticks in pieces here and there to entertain, almost like in a detective novel. More like a Defective (read El Bourba) Novel his anecdotal hits and verbal hiccups are old, but comfortable, hat.

Some would say *Hocus Pocus* is much more tasty than a lot of the epic poetry contained in the University's literary canon. Those in this institution deem what is to be preserved in the canon. While others want to burn *Slaughter House Five*, some have chosen to teach Kurt Vonnegut in their class. Good for them!

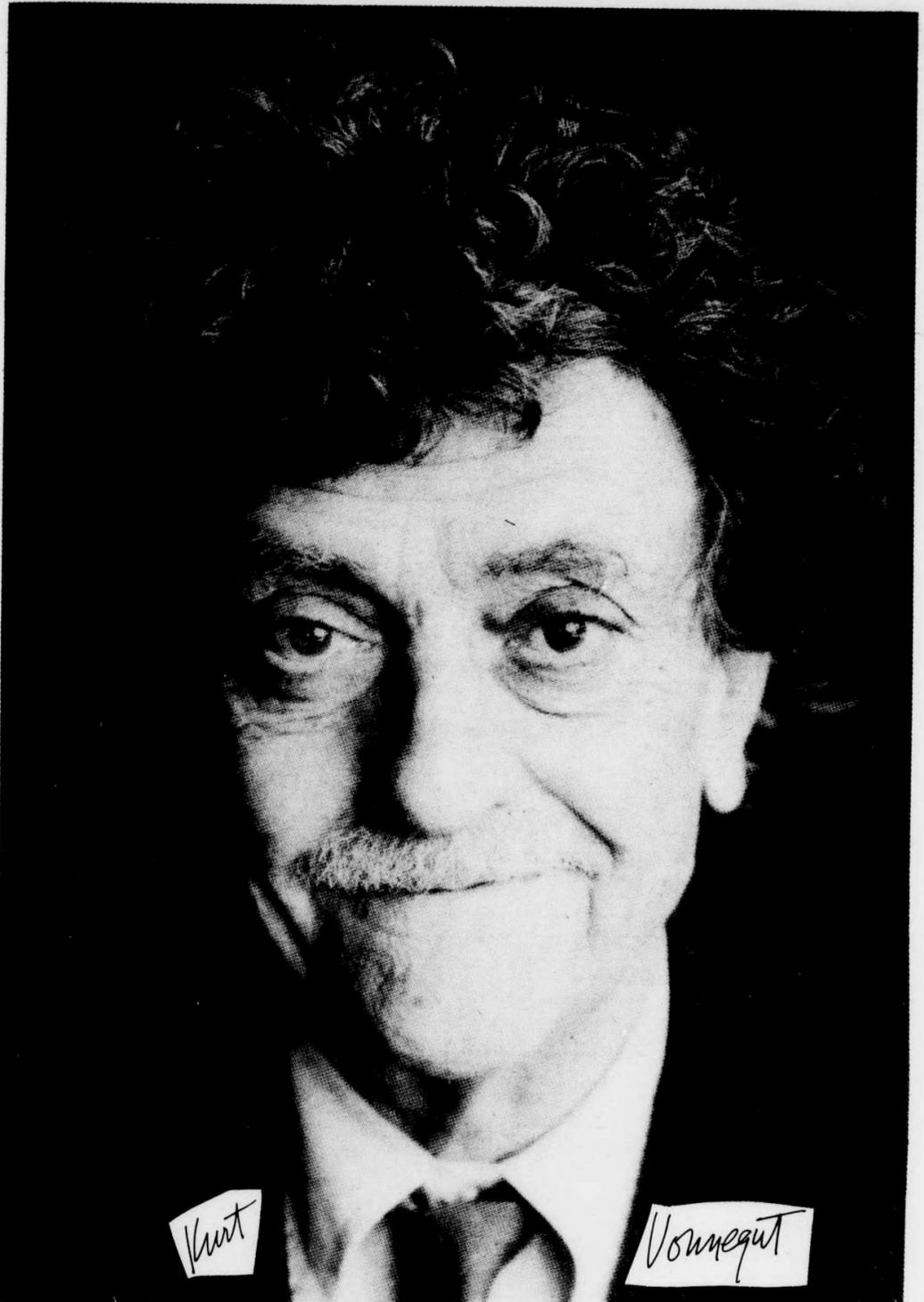
\*\*\*

I was glad of the return of the sci-fi writer, although he was anonymous. I would like to see another *Venus and The Halfshell*, which is very obscure and impossible to find. The publication of the returning sci-fi writer is *Black Garter*. Some of Kurt's stories were published in *Playbill*, including an essay on censorship.

