

pro tem

39^e année

Provoquant depuis 1962

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Pro Tem

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The Eternal Optimist
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The One Eyed Conqueror
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Christie Adams
Strider
Valencia
Jean Chuck

Pro Tem is the bilingual and independent newspaper of Glendon College, founded in 1962 as the student publication of York University. En plus d'être gratuit, Pro Tem est le seul journal bilingue en Ontario. Les opinions et les faits émis par les signataires n'engagent qu'eux-mêmes, et non l'équipe éditoriale. Les articles sous-entendant des propos diffamatoires, racistes, antisémites, sexistes ou homophobes ne seront pas publiés. The deadline to submit ads and articles is every other Wednesday. Nos bureaux sont situés dans le Manoir Glendon, local 117. Tirage: 3000 exemplaires

Letters to the editor

A while ago

Enough is Enough!

I am enraged at the GCSU's lack of respect for the Glendon community - students, professors and staff. I feel that this is a problem for all of us to consider and think upon. The GCSU has no right to regulate student affairs without our express permission.

The first point that I would like to make relates to the preparations that the GCSU made for the strike on February 2. Glendon was turned into a propaganda site with posters, stickers, people wearing pins, etc. You would think they were fighting abortion, or rallying people for war. I remember judging that with all the money it took to print all that stuff, the GCSU could have paid a good portion of someone's tuition, or maybe helped fund some of the poorer student clubs. I was going to vote against the strike, since I did not believe in its effectiveness. However, when I understood the true meaning of my vote, I decided to simply not vote at all. Among other things, the Vice President of the GCSU had just invited everyone who was against the proceedings and the strike to fuck off and made some other derogatory statements.

I'd also like to comment on the GCSU in general. I have heard many complain about it, its tactics and its actions. The Glendon students were fooled by their own representatives to vote for something completely different from what they had come there for. My question is, however, who gave the ok on having a strike at all?

"We have the power to declare a strike for the students, since you voted for us," says the GCSU. Even if I had voted for them, I

would still have not given them such authority. This power should rest among the students. However, it seems the roles are reversed, to the general detriment of the student.

This is not the Leviathan, my GCSU friends. You are not our supreme rulers, but simply our representatives. The only powers we give you are vested in the GCSU constitution, which I possess. Here are your only duties: You can "foster activities and events which will enhance the university experience... and contribute to the educational and social value of the college," you are allowed to "assist and encourage academic pursuits," you may "organize and regulate self-government," and you can "encourage participation...in all aspects of college and community life." There is NO mention of any powers to strike on our behalf ANYWHERE in this document. If it is not part of the constitution, it is not a part of your powers. The blame rests on you. Not only should you declare the voting results null and void, and have another vote on whether or not to HAVE a strike, but you should also all publicly apologize to the students! Do not sell us off to the highest bidder, or waste the money we give you by almost forcing this strike down our throats with hundreds of signs and posters. Do not dare to fool the student body!

What respect can I have for someone like the GCSU, as MY representatives, when they ask me to fuck off? What kind of message are you sending to our professors and the community? What sort of students are you? For all the above reasons, I vote against you, Glendon College Student Union!

-Mihnea Dumitru

An apology from the Vice President

To all Glendon Students,
Firstly, a thank you to all of you who were able to participate in last Thursday's general assembly concerning Access 2000. I am glad to see that students are taking an active role in the future of post-secondary education. I would like to apologize, sincerely, for the comments that I made that afternoon as I know they were offensive to some. My intention was not to offend, but rather to emphasize the importance of taking a stand for such a worthy cause. Some have said that my statements were unprofessional and discrediting. True enough; however, I will not wear a muzzle (sorry) and I will not remain silent on matters which I am passionate about.

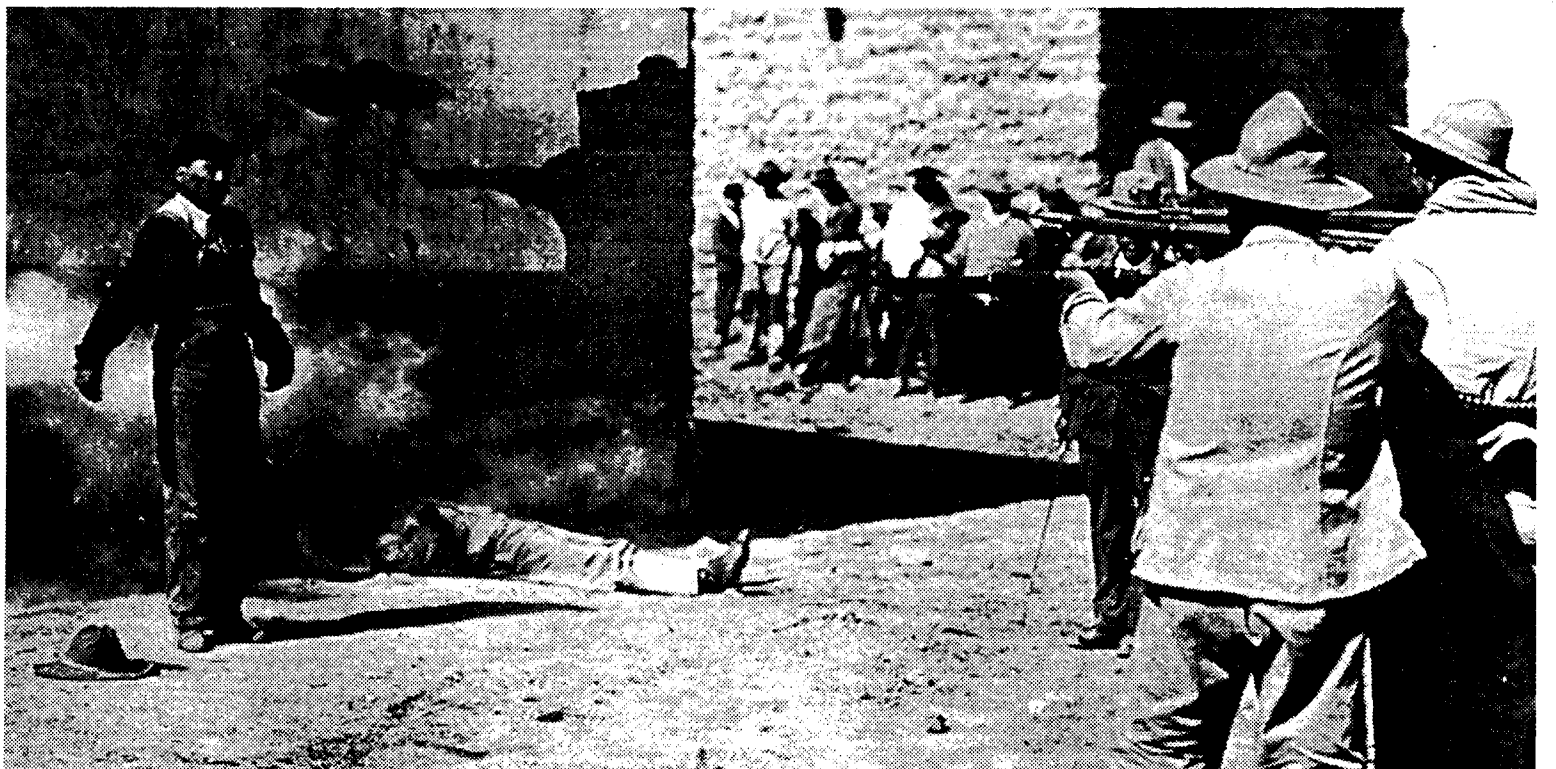
I have no intentions of being a politician because, frankly, I refuse to play bureaucratic monopoly. I'm better at the game of RISK. This is my opinion, and in no way reflects the dedication and commitment that other members on Council clearly demonstrate. Many of my colleagues at the GCSU are well-versed in student politics. Unfortunately, I was never given a 'rule book' as to how to play the 'game'. I speak my mind, good or bad, and for this I do not apologize. If honesty is a crime, then I am guilty as charged.

My statements at the assembly stemmed from the frustration I felt, and although it was not the 'proper' way to address these feelings, it did inspire a response from people. At least some student apathy was eliminated. For that, I am happy. My job is not to schmooze or go to cocktail parties. My job is to represent the students and to make change happen as fast as possible (I am only around for one year). To accomplish this, I find that direct action works.

Frederick Douglass was an African abolitionist who once said, "Those who profess to favour freedom, yet deprecate agitation, are people who want crops without plowing up the ground. They want rain without thunder and lightning. They want the ocean without the awful roar of its many waters. This struggle may be a moral one; or it may be a physical one; or it may be both moral and physical; but it must be a struggle. Power concedes nothing without demand. It never did and it never will."

Lastly, I appreciate the feedback I have received, both positive and negative. It lets me know that people are listening and that people care. Have the courage to stand up for what you believe in, be counted and be heard. I hope to see a lot of you out there with us on February 2 ... but, hey, to each their own.

- Nicole Lavigne
Vice President, Glendon College Students' Union



News/Nouvelles

J'accuse!

D. Yanchus, P. Morton, and C. McConnell-

Everyone knows the pub is in trouble. Last Tuesday night, GCSU vice-president Nicole Lavigne took the matter into her own hands, and, without consulting the rest of Council, wrote them a cheque for over \$2600.

"I thank the GCSU for the emergency loan, for if they had not given it to me, the pub would have been forced to close its doors on Friday January 28, 2000." This quote from Lee Appleton, president of the pub board, shows how desperate the situation was. Apparently, the pub needed to send \$2680.87 to the York Administration on Wednesday morning to pay for insurance premiums and the phone bill, otherwise they would not have received money for meal card sales. This would have meant not paying their staff and their suppliers and not being able to stay open.