The unknown men's magazine published author, whose stories are summarized in Vonnegut's novels was one of the greatest things Kurt gave to the America Absurd. The author's name is Kilgore Trout.

\*\*\*

I enjoyed the novel overall, though in the history of his metafiction. *Hocus Pocus* is just a novelty. So it goes.



Kilgore Trout's mild return: Like a defective (read El Bourba) story, Kurt uses techniques such as small anecdotes and verbal hiccups that are now part of the traditional Vonnegut repertoire. Read *Slapstick* first.



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## ARTS

# Casino worth the gamble

by Mike Raycraft

**Blue Rodeo**  
*Casino*  
WEA Records

There is a very old vaudeville joke that goes something like this: "What's high in the middle and round at both ends?" Answer: O-H-I-O, get it, OHIO.

Though by today's standards this passes off as bad humor, the essence of Blue Rodeo's latest release, *Casino*, is quite similar. Not that *Casino* is in itself a bad joke, but there are two very equally enjoyable ends separated by a middle that does not serve justice to the album's entirety.

The opening cuts, "Til I am Myself Again," "What am I Doing Here," and 5 a.m. (a love song), are fine examples of what Blue Rodeo can do best: orchestrating a likeable, unique blend of country-rock-blues filled with the usual hurtin' lyrics and rhythmic twangs on guitar provided by Jim Cuddy and Greg Keelor.

Though the tempo is energetically up-beat, there are sentiments of self-doubt; "I know what's passing me by, when I look in the mirror, sometimes I see, traces of some other guy", touched with sprinkles of bitter-sweet humor; "sometimes I



**Bazil Donovan, Bob Wiseman, Jim Cuddy, Greg Keelor, and Mark French (left to right) comprise Toronto's own Blue Rodeo. *Casino* proves that this band is not a "freaked out flathead hollow-eyed hallucination."**

wish we didn't know how to talk, and as we sort out the who said you said who said I said, I only wish I came a little better prepared."

Following is the slower, subdued sounds of "Montreal" which keeps

*Casino* in balance thus maintaining its flow.

That flow is cut short however by the fairly forgettable "Last Laugh." The only thing worth remembering about this song is a lesson once learned to stay away from Tequila:

as much as possible. One mention of "You were drunk on the silver" was all I needed to hear.

"Trust Yourself," "Two Tongues," and "Time" are a revival of the band's sound vis-a-vis their previous release *Diamond Mine*. "Trust Yourself" in fact plays as if it should have been on D.M. There are striking similarities in '60s funk-adelic style through guitar, bass and keyboard sounds "Two Tongues" also attempts to revitalize the sounds of yester-year with its hard-edge guitar and pounding Hammond organ riffs a.k.a Lenny Kravitz. There are even lyrical attempts to match the attempts at sound: "You're a freaked out flathead hollow-eyed bad hallucination."

The drive behind "Time" relies on more of a new-wave push but as a hook inserts flighty harmony vocals reminiscent of early California rock.

The closing tracks "After the Rain" and "You're Everywhere" are among the best on the album.

"After the Rain" is a beautiful piece equal in every way to that of its predecessor "Try." Finishing with "You're Everywhere" the band ends *Casino* on a fittingly flat-out, highly rambunctious note.

Though there is nothing out of the ordinary on this record, on the whole *Casino* is an enjoyable slab of vinyl.

The band's first for WEA does produce some exciting moments. Unfortunately, Blue Rodeo's attention seems apparently diverted by their pursuit of many alternative sounds. Thus as a consequence the potential of a really great album is manifested into only a good album. Still, *Casino* is indeed worth a spin or two.



***Casino* produces some exciting moments but the Rodeo guys' attention seems diverted by too many musical styles.**

## Dead make intricately carved music

by "Switch"

**Dead Can Dance**  
*Aion*  
Polygram/4AD

Gregorian chant, Elizabethan chamber music, Italian traditional with Celtic overtones form the essence of Dead Can Dance.