Caught in a financial bind, pub manager Jen Jöynt asked Gilles Fortin, from Student Affairs, for a loan during the day on Tuesday, but he said he could not help her. He advised her to

approach the GCSU for help, since they are a student organization whose goal is to support students' needs. Ms. Joynt, who is also the GCSU's director of cultural affairs, then contacted vice-president Nicole Lavigne. Ms. Lavigne agreed to the loan, since in her opinion, "it was then and there, or the pub was closing."

The standard practice on expenditures over \$200 within the GCSU is to consult council before endorsing the cheque (last year's \$5000 loan to pub was only approved after a four-hour council meeting). In extraordinary circumstances, a cheque can be written simply with the approval of both the president and vice-president. In this case, neither of these procedures was followed. "I could have called Christy, I could have done a lot of things, but I didn't" says Ms. Lavigne. She acknowledges that she broke the GCSU constitution, but feels that this was necessary. In her defense, president Christy Biggs stated "if there's a choice between the constitution and saving pub, I'm sure most students would support Nicole's

decision."

Some student groups who have been waiting for payments from the GCSU may wonder why pub gets first priority, especially since the pub is a separate, incorporated business. There is also the issue of last year's loan of \$5000, which has not yet been repaid. Other clubs that have been in dire straits this year have not been rescued in the same way. The United Nations Club, for example, was forced to cancel two conferences because they did not receive money in time from the GCSU. President Ishani Gunasekera states: "We're not in debt, but we had to give up a lot just because we did not receive money in time." In October, Pro Tem came very close to having their phone cut off through lack of funds, but they were saved by an emergency loan from Student Affairs, since the GCSU did not have any money to loan them. Later, they were promised by Ms. Lavigne that they would receive their second installment of funds, which is usually paid at the beginning of second semester, in December. When the time came to pay, they only

received a third of the amount promised, with the excuse from Ms. Lavigne that "...pub still owed them \$5000" and they were out of money. Pro Tem still has not received their full payment, but obviously the GCSU has enough money to finance the pub's troubles.

Ms. Lavigne even said last Thursday that if any clubs need money, they should come and see her. It would therefore appear that the GCSU has received some money since December. President Biggs, however, said on the same day that "we are getting our second installment [of the student levy] in a week." and cannot pay student groups until then.

Furthermore, other student leaders have voiced reservations as to the way in which this situation was handled. "I feel disillusioned, I think it wasn't constitutionally responsible", says Student Senator Will Paterson. "If I were president, I would run Council differently", says Director of Academic Affairs Ian Smith. President Christy Biggs says "I'm for the constitutional process, but I'm going to stand behind the VP." Even the

pub board president, Lee Appleton, questioned the methods involved: "Although I have not read the constitution, I would suggest that politically, the proper channels were not consulted."

Meanwhile, back at the Pub on Thursday night, a contest was being held for the first person to name the GCSU member who single-handedly saved the Pub from imminent closing. The answer, of course, was Nicole Lavigne, revealed in a heartfelt thank-you speech by Ms. Joynt. Nothing was mentioned about the GCSU in general, or the student body who supports it, just a philanthropic allocation of funds by a single council member.

Even Ian Smith says that "sometimes, as directors, we act from the heart." Given that directors are human and prone to emotional decisions, should it ever be up to one person to decide which segment of the student population the student government is going to support? How effective is a constitution if it can be overridden by a single member on the spur of the moment?

Annonces

The Glendon Women's Centre talks about sex

Depuis trop longtemps, les gens croient que les féministes sont trop sérieuses. Pour cette nouvelle année qui commence, le Centre des femmes de Glendon a décidé de prendre un sujet sérieux et de le rendre un peu plus amusant. En effet, notre génération est celle de la protection latex systématique. Malgré tout, il y a encore des gens qui ne les utilisent pas. Pour contribuer à la santé sexuelle de la population de Glendon, il y aura des condoms distribués gratuitement dans les toilettes de York Hall et Pub avec quelques informations relatives à leur utilisation.

Also, come to join us at the Pub on February 10 @ 7pm. Good for her presents "Sextoys and playfulness", a very interesting workshop for open-minded people. Men are welcome if accompanied by a woman. Saint-Valentine's Day is coming...the Spring break too...what else can be as useful as this spe-

cial evening?

For only 3\$ you get: admission to the workshop and admission to the traditional Thursday pub night. Tickets will be on sale soon...

Questions? Comments? Need food bank services? We are here for you! Come at our office in Hilliard D124 everyday between 9 and 9.

Au plaisir de vous voir en grand nombre à notre prochain workshop.

Les coordonnatrices: Karine et Sue

RG is seeking help!

RG is still looking for new volunteers, particularly hosts for morning shows, and entertainment/news reports. We're also hiring a finance director (ASAP!). Interested? Call us at 487-6739, e-mail ckr@glen-don.yorku.ca, or drop by the office in the basement of the Manor and fill out an applica-

tion...join the hard-headed rebellion.

Foire des spécialisations/ Major exploration fair!

Tuesday, February 8, 2000 from 11h00-13h15 in the Salon Garigue, Pavillion York Savez-vous naviguer à travers les océans académiques? Avez-vous peur d'être pris dans les glaces des préalables? Avez-vous un bon croquis d'itinéraire pour votre voyage?

There will be lifeboats of information including:

-Majors available @ Glendon
-Certificates available @ Glendon

-Tips on How to Choose a Major
-Representatives from academic programs and departments, Office of Student Programs, Career & Counselling Centre, Advising and Liaison.

-Games and refreshments too!

NOTICE

Pro Tem

The next Pro Tem meeting will be held on Monday January 31 at 7:00 p.m., in 117 Glendon Hall.

La prochaine réunion de Pro Tem aura lieu le lundi 31 janvier à 19h00 au 117 Glendon Hall.

If you have any comments or questions, feel free to contact us at 487-6736 or by e-mail at

prottem@delphi.glendon.yorku.ca.

Letters to the editor should include your name and a phone number where you can be reached. Your letters should not exceed 400 words.

Thank you!

Si vous avez des questions ou commentaire, n'hésitez pas à nous rejoindre au 487-6736 ou par courriel à

prottem@delphi.glendon.yorku.ca.

Toutes lettres à l'éditeur doivent être signées et doivent inclure votre numéro de téléphone. Les lettres ne doivent pas contenir plus de 400 mots.

News/Nouvelles

Bridging the Gap Between Access and Awareness

Katherine Spence-

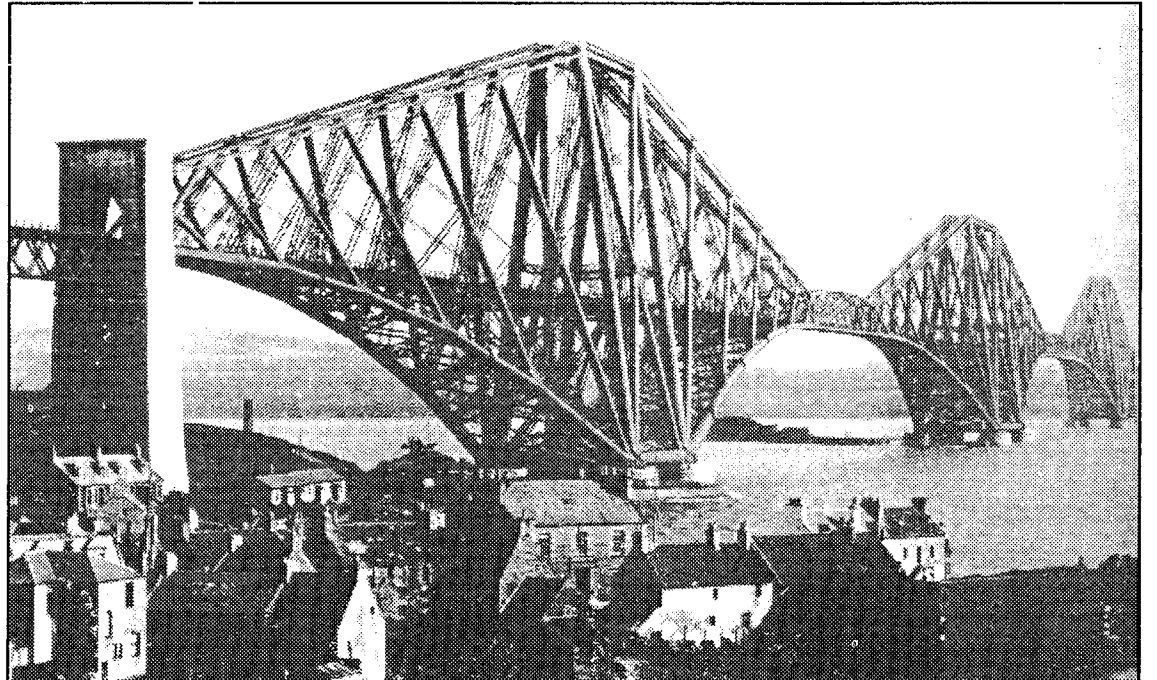
The celebration of Access Awareness Week each year at Glendon is designed to inform our student population of the improvements our institution needs to make to facilitate students with special needs. Furthermore, Access Awareness Week is designed to quell the dominating misconceptions that society has attached to people who have a disability. As a result, I met Christina Minacki, who is a disabled student at Glendon and is deeply involved with the preparation of Access Awareness Week. She generously took the time to share some thoughts about her disability with me in an interview for Pro Tem, to heighten student awareness and recognition of Access Awareness Week.

What is your disability and how does it affect your day-to-day life?

Christina- My disability is Cerebral Palsy, which occurred for me as a result of a shortage of oxygen to the brain at birth. However, Cerebral Palsy can manifest itself if there is a shortage of oxygen at any time during early childhood. The qualities that characterize my disability are impaired balance and severe tightness in my muscles. As a result, I can only walk for short distances and need to use a cane

or wheelchair for long distances. My writing speed tends to be slower and it is important that I follow an intense workout program for three hours each day. How is university life for you with a disability? (Socially and Academically)

C- My academic life is not deeply affected because my disability does not have a direct impact upon school. However, I have to practice rigid time management because I have to maintain my health and physical stability, which takes a lot of time. Especially, things like transportation to and from school. I take a bus that comes at specific times and accommodates people who have special needs. Since the bus follows a route, it can take up to an hour to reach home, while it might take only twenty minutes with regular transportation. My social life is very good; after all, my friends are already filtered, because they had to look past the wheelchair. When I was younger it was a bit harder because I had to follow an intense exercise program that took 15-16 hours a day, so there was not enough time to attend regular school and I was home schooled until I was twelve. It was difficult to adjust to school life because I was a little shy and sometimes it felt like I was learning skills that every-



one learns at an early age.

What motivates you to continue with your goals when you face difficult challenges that arise because of your disability?

C- When I was younger, it was hard to deal with the conflict that you are the same as everyone else with dreams, fears, and emotions. But because there are so many things that you don't do the same way as other people, you feel and almost believe that you are different. But now I recognize that life is a challenge and once you see your limitations differently, they don't have the same effect anymore.

If you could give any advice or share any thought with someone who is disabled and going through some of the same difficulties you have encountered, what would it be?

C- It is a process one has to go through- to see things a little differently and work through the painful spots, which is hard. However, when you see that you are part of a change in making things happen and you see things positively, you realize that you are part of creating a new outlook and simultaneously part of the outlook itself.

It would be hypocritical for me to say after doing this interview with Christina that I still do not carry misconceptions about individuals with special needs. I am like everyone else, someone slowly becoming aware of changes that need to be made and issues in perception that need to be confronted. However, I would say that working on Access Awareness Week has made me more informed and sensitive to the needs and expectations of students with disabilities.

Controversy Surrounds Strike Vote

Colleen McConnell-

The motion to strike was overwhelmingly approved, but not everyone is happy about it.

The January 20 general assembly began in an orderly fashion, with speeches by members of the Glendon College Students' Union (GCSU) and the Canadian Federation of Students (CFS), but ended with uncertainty as to the procedures of voting and the effectiveness of a strike.

The GCSU's plan was to have students register to vote, then hold the assembly to inform them, then have them vote by a show of hands at the end of the assembly. However, when one student stood up and said "I didn't register my name so that my vote could be made public," and others agreed with her, the

controversy that had been building up throughout the afternoon could no longer be contained. GCSU vice-president Nicole Lavigne began to respond to that student with "If you don't have the balls to stand up for what you believe in...", but luckily she refrained (or was prevented) from finishing the sentence.

The damage had been done, however. Ms. Lavigne's "intellectually stimulating language", also called "bumper sticker speak" by one student, took away any semblance of order, and, for some, undermined the credibility of the entire assembly. One political science student even said "I just lost all support for my students' union, right now."

Ms. Lavigne says that it had

never occurred to her to have a vote by secret ballot. To her, the strike is something that all students should support, since it is an effort to help students, and she had not realized that it could be a sensitive issue. She had not expected students to demand the right to vote, no matter what the issue, by secret ballot.

A large part of the controversy during the assembly was due to students questioning the effectiveness of the strike. Students wondered why they should lose part of the education that they have paid so much for, even if it is just one morning, if nobody is going to listen anyway. As economics student Dennis Yanchus pointed out, in the summary of the Access 2000 movement there is not one

provincial-specific demand. "No demands are being made to Mike Harris, so he could just say 'you're right, go talk to Chretien in Ottawa'".

Another student pointed out that even if some demands are made at both the provincial and federal level, it is too easy for each level to blame the other. The provincial government will say that the federal government does not grant them enough transfer payments for education, and the federal government will say that they've shown their support for students by creating the Millennium Scholarship, and that they've already gone beyond their call of duty because education is a provincial problem.

Another sore spot with Glendon

students was the motion itself. The motion reads: "Be it resolved that the Glendon student body proceed with a hard strike [...]". To vote "no" to that motion did not mean that we would not go on strike at all, but simply that we would proceed with a soft strike. This means that the decision to strike, in some form, had already been made by the GCSU. Students wondered why they were not consulted to help make that decision as well, since their classes could be affected even by a soft strike. Whether they support the GCSU or not, students still supported their motion to strike. Of the 207 students who voted (just 36 above the quorum required), 81% want to hold a hard strike on February 2.

Voices Unheard

P Ghetto Bastard
& Ruth (Evergreen Center for Street Youth, 381 Yonge Street)-

As one walks the downtown core under the glare of the neon signs and the ugly shadows of our concrete creations, eventually an urban oasis is encountered. This bright star, which far outshines its demonic contemporaries, is known to all those who frequent its premises as the "Evergreen". In writing, this youth center is part of an "interdenominational Christian organization called to bring God's peace, dignity and justice to the poor and needy in downtown Toronto". In practical terms, Evergreen is a safe place where street youth can rest, eat, obtain health care and get help finding a job or a place to stay. As a part of the Yonge Street Mission, there does indeed lie a fundamental religious undertone to all the activities which take

place at Evergreen. Yet to the casual observer this spiritual ideal is overshadowed by the shadiness of its clientele. In the words of Ruth, who kept my company for over half an hour as I wandered the locale, almost everyone who uses the Evergreen is wanted by the law for one thing or another. Ruth readily admits that most of the youth who frequent her "safe haven" survive by illegal means. Often, this does create a rather precarious situation in that every once and a while the old federalis show up looking for someone in particular. The key to the success of Evergreen lies in that it is a commune, free of unwanted distractions. Therefore, if the police show up it is understood that the suspect will come outside and deal with the situation off the center's grounds. Ruth quickly adds that police are not the only individuals who are not wanted in Evergreen. In many

cases the youth who use the center have come from an unhealthy household. There have been many cases of parents who have also been asked to wait outside. The Evergreen consists of three floors. On the main floor you will find a kitchen area which serves hot meals three times a day. In the same room, which comfortably hosts 30 to 50 people, there is a pool table and an open space for simple relaxation. It is here, Ruth explains, that the youth may come and take a breather from the perils of the outside world. If the main floor is essentially a rest and relaxation area the downstairs is nothing but business. One room houses the Evergreen's Employment and Resource center where the youth can get access to computers and acquire other useful information. Periodically, there are workshops teaching web page

design and other specific programs. The rest of the basement is occupied by a health center. At Evergreen street youth can get everything from their feet checked to an HIV test. There is also a dentist and a chiropractor. Patients who are in need of medication can get it at Evergreen free of charge. Lens Crafters has established a program at Evergreen in which any one in need of glasses may obtain free lenses and frames. There is even a service providing warm clothing and shoes. Ruth estimates that over 6000 different faces used Evergreen in one way or another last year. She explains that because youth in between the ages of 16 and 18 have no opportunity to obtain welfare the services which Evergreen provides are extremely important. These services are provided to anyone under the age of 24. What is also very striking about

Evergreen is the amount of help it receives from private individuals and companies. All the doctors who work at Evergreen are volunteers. Many other professionals donate their time and money to Evergreen in one way or another. The center receives no government assistance. Perhaps the most striking thing about the Evergreen Youth Center is the distinct optimism exuding from the workers and more importantly from the youth. The Evergreen has been successful in creating a safe space for street youth. It also efficiently distributes useful services to people who seem to need them. As Ruth explains, the center's success can be judged in that it experiences such a high turn over rate. In many cases, people don't return to Evergreen simply because they are not in need of the services any longer.

Theft in Residence

Colleen McConnell- Sometimes bad things happen that could not have been prevented. But sometimes bad things happen, and we realize afterwards that they could have been prevented if we had just done something a little differently. This seems to be the case for Vandana Kapoor, who had her laptop stolen about two weeks ago. It was stolen from her room in Wood residence, but it could have happened to any resident, in Wood or Hilliard. Students rarely lock their doors, especially if they are still in the building, and some people are even known for leaving their door unlocked when they go home for the weekend. The fact that students worry so little about leaving their doors open shows that residence provides a comfortable, secure atmosphere. However, Tobi Strohan, Assistant Manager of Student Affairs and Residence Life, states that "every year, we have a couple of reports of things that have gone missing." She had never heard of anything as valuable as a computer or

stereo being stolen, and says that the most common items that are stolen are CDs, books, and cigarettes. "I don't think that we have any rampant theft," she says, but in her opinion, "the best thing we can do is have students lock their doors." For her, this would mean not only when they leave residence, but also when they go visit people in other rooms, or even to the shower. If it becomes known that people lock their doors, this will act as a deterrent for potential thieves. Ms. Strohan also emphasizes that students need to enforce the "escort policy", meaning that they should not let anyone into residence who is not a resident or their own personal guest, and stay with their guests at all times. As another student put it, "it's too bad that now everyone in residence has to lock their doors and feel unsafe because of this" - a few isolated incidents. But as Ms. Kapoor says, "I could have prevented it, maybe," if she had been more vigilant about locking her door.