The music of Brendan Perry and Lisa Gerrard is like a rare perfume, rich and luxurious yet elusive and mysterious.

*Aion* forms a pagentry of sound which uses the voice as an instrument as complexly and majestically as a harp.

*Aion*, the sixth release from D.C.D. is the follow-up to the solid *The Serpent and the Egg* L.P.

Perry's earthy ballads are once again found to be the ideal compli-

ment to Gerrard's ethereal mezzo intricacies.

*Aion* takes the listener through the world of sound, to a locale unrecognizable but distinctly familiar. Through the use of voice, synthesizers as well as traditional instruments audio art is created with no equal in the field.

Out of the twelve tracks, only the two sung by Perry are in English, yet lovers of the true purity of sound will not be phased by foreign words.

Dead Can Dance, unlike the Coc-teau Twins, compose music with history, and regality. Having the opportunity to experience them live resulted in a fresh view of the virginity of sound. The value of the Dead, who very definitely can dance, is not even so much inherent in the music itself, but in the atmosphere which is so delicately created by their talents.



**A detail from Hieronymus Bosch's painting entitled "The Garden of Delights." Or the CD cover for Dead Can Dance's *Aion*. Either way it works.**

**Arts writers!  
Excal will be  
discussing its  
upcoming edi-  
torial elections  
this Wed. at 4  
pm. Please  
attend**

### FALL/WINTER 1990/91 SESSION

**Keep in mind  
The last day to petition for permission to register  
late for Winter Term courses is:**

**FRIDAY  
FEBRUARY 8, 1991**

This notice is a final reminder. Students who have not paid their academic fees and applicable late service charges by January 18, 1991 were notified that enrolment in Winter Term courses had been cancelled.

Any student wishing to be registered was advised of the need to petition for permission to register late. Petitions which demonstrate administrative default on the part of a University office or cover compassionate reasons are considered. The Registrar's decision is final.

Petitions must be submitted in writing. The appropriate form is available from the Registrar's Office, Suite C130 West Office Building, telephone 736-5155.

Office of the Registrar  
January 4, 1991

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# SPORTS



## Referee scandal rocks UQTR

by Josh Rubin

Is it jealousy? Is it rotten refereeing? Both, maybe?

Whatever the reason, there's controversy brewing in the OUAA hockey this season.

Most of the controversy is centred around the refereeing at the home rink of the Trois Rivières Patriotes.

In an informal *Excalibur* poll of league coaches, over half feel that officiating at the UQTR rink has been biased.

The Patriotes, who are 13-0 so far this year, have traditionally fared much better in front of their raucous fans at Jean-Guy Talbot arena.

According to UofT coach Paul Titanic, the reason they do so well isn't just the standard home-ice advantage.

"It's the only place in the league where you know that when push comes to shove, the referees are going to side with the home team," Titanic said.

Titanic's comments were echoed by one source, who added that at the season's start, UQTR was threatened with being booted from the league if their officiating wasn't improved.

That suggestion, however, was discounted by league convenor Bill Oliver.

"I've been in hockey a long time, and the officiating in Trois Rivières is no worse than anywhere else in the league," Oliver said. "The only discussion there was is when we reaffirmed that good referees are needed for the game's integrity."

Yet Oliver admits receiving letters about one referee who allegedly made racist remarks to Anglophone players in a game at Trois Rivières.

However, Oliver claims the official involved has been barred from future OUAA matchups.



Excalibur file photo

**Three (selectively) blind mice?: Officials at Trois Rivières' Jean-Guy Talbot Arena, pictured here, have been accused of a home-town slant to their work. While some dismiss the accusations as jealousy over UQTR's 13-0**

**record in league play. However, even league convenor Bill Oliver admits he received letters about one "racist" referee in the Trois Rivières rink.**

Oliver also says that UQTR simply couldn't influence the officials at their rink.

"As OUAA convenor, I call . . . a group based in Montreal and they hire the officials on a contract basis," added Oliver.

Trois Rivières athletic director Jean-Francois Grenier confirmed Oliver's claim.

"We never know who's going to be refereeing until the night of the game," said Grenier.

Grenier feels every team has some problems with officiating in their own rink.

"But," Grenier added, "that might take on a greater significance because of our success."

One francophone coach in Ontario blamed the situation on jealous English coaches.

"I don't see any problems in Trois Rivières when I go there," claimed the coach.

But York coach Graham Wise

feels "It's a French-English thing."

In November, Wise and his charges faced several controversial penalty calls which they claim helped put the game out of reach.

It must be pointed out here, however, that the Yeomen lost that one 8-4.

But whatever happens, rest assured that come playoff time, all eyes around the league will be focussed on the town at Trois Rivières.

## Yeowomen volleyballers crush Ryerson at Tait

by Nathan Cohen

Suffice it to say that it wasn't much of a test.

At last week's match with the Ryerson Lady Rams, the York squad dominated, sweeping the match 3-0.

With scores of 15-2, 15-7 and 15-5, York head coach Merv Mosher had a hard time getting his troops up for the game.

After all, the Yeowomen have a 7-0 league record and are ranked number 1 in the CIAU.

"In a match like this, it's awfully difficult to gauge how well we're doing," Mosher said. "We can really see much better at the big tournaments."

Mosher was referring to tourneys such as York's own Tait McKenzie, where this year, they dumped the

UBC Thunderbirds for the bronze medal.

Still, Mosher is happy with his team's play so far this season.

"I'd say we've improved since at this stage last year," Mosher said.

The Yeowomen, however, are looking forward to the national championships, which take place in Calgary March 7 to 9.

At the CIAUs, they will be hungry

to improve on last year's third-place finish.

"The players know that getting the gold will be difficult, but they see it as a definite possibility," Mosher said.

But more immediately, Mosher's mashers have a crosstown matchup against the always tough team from UofT Feb. 5.

The Yeowomen round out their schedule with a pair of matches at Tait McKenzie.

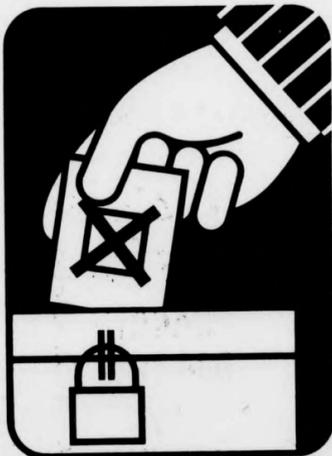
On Feb. 8 they take on the Ottawa GGs, while the next day they meet a side from Queen's.

After that, it's on to the provincial championship.

# Hey you sportswriters!!!

If you have written an article for *Excalibur* this year (or even if you haven't), come to Wednesday's staff meeting. It's in the newsroom at 4 pm and we'll be discussing important stuff about our upcoming editorial election.

Thanks,  
Josh



### Next issue:

- Yeomen UQTR preview
- Hockey women meet Mac
- Track at Windsor
- Figure skating comes to York
- Much, much more

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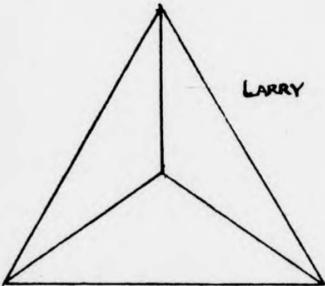
# The? RIDDLER



Realizing that most brains still remain in neutral from the holiday season, The Riddler mercifully offers this solitary puzzle for you to ponder.

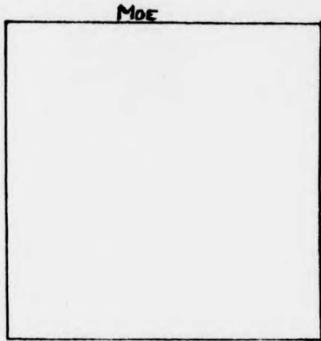
1. Three septegenarian Ontario farmers, Larry, Curly, and Moe sat down one night to decide how each was going to divide his land equally among his sons.

Larry's property was in the shape of a regular triangle (as was, curiously, his head). After some thought, he discovered how he could divide this land into three plots, one for each of his three sons, and all the same size and shape.

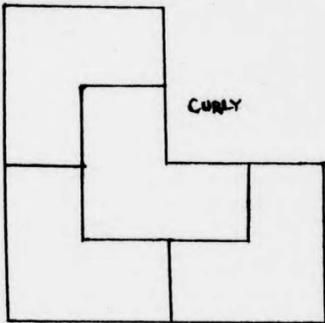


Curly had four sons, and his land was L-shaped, like three-quarters of a square. He finally found that four similarly-shaped segments could

give his sons plots that were equal sizes and shapes to each other.