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SHOPPING FOR CLOTHING

and shoes is something everyone does, often because it's fun. And why wouldn't it be, considering the powerful images the retailers aim at us, the consumers? They are hard to ignore when they are all around us, on TV commercials, magazines, posters, and billboards. Retailers pour millions of dollars into advertising. These images are powerful because we are buying into their campaigns of fantasy and lifestyle. They make us think that if we wear their clothes and/or shoes we will be fashionable, chic, cool, or sporty. A prime example is those funky GAP commercials and print ads that have been in heavy circulation. They are extremely popular, these commercials with the identically dressed young people taking turns singing lines to popular songs like "Mellow Yellow", ending with slogans like "Everybody in Vests" or "Everybody in Leather". No doubt these advertisements have boosted the GAP's annual profits a fair amount.

Most people know only this fantasy and are ignorant of what is really behind the trendy fashion label. For the people who toiled to make the clothes and shoes we buy, it couldn't be further from a fantasy. I'm talking about the ongoing nightmare of sweatshops, which is a daily reality for millions around the globe.

If you think that sweatshop labour is not a current issue, think again. The Charles Dickens era of the Industrial Revolution started in the 1800s, and since then sweatshops have been far too common around the world (think Kathie Lee Gifford and her clothing line circa 1996).

MILLIONS OF PEOPLE

slave away in sweatshops making goods for rich Western countries. The sweatshops are most commonly located in poorer, less developed nations. Clothing is made all over Latin America, including Honduras, Haiti, El Salvador, Nicaragua, and Mexico, parts of Eastern Europe, and Asia. Shoes, particularly sneakers, are mainly produced in Asia in countries like China, Vietnam, Saipan, Indonesia, and Burma (recently renamed Myanmar).

Sweatshop workers are predominantly women and children. Children are easier to exploit, intimidate, abuse, and underpay than adult factory workers.

The treatment of sweatshop workers dangerously parallels that of Jewish slave workers in concentration and death camps during the Holocaust.

The conditions in the sweatshops are indeed horrifying. They

include: being screamed at to work faster, sexual harassment, physical/verbal abuse, being forced to take pregnancy tests (the cost of which comes out of their wages), lack of access to health care, lack of clean water, forced overtime, overcrowding, tight restrictions on washroom use, unbearable heat, inadequate ventilation, and a high risk of being poisoned by toxic chemicals.

It is not uncommon for some workers to die on the job, considering these atrocious conditions and the abuse they receive from supervisors. Nor is it uncommon for workers to faint from unbearable heat, poor ventilation, and exhaustion.

SWEATSHOP WORKERS

have to slave away for long shifts, often without breaks, that are usually at least 12 hours. The pitiful wages they earn vary from 8 cents to maybe a couple of dollars per hour. Many workers even have to work days when they don't get paid! Not exactly a living wage for the worker and even worse if the worker has to support a family. We here in the Western world complain and whine about working a typical 9-5 job. But that is such a joke when these workers can be forced to work up to 18 hours in one day and not get paid for their overtime!

Sweatshop workers work in fear because they could lose their job in a heartbeat. They are often fired and/or threatened with death if they complain about the low pay, working conditions, or try to unionize. Female workers are immediately fired if they are suspected to be pregnant. The oppression doesn't end there.

The tyrant supervisors continually threaten the workers sadistically in numerous ways, including beating the workers if they don't produce a certain amount of product items in a short period of time. The workers could get slapped with shoes or be ordered to lick the factory floors. In 1997, 56 Nike shoe workers in Vietnam were forced to run around the sweatshop in sweltering heat just for not wearing regulation shoes. Twelve of them fainted.

WHO SOME OF THE

Culprits Are Unfortunately, the list of retailers who manufacture their apparel in sweatshops is extensively long, and the status of whether or not a retailer uses sweatshop labour cannot always be confirmed. However, the following are just a few examples of the culprits known to use sweat-

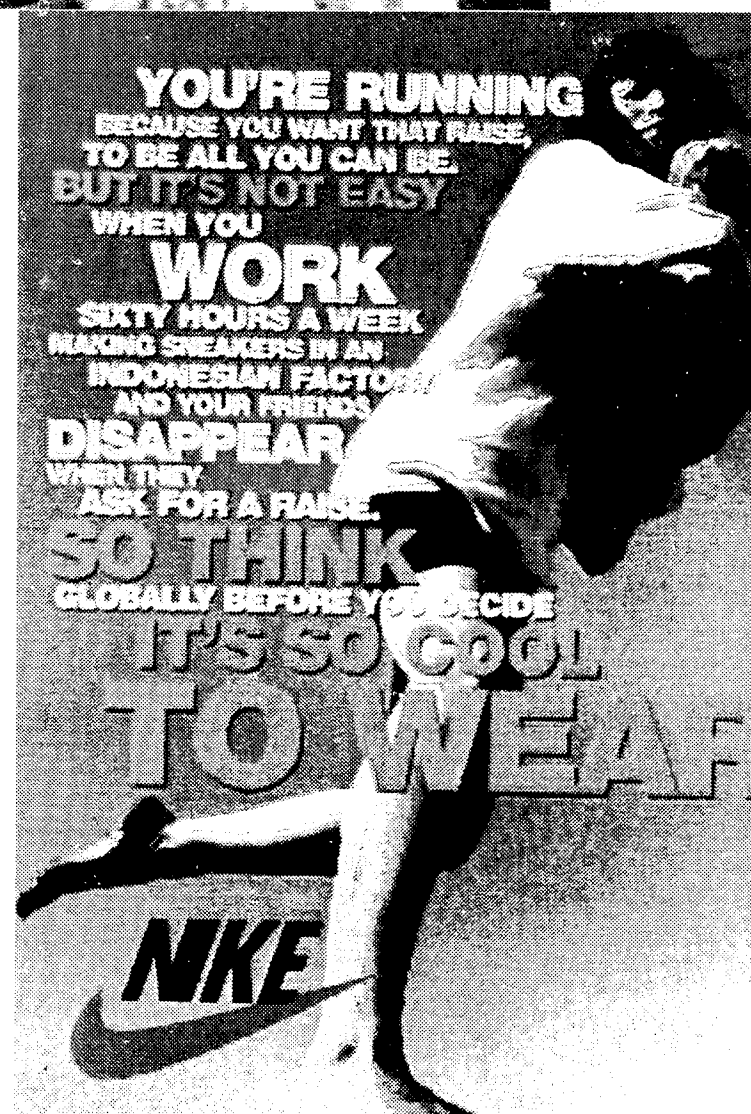
shop labour: Woolworth, which also owns the Canadian Northern company, which includes Northern Reflections, Northern Traditions, and Northern Getaway, the infamous aforementioned GAP which also owns Banana Republic and Old Navy, Tommy Hilfiger, DKNY, Ralph Lauren, Eddie Bauer, Liz Claiborne, Disney, K-Mart, Guess?, Sears, The Limited, Dockers, Reebok, Adidas, Nike, Calvin Klein, and Wal-Mart, one of the latest corporation mogul invasions from America which also carries talk-show host Kathie Lee Gifford's clothing line.

Students Against Sweatshops

From what I've seen at the Glendon bookstore, the clothing labels say "Made in Canada". However, I haven't checked the labels of the clothing sold at York's Keele campus. But even if a garment's label says "Made in Canada" or "Made in the USA", there's no guarantee that it wasn't made under sweatshop conditions; they exist even right here in North America. They are underground and occupied mostly by immigrants both illegal and legal who have language barrier problems.



Challenging child labour



Why some of the clothes we wear are badges of total corruption?

But even if a garment's label says "Made in Canada" or "Made in the USA", there's no guarantee that it wasn't made

under sweatshop conditions; they exist even right here in North America. They are underground and occupied mostly by immigrants both illegal and legal who have language barrier problems.

people to stay wealthy, there must always be a poor lower class. And with the increase of globalization, the gap is widening between the rich and the poor. Most people don't realize that it's the rich countries in the Western world that are keeping the poor countries poor. The corporate giants value \$\$\$ over humanity which is why they exploit to the maximum.

In developed countries, we have minimum wage policies, overtime pay, rights to unionize, and various health benefits including health and maternity leave, laws against child labour, standard regulations the factories must meet, and basic human rights are recognized. Since we have all of these rights, the corporations keep trying to find developing countries to manufacture their merchandise where there will be the lowest minimum wages, the weakest regulations, no unions, the fewest benefits, and hardly any basic human rights. Their motive for doing this is to of course gain as many billions of dollars as possible in profit.

DID YOU KNOW THAT THOSE sneakers you buy for over \$90 cost only \$1.20 in materials to make? Meanwhile, the worker who made the shoe got paid around \$0.20 for the labour. Another example would be a GAP shirt that sells for \$34 at the store. The worker got paid maybe \$0.27 for sewing that GAP shirt and would have to slave away for weeks to earn the money to buy that \$34 shirt. As for a university T-shirt that sells at Yale for \$15, a measly 3 cents went to the sweatshop worker who made it. As you can see, the money differ-

ence is astronomical when comparing what gets paid to the sweatshop labourers and the retailers. And of course, the giant corporations are pocketing the massive difference, which often results in millions if not billions of dollars in profits.

In 1992 Nike paid Michael Jordan \$20,000,000 to advertise their shoes. That sum was more than the combined annual income of the 30,000 Indonesians who produced them!

There is no dignity whatsoever in paying workers starvation wages to keep them in extreme poverty. Even if workers were paid a decent living wage, the corporations' profits still wouldn't be greatly affected—they would still be extremely filthy rich. But consumed by greed, they don't dole out living wages, because they want to ensure that they are ahead of their competitors in earnings by as much as possible.

The retailers must be held accountable for these inhumane treatments, but they are not owning up to their responsibilities, simply because they don't care.

These corporation culprits may say that they are improving conditions and wages, but don't take their word for it.

THEY ARE WEALTHY GIANTS who can manipulate because they have a lot of power. Thus they can and do lie through their teeth to save the image that they invested millions of dollars in creating. Any effort they claim to have made at improving wages and conditions is far too meager or non-existent to achieve any sort of

necessary change. They mislead the public by saying that they will pay minimum wage in some countries, but often that turns out to be a complete and utter hoax.

Nike, for instance, created this big charade that they were increasing the minimum wage for entry-level workers in footwear factories; this minimum wage increase didn't apply to the workers who were already employed there, 63% of staff. The wage appeared to be an increase of 6% from 250,000 rupiah (the Indonesian currency) to 265,000 rupiah per month. Nike makes that sound like an awful lot of rupiah. It actually works out to be a wage increase of only a single penny! Nike didn't bother to mention that the inflation rate in Indonesia was 54% in 1998, and that the local currency lost 70 percent of its value. And what's more, Nike slashed wages 45% from 27 cents an hour in mid-1997. So now Indonesian Nike workers earn 15 cents per hour, which is \$6.07 per week or \$315.54 for the whole year! This proves that it is not in Nike's best interests to eradicate cheap labour. Even though we are in the year 2000, we really haven't conquered slavery, child labour, and the inhumane treatment of sweatshop workers. Now that we know what is behind the trendy fashion label and glossy image, is it really that fashionable after all?

For deeper insight on this global issue, including what you can do, these very thorough websites would answer any questions you might have on the massive corruption of sweatshop labour:

- <http://www.nlcnet.org>
The National Labor Committee is a New York based human rights group focusing on the rights of workers.

- <http://www.globalexchange.org>
The Global Exchange is a California based human rights organization, which promotes environmental, political, and social justice around the world.

- Maquila Solidarity Network, based in Canada, promotes decent wages and working conditions in apparel and toy industries everywhere.

- Free the Children, a Canadian organization that fights to end child labour, abuse, and exploitation around the world.



With having a language barrier, it is even harder for them to know their rights. If the exploited workers don't work in factories, they work in their homes. As if sweatshop wages aren't outrageously low enough, often home workers wages are even less. Their rights are continually violated, as there have been many cases where home workers have been paid late with their cheques even bouncing. So there is no 100% guarantee that York and Glendon's clothes weren't made in sweatshops here in Canada or by home workers. The same goes for athletic wear and employee staff uniforms like those worn by cafeteria workers, custodians, security, etc. Several universities across Canada, including University of Toronto, have organized massive

protests against the use of sweatshop labour behind their campus clothing lines. Several universities and colleges in America have also staged similar protests in the "Sweat Free Campus" campaigns. These campaigns can prove effective and successful because some universities like Duke, Notre Dame, Brown, and Harvard now negotiate codes of conduct as a result of student pressure. **WHY CORPORATIONS USE SweatShops?** The roots of this problem lie in the evils of capitalism. Capitalism is a system where free enterprise is encouraged and anyone can become rich—especially through monopoly. Many people would argue that capitalism is the best system around. However, that is a misguided belief because in order for the rich

Perspectives

Big Mac, large Fries and the Philosophy of Life to go Please!

Rob Shaw-

The other day I'm watching Woodstock 99'. It was a Much Music tribute to the thirtieth anniversary of the original gathering. They are featuring an interview with Rage Against the Machine, who are indulged in self-promoting their new album and talking about how, through all the "hard years" this is going to be their greatest record. Afterwards, their tireless attitudes are replaced for their performance. And I'm watching the lead singer bouncing around the stage, falling, running, sliding, crouching, jumping and performing. Acting. Be that as it may, he was doing a really good job of what this festival did, that being convincing the public that this was real.

I remember, after that weekend in July, reading about the event, and about how by the end there had been fires, looting, assaults and run-ins with the Man. Some articles, at the time, believed that it was a generation of tired youths rebelling against consumerism and control; youths following the lyrical choruses of bands like Rage or Korn or Limp Bizkit. Some articles argued that you couldn't recreate or try and authenticate the spontaneity of the original festival. That corporate giants were trying to profit and use the name to make their millions. They all seem true. However, I think that the original "happening" may not have been as authentic as we are made to believe. I think that the original festival was nothing more than the time when the media had first realized that they could manipulate the public.

I remember when I was fourteen and watching the Woodstock movie on television. I remember being overtaken by the performance of Crosby, Stills and Nash (who are playing to a sold-out audience at the Air Canada Center in a few months). It was as if this group was singing everything I had ever wanted to hear. That, possibly, during my mother's pregnancy I had been listening to this music and once out of the womb had found it. Soon after, I had bought their records, gone to see one of their performances, and basically entered the ideology of the "hippie". Being introduced to a long line of musicians like Dylan, the Grateful Dead, Jefferson Airplane and others. It

was also a time where friends of mine were listening to what seems like the polar opposite, music such as ACDC, Metallica, and Type O Negative.

Music defines people at this age; they have no real sense of themselves and so they seem to follow the attitudes and beliefs behind the music that they're listening to. Listening to ideologies before their time and, in a way, trying to recreate it into their own life.

However, the question to be asked is, are we creating our own outlets or is someone doing it for us?

My guess is that music, especially mainstream music, is something that has no authentic value and that the ideology of a band like Rage Against the Machine and CSN is actually the view of the company rather than the person. If it is, as I possibly suspect, then does that make everything in our lives crippled to the point where our system of thought is nothing more than something that has been sold to us; do we purchase ideologies and, in turn, our identities?

The other day I was listening to Public Enemy. This is a band who has been notoriously known for their attack on the Man. Their music has consisted of a sort of revolution towards corporations, authority, conformity, and through this they have made millions. That, right now, they are busy in their private recording studios, driving their expensive cars and, at the same time, talking about the struggle of the urbanized black man. It seems like a true enough cause. But are they the ones who should be singing it? Are they driving towards solutions? Is Public Enemy trying to solve the problems of the urbanized black man or are they using the struggle to profit? Are they as much responsible for taking advantage of people as they feel the Man takes advantage?

It's like the performance with Rage. Here's a band that has huge record sales, huge followings and is always in demand. At the same time, they dress and look like they just woke up in a homeless shelter. It's as if they have put on a costume. Giving their fans the false impression that they are just like them and, like their fans, they have nothing and have trouble paying

their bills. For example, Bryan Adams is a multi-millionaire who wears ripped jeans. True enough that musicians all came from somewhere, and that there was a time when Rage or Bryan, or Public Enemy couldn't afford the shirt on their back, but they can now. So why do they act like they can't? I'm not sure if it's them acting as much as it's their boss (Columbia, Universal, Sony) who has forced them to, and instilled this ideology, because that is what sells and has been since the days of Stephen Foster.

Three days of media, record companies and brown Acid. How does this all fit into the original Woodstock? The reason I use this as a starting point of media manipulation and the selling of ideologies is because in 1969, the time of the festival, hippies were gone. The San Francisco scene, Haight/Ashbury, had been replaced with drug addicts and people who had "missed the bus". The hippies, if they existed, had moved out to the country, begun communes or just simply left the ideology, for better or worse. Knowing this, how could there be a festival of half a million hippies gathered in a field two years later? Well, there wasn't. Not to say that the festival never happened, because it did, but that this festival was almost a direct parallel of the recent anniversary. It was a way to profit, not financially, but through a power of manipulation. It worked in a way that the public saw a festival, the largest ever, recreated in their living room. The public was told that there was a sub-culture that had molded out of San Francisco and criss-crossed the country.

Historically, music has always symbolized acts of teenage rebellion, "listen to what your parents hate". The popularity of the anti-establishment, which did exist, was the new ideology. An ideology that the corporations could profit from. True enough that there were anti-Vietnam sentiments in America; however, they were transmitted through the media and so it was a way in which the media could control and distribute the popular thought. For example, convince the adults that communism was bad: Cold War. Convince the kids that the Man



is out to get them. The Woodstock festival was nothing more than record companies selling this ideology; this event was structured. The media documented this as The Event, a cultural uprising of new thought and quests with drugs. "Alternative" forms of thinking. The media told the public that this is what the music is to represent. That this is the ideology of the youth, the future. In fact, this is what they knew would sell. And it did, huge. In fact, it still does. The people who went to Woodstock were not hippies, they were not drop outs of society or even revolutionaries. They were people who had been sold music, who listened and consumed it, they went to school, had jobs, wanted families, houses, cars and money. They were Americans. The summer of love, 1967, was the last time that this ideology had existed. An ideology that was authentic and did have a hint of possibility, but like any type of subculture group it dispersed, went to the mountains or was gobbled up by industry, the media, and corporations. This was an ideal. The corporations and the media knew that not everyone was going to buy the Monkeys or the Beach Boys forever.

Simply put, this gathering of peace, love and happiness was nothing more than record com-

panies marketing a trend which the public bought into. For example, if the audience of Woodstock were the anti-Americans that the media advertised them as, why would they leave? The original be-ins of the mid-sixties didn't end when the final bell rang or the last musical act went off the stage. It just seems a little predictable, a long weekend and then back to the confines of society. It just seems forced and false. And that the ideology that the musicians in Woodstock were preaching at the time was nothing more than what sold or at least what the record companies knew sold. And still does. It's not to say that this is a fraudulent act on the point of the musicians. I don't think that bands like Rage are out to take the audience for a ride. What I think is that the music industry during the late sixties figured that the days of selling a specific tune was hard, that they had to begin to sell a way of thinking. That ideology sold rather than the melody. That the days of a "Hard Day's Night" worked for the twelve year olds, but there had to be more. There had to be a way to keep the listener and not lose them at a certain time. Keep them for life. Sell them possibilities. Sell them a philosophy.