Moe, certainly the most active farmer, had a square-shaped plot of land and five sons for which he had to divide the land. After hours of thought, Moe gave up. Can you help Moe out by dividing his plot into five segments, with each segment being the exact same size and shape as the others?



**ANSWERS TO VOLUME X (Pre-Holidays):**

1. The next class was to be the following day, or tomorrow.
2. A minimum of three buses.
3. Their ages were 28, 26 and 25.

## HORRORSCOPE

by Mary Cerisano

**Aquarius (Jan.20-Feb.19)**

Material success will be knocking at your door — ANSWER!

**Pisces (Feb.20-Mar.20)**

Keep your schedule open because you're likely to have more fun doing something on the spur of the moment.

**Aries (Mar.21-Apr.19)**

Your logic and intuition are in sync today. This will give you the edge when assessing a critical situation.

**Taurus (Apr.20-May 20)**

Don't give up on a difficult situation today. Persistence could turn the tables and put success back in your reach.

**Gemini (May 21-June 20)**

Listen carefully and you'll be able to improve plans that have already been made.

**Cancer (June 21-July 22)**

A close friend will give you financial advice that involves taking a risk. Don't ignore what he/she has to say.

**Leo (July 23-Aug.22)**

Treat all new alliances with extra consideration.

**Virgo (Aug.23-Sept.22)**

Keep in mind that nothing is written in stone. Use your ingenuity and resourcefulness to your advantage.

**Libra (Sept.23-Oct.23)**

Stay on top of major events, the outcome could influence your future plans.

**Scorpio (Oct.24-Nov.22)**

The best things in life aren't always of a material nature.

**Sagittarius (Nov.23-Dec.21)**

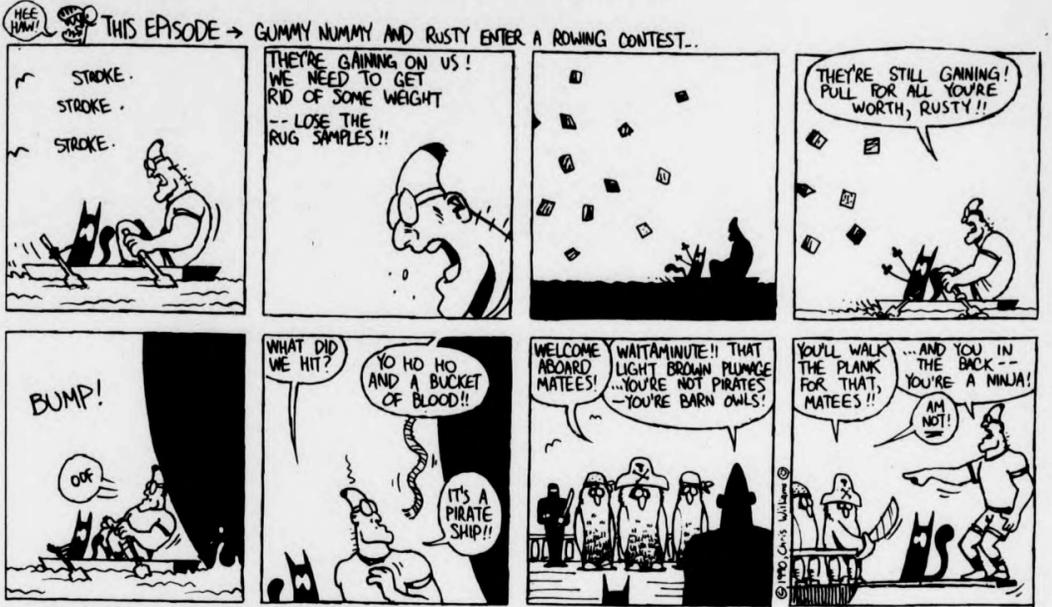
Set your goals and don't take your eyes off your target. Provided you remain motivated and focussed, you will be successful.

**Capricorn (Dec.22-Jan.19)**

Give the new interests in your life priority over your normal routine. The day could turn out to be productive.

## LAUGH O RAMA

### Intelligent Humor by Chris Williams



### Odyssey by Pinc



### For Pete's Sake by Roe



### SUBMARINE SAMMY BY BRETT LAMB