Perspectives

This week's topic: hacking computers and software pirating

Mihnea Dumitru-

Be afraid! Be very, very afraid! Viruses, hackers, phreakers... they're all out to get you! You and your computer are the target of thousands, if not tens of thousands of hackers who can find out and use everything that is in your computer.

LOL! Yeah, all the above is very true. At any given time, there are about 30,000 active hackers online together with millions of computers and web surfers. So the chances of you being hacked are...well, pretty low. However, hacking is not as easy as you might see in the movies, or as your friends told you. The fact of the matter is that many people are overreacting to this. Here are some facts about hacking. Don't ask me how I know them, I just do :).

You can only get a virus from an external source- eg. a foreign floppy (or CD) or a file transmitted through ICQ or IRC, internet in general. Now, in the case of an internet transmitted file, be sure that you never receive files with the following extensions (the three letters after their name; eg. file.dat, or file.exe, or file.jpg): unless you know the person very well, don't accept .exe, .com, or .zip extensions. Files with NO extensions fall in the same pot. Those are usually serious damage files. The best way to ward off viruses is having a program such as Norton Antivirus 2000, or McAfee Antivirus check your email attachments, and your hard drive in the background, while you work. Make sure you update the virus list (not the viruses, but their descriptions, so that the program knows how to eradicate them). I read somewhere that there are about 3000 viruses created every week. That is why keeping your computer up to date with the latest virus definition and eradication software is vital. A variation on the last point would be getting a Trojan virus on your computer. A Trojan virus is a file, which can be as small as 200kb, (the size of a normal floppy disk is around 1300) and which gives full access to your hard drive to someone at a remote computer. That is why it is called a Trojan (Homer, anyone?). Once activated, the person can do any-

thing he wants to your computer through programs such as Backorifice or Netbus. Anything is everything from making your CD-tray pop-up open (a favorite among many), to actually deleting important files from your hard drive. There are many ways to protect yourself from that. One way is to simply disconnect from the Internet. You must understand that as long as you are disconnected, no one can access your computer but yourself. Unless you received a virus that only breaks out at a certain date (such as the infamous Michelangelo), you are absolutely safe from everyone. There are many steps in which you can ensure your computer stays bug and hacker free.

* Make your virus software check important files before windows starts up (Norton Antivirus). Also, if you have a computer with lots of RAM and a good processor (at least a Pentium II 350), have the anti-virus program check for viruses on your hard drive while you work (that is, if you're on the Internet a lot, and receive files, etc.).

* If you use instant messengers a lot, make sure you use one that has some level of security such as ICQ (www.icq.com). If you use ICQ, make sure your IP address is disabled from your info. On the Internet, you can be anyone you like, from any place in the world. However, your IP address gives you away by staying the same. It is unique for every user, and it represents the only way in which someone can do anything to your computer. When you know a person's IP, you can hack, email bomb, win nuke, icqbomb, etc. (I'll leave it to your imagination).

* Call your internet service provider every 3-4 months and ask them about their current security precautions. Also check to see if your IP is static (does not change from one connection to the other) or dynamic (every time you connect, you get a slightly different one).

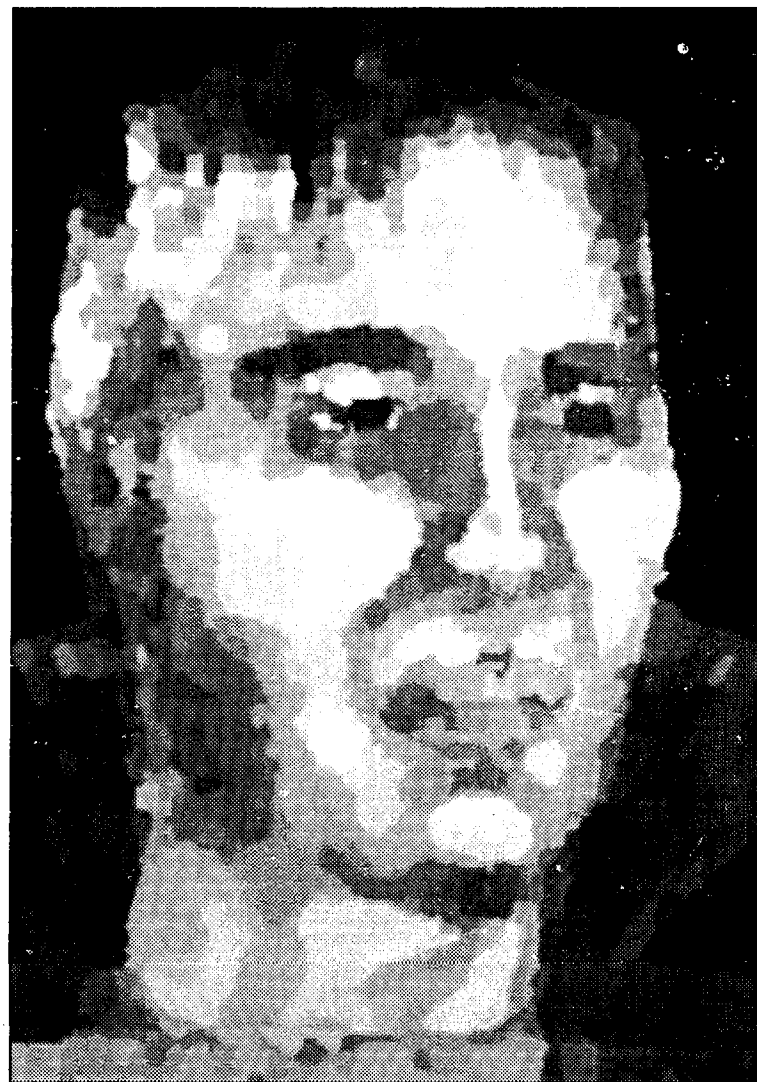
* Don't use your credit card on the internet, unless you're using Internet Explorer 5.0 or better. This is an entirely new chapter of hacking, which I will probably discuss in the next weeks. Nevertheless, trust me; do not go off shopping with the browser that Windows 95 came with, or with Netscape. That is simply giving a hacker your credit card on a silver platter.

As far as I know, hackers almost never go for personal PCs, unless they have a beef with you. At any rate, even if they do, you can take many steps against them. Getting anti-virus software and hiding your IP are just a few precautions, which are not farfetched at all. Harsher precautions would include changing Internet Service Providers. You must understand that the IP address is sort of like your bar code, which identifies you on the Internet. They are unique for each user. Remember! It's all common sense, and it usually boils down to people being ignorant about their computers. To learn more about these, as well as many other ways your computer could be hacked, visit www.antonline.com.

If after all the above ranting, you're still scared a little green man will crawl up through your phone line and destroy your computer, please do put your PC in a bunker & make your family protect it 24/7 with muskets :!)



Embrace the Fabric Man



Steven Irvine-

Jerome was far from your typical fabric man. Some say he was 100% burlap - others claim he was spun from corduroy. To the touch, he was a smooth - as smooth as warm snow. Smooth? Sure. Tough? Unlike anything you could imagine. Not a tear or rip in this new series of passings. Even Jerome himself was terribly curious what was underneath. Could he bleed? If so, what would he bleed? He hoped it would be honey.

As a child he loved that sweet, sticky substance. He used to put it on everything - especially his nuts. Nothing quite like a soaked almond. Well, except maybe for a drenched cashew, but the point was solid. As solid as Jerome. One thing was for damn sure though, he was in a new phase of his life. He knew this to be true because the news came in from the north. Time was coming. He had experienced time before and handled it like a baby in diapers. His only wish was that he would be able to do the same this go around. The path was laid out in front of him. It was, intertwined, interconnected, and laced with dreams. At times it almost seemed like it was about to

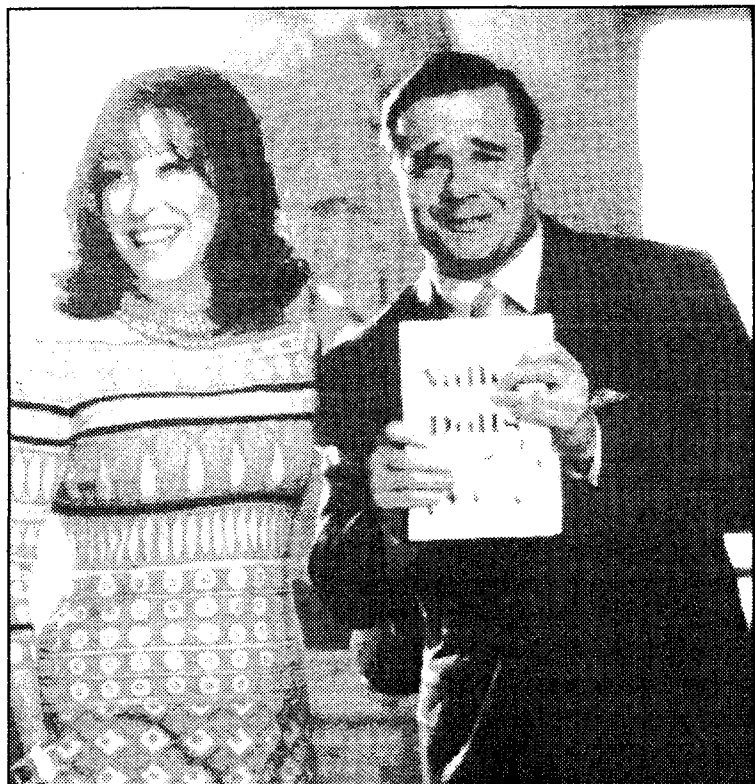
burst. He tried to prepare himself the best he could. Stocked up on canned meats, sewing kits & patches, dust balls, various lengths of rope, knik-knaks, paddy-wacks, and gave the dog a bone. Everything else would probably show itself when needed - only time would tell.

Then it happened. However, instead of just racing past him as it always had, it lingered - like the smell of stale tobacco smoke. Jerome made a break for it. He ran to the left. He crawled to the right. He bobbed and weaved. Time continued to stand still and yet it was always in his way. It was all around him. Engulfing him. Making it increasingly more difficult to walk about... to stay upright... to keep his eyes open... to think... to breathe... to feel scared...

Visions began to dance. Soft, pretty designs embraced his thoughts. Time was holding him. That's when he noticed the wounds that time had opened through his skin. Honey had begun to seep out of his entire body. He felt a smile come over his face. His soul calmed and his frame slowly blended into the sweet, sticky pool of his own substance. Jerome was a child once more.

Art et culture

Talent isn't everything



Catherine Hancock-*Isn't She Great* is a movie made in show business heaven. Diva Bette Midler stars in the lead role of flamboyant actress turned author, Jacqueline Susann. With her acting career going nowhere but down, her husband and manager, Irving Mansfield (Nathan Lane), decides that she should write a book about what she knows. She explains, "All I know about are aging stars, hopeful hookers and people popping pills and winding up in the gutter." Consequently, *Valley of the Dolls* is a trashy, tell-all story about sex, drugs and moviestars. It was the first book of its kind, so it was extremely difficult to find a publishing company willing to take a chance on her novel. But once publisher Henry Marcus (John Cleese) signed the

deal, her ultra conservative editor (David Hyde Pierce) was left to work it.

Stockard Channing (*Six Degrees of Separation*, *Grease*) delivers an outstanding performance and Amanda Peet's (*Simply Irresistible*) screen presence is generous and vibrant.

The film covers the 1920s to the '70s; and as time goes on, the wardrobes just get louder and louder. It was very obvious that the cast thoroughly enjoyed dressing the part. Even Pierce can be seen in some pretty funky jackets.

All in all, the movie is cute and fun. And though its introduction may be weak, it comes together nicely. I took my mom to see it with me (because she loves Bette), and to quote her, "That was entertaining."

Pictures at an Exhibition

Catherine Hancock-

Le récital classique, Tableaux d'une exposition, est constitué d'une dizaine d'étudiants de l'Université York. Chaque étudiant a démontré un grand talent. Quel pouvoir créatif!

Ce que j'ai préféré le plus dans cette présentation était le chœur de Glendon. Ils ont chanté sept chansons françaises avec des voix douces comme des anges. Bravo!

Après l'entracte, David Clarke et Isabelle Langlois ont décrit les pièces que George allait jouer. Grâce à cette introduction, les spectateurs ont eu une

meilleur compréhension de la finale.

All members of the chorus were dressed up to add a touch of class to the event. And what an event it was! It should have been called "Spotlight on George", since he was in almost every musical piece. What you hear from him in the cafeteria does not do him justice. George is truly a talented, creative, yet disciplined individual. It is extremely rare to find all of these qualities in one artist. It's no wonder he got a standing ovation.

A Bid Farewell to the Legendary Hermit

Natalie Flute-

When I met up with Joel Plaskett on the night of Thrush Hermit's last show in Toronto, he seemed a little nervous. This was understandable seeing as he had just recovered from a serious illness and his 10-year-old band was on tour for what will be the last time ever. Why would the band decide to call it quits after just releasing Clayton Park, definitely their best album?

"We felt like we had kind of accomplished what we wanted, and that we'd capped ourselves musically, and a lot of it was just that we'd been together so long and we weren't sure if we wanted to tour Canada and do the other things that you'd do if we made another record, and in discussing the idea of making another record we realized that we weren't all that jazzed about it... so we decided that if we weren't all that excited about it then the record would suffer and it'd be better to go out on a high rather than to let something peter out over a longer period of time. I think that if we were excited we probably could have made an even better record than Clayton Park."

The band had actually planned on announcing their demise on the Front Man War Tour back in the fall, but had to drop the tour because Joel was sick. I asked Joel if the band felt that they owed it to their fans to play the few farewell shows.

"We kind of did it for ourselves although a little for the fans. I would have liked to go out west and had people see us there but because we had to cancel the Front Man War thing so with this it's kind of like for our fans but kind of like a cliché, to bring closure for ourselves."

According to the rumor mill, Thrush Hermit broke things off during the making of a new album. Plaskett denies this but suggests that the rumor may have started because the band decided to split while discussing the possibility of making another album. The boys did decide to make a little film though, to be sold only on their farewell tour. At the time of questioning (about an hour before the show), the covers for the films had yet to arrive at the Reverb.

"Yeah, we did a little movie. We don't yet have the covers, they're supposed to be arriving at ten so were going to be folding them on as we sell them, but yeah, it's a little documentary, about a half an hour long. Ian and I edited it, actually he did a lot of the editing, but I narrated it. It features all five videos but also another 10-15 minutes of other footage with me talking about the story of our band. It's basically a documentary, but with the videos being the focal point."

The video was supposed to be sold only at the last few Hermit shows but rumor has it that there are about a hundred copies left. If you are interested in obtaining a copy contact www.sonicunyon.com.

Thrush Hermit fans need not be worried about the boys completely disappearing. Joel recently released *In Need Of Medical Attention*, his first solo album and hopes to possibly tour in the spring. As for the rest of the band... "They have some soundtrack work lined up I think but other than that I don't know. Rob Benvie (guitarist) is working on a record. We'll probably all keep playing and probably just figure things out in time. I'm sure that we will all collaborate in some fashion or another at some point, but I intend on going and doing other things, you know, trying not to look back."

Although I could have ended the interview here, I was curious to know how, in one word, Joel would like Thrush Hermit to be remembered.

"Thinkers. We sometimes overthought things but we were always thinking and sometimes the thinking worked against us and sometimes it worked for us, but I think that a lot of bands just don't think. Especially in a lot of Canadian rock bands, where all their songs sound the same and just the way they are going about it is just so straight and it's just like 'here's my song'. Anyway, whatever. We were just a little cult band, we weren't that big, it was just doing stuff for fun, (long pause) ... I hope we're remembered by someone."

Upcoming Events

Tuesday, February 1, 2000

MBA Day

Salon Garique, 10 to 2 p.m.

Friday, February 4, 2000

Simpatico

Starring Nick Nolte, Jeff Bridges, Albert Finney & Sharon Stone, opens in Theaters

Sunday, February 6, 2000

Timescape Talks

The Science Centre
Guest Speaker, Prof. Shelley Hornstein from York U remembers the Holocaust

Sunday, February 13, 2000

Music of Egypt and the Middle East

Eaton Court @ the ROM - 2:30 p.m.

Monday, February 14, 2000

The Century of Sex: Playboy's History of the Sexual Revolution

The ROM - 7:00 p.m.

Friday, February 18, 2000

Kingship and Conspiracy in Ancient Egypt

The ROM - 6:15 to 8:30 p.m.

Sunday, February 20, 2000

Chinese New Year 2000

The ROM - 12 to 5 p.m.
Free with Admission

Tuesday, February 22, 2000

Law Day

Salon Garique - 10 to 2 p.m.

Friday, February 25, 2000

Pitch Black

Starring Vin Diesel and Radha Mitchell, opens in Theaters

Saturday, February 26, 2000

The Mixtacular!!!!

8 D.J.s Battle in Turntable Mayhem
Glendon College, 2275 Bayview
\$5 with FOOD BANK DONATION.

For more info on

ROM: 586-8000

For more info on

Science Centre: 696-3127

Art and entertainment

A non-review of the Glendon recital

Rae Perigoe-
Before I begin, I want to make one thing clear. This is not a review. At least, it's not a review in the usual sense of the word, in which some supposedly "objective" reviewer gives his/her opinion of a performance. As I write this article, I am unabashedly UNobjective. I was a part of the Glendon recital from the start, and played the flute (accompanied by piano) for a ten-minute section of the

recital. In other words, my objectivity has been tainted. So call this article a personal response, a short homage in diary form, whatever. But don't trust my judgment.

Glendon's second annual recital was, seen through my biased eyes, an amazing success. There is truly a shocking amount of musical talent in the Glendon student body and in our alumnae. Given the number of great performances at the

recital, one could have assumed that Glendon is a fine arts campus. But none of the performers at the recital were music majors; they were the faces you see every day in line at the caf, beside you taking notes in History 1600, or packed in with the TFS kids on the Sunnybrook bus. And yet they played like professionals.

Case in point: the Glendon choir. This choir didn't even exist as of a couple of months ago. But rather than start with normal beginner-choir fare (pop hits of the 60s like California Dreamin' come to mind), the choir launched right into exceedingly difficult French choral music of the fifteenth century. And yet they sang beautifully, angelically, right on pitch and totally together. What they did was an great accomplishment notwithstanding the short period of time they had to

rehearse. When you factor that in, their feat becomes extraordinary.

The instrumentalists of the evening were uniformly excellent (the other ones, that is: I won't pass judgment on myself). Martin Gegus gave a stirring performance of Chopin's "March Militaire", one of which I was proud to be a small part, humbly turning his pages. The first part of the recital closed with Christopher Benson (son of Glendon's Prof. Benson) playing the infintely difficult and beautiful "Tarantella" by Sarasate. Christopher and his ARCT-level training proved up to the task, handling Sarasate's intensely difficult passages with elegance. The second half of the recital focused on George Cummings' performance of Mussorgski's "Pictures at an Exhibition". George came up with the clever

idea of introducing the piece by projecting the original pictures that inspired Mussorgski's suite on a screen, while the facts of Mussorgski's life and work were recounted. I felt a greater intimacy with the music because of the introduction. George's performance was brilliant and note-perfect. Some movements that especially came to life for me in George's performance were "Gnomus" (in which you could practically see the little mischievous gnome on the stage), "Baba Yaga" (the nasty Russian witch), and, of course, the majestic "Great Gate of Kiev". Okay, so I'm not exactly unbiased. But, for me, the Glendon recital was one of the highlights of the year in cultural life at Glendon. But don't take my word for it. Buy a ticket and see it for yourself next year.

Our Lady Peace

Taggart Not Interested In Positive Media

Pamela Gordon-
Last night, prior to my interview with Our Lady Peace's drummer, Jeremy Taggart, I decided that I should write a piece that focused directly on him. I wanted to give someone else some credit for a change. I realized that everyone spotlights frontman Raine Maida, and often fans don't even know the names of the rest of the band. From my other interviews, my conclusion from personal experience has been that drummers are usually the most charismatic, energetic, and talkative members of bands (though I hate to generalize), so I was expecting to have a great conversation and write a positive review. However, this was a different case. I have never met someone so dull in my expanding musician-interviewing history. Obviously he didn't take Interviews 101 - How to Come Off as a Reasonably Intelligent and Creative Human Being. Maybe that should be a requirement before signing with a major record label. I guess I shouldn't be so hard on him. With a demanding performance schedule, numerous

interviews (you would think he would get better at them by now), and photo shoots, you can't expect him not to be over-tired... especially after only a year off to rest. Strangely enough, a stressful and time-consuming agenda didn't prevent Sloan, Moist, silverchair, or any other bands from being absolutely wonderful people with great stories, jokes, and plenty to say.

One word answers and boring stories brought my attention to the fact that Taggart was not concerned with promoting his band. After a short (yet way too long for me to handle) exchange, I thanked him for his time and ended ahead of schedule. So I leave it up to you to decide whether or not the latest album, Happiness...Is Not A Fish That You Can Catch, displays talent. I also have no intention of making personal attacks on the rest of the band because of the impression I get of Taggart. However, it is becoming apparent why Maida is the focal point of the media. At least he seems interested in his career.

Role Reversal

Catherine Hancock-
My interview with FENIXtx and BLINK182 has just ended with Will saying that he likes Canadians. So Mark had to ask about how we felt, as Canadians, when the South Park movie made fun of us. From there, it just gets dirty.

Mark Did you guys get pissed when that South Park movie came out? Did you guys hate that?
Me I didn't see it.
Mark You didn't see South Park?
Me I didn't see South Park
Damon Don't see it, they really rag on you guys.
Me Don't?
Damon No.
Mark: They don't like you guys. Which is weird, 'cause

you'd think that they'd hate France.
Will I think Canadians are better then French. Is anyone in here French?
Me Yup.
Mark Really?
Me Oh, I speak French, but I'm not from France.
Tom My last name is French. I don't know if I am, but...
Will Delonge
(They each say his last name with a French accent.)
Me There you go.
Will Do you know what that means in French?
Me What?
Will (with his best French accent) Very big.
Damon Doggie Style.
Mark It means 69. Woo Hoo!!!

Donnie Swahili.
Damon Swahili for Doggie Style.
Mark Have you guys ever heard of the 71?
Me No
Mark That's where you 69, you put two fingers in your butt.
Tom But you guys can do it to yourselves though.
Mark You can do it to yourselves... I've had 74 one time.
Donnie Wow! Excellent.
Tom My dad came in and made it 83.
Tom Thank you.
Me Thank you.

For more information on these great bands:
www.blink182.com
www.fenixtx.com

A3RD

CHRISTIE ADAMS



Sun, smoke and a camera

El Tuerto

Noel W. Barnett-

I could hear the sound of thoughts running underground in clandestine imagination as Hugh stood at the entrance to the cafeteria. Ezra leaned over my shoulder and whispered 'Come, let us pity the rich who have butlers and no friends,' and Anna fell into Ludwig's arms laughing as the mad philosopher cursed a blue streak that bought us all an early exit.

Where else to go but Prague? So we caught the Bayview II and transferred at Stockholm, ending up on the good ship 'Lollipop' and who should we bump into but Fidel without his beard and Shirley Temple drying out from one too many of her namesakes.

'My good Lord,' cried Anna, 'From the library to the Caspian sea and our wallets are full of none but rice!' 'And lentils!' shouted Ludwig. And from one end of goodness to the other side of town, we saw nothing but John Bull posters proclaiming: "THESE ARE THE FACTS" "NO! NO!" and "ORDER! ORDER! IF IT'S IN 'JOHN BULL' IT IS SO".

But I'll be the reluctant witness to all these goings on and do my best to reiterate reality without ambiguity and to spite my pituitary: Running amok in the cobble-stoned streets of K.'s old stomping ground we met Golem, and screaming at the top of our collective windbags "Charlatan!! Charlatan!!" to each passerby, and doffing our hats we begged them each a bit

of polish sausage.

But to Ezra's dismay, one weary housewife/slash/architect made the mistake of pawing off a mere perogie, and a cabbage one at that. "What??" he wheezed from the incense of black lungs. "And not even potato had you Missus?"

Here, 'twas I had to hold him fast before he attacked the ten thousand widows lingering in shop windows for a better glimpse of the mise en scene that we made in the street. And drag, we drug his pious and poetic ass into the nearest cafe and the seven of us: Ez, me, anna, lud, fidel, shirl, and Golem set out to make quick work of this new foreign tongue, without a handle on which we could not even order a cup of coffee.

But a fight broke out anyway, despite my vain attempts to keep the crew level-headed. Already ol' Fidel had his tobacco stick up Golem's ass on account of the fact he was pissed Golem wouldn't speak for us since he was from around here and should be fluent as 'twas his mother-tongue. But mother-tongue be damned, Golem didn't twitch and actually looked to be enjoying himself as he wiggled ferociously on the stogie. Well hell, of course that just infuriatiously made Fidel more mad and Ludwig got upset cause he was missing out on the action. He immediately demanded, with no lack of histrionics, that Fidel produce another cigar for his enjoyment.

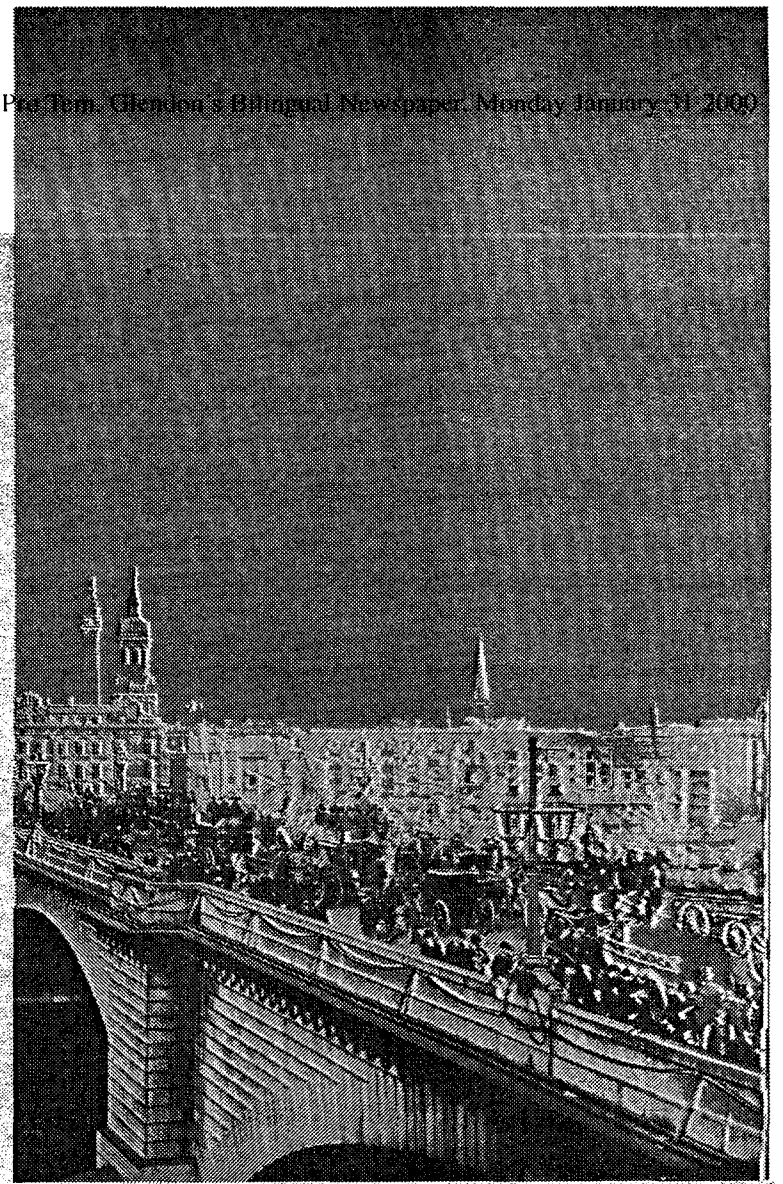
Ezra was now vexed 'cause he was making serious inroads into the Slavic genitive and nominative case and the rumpus at the table was creating a distraction. Anna, on the other hand, had found a Polish waiter and sat bemused sipping on an espresso, readying herself for a menthol smoke accompaniment. Course I ain't mentioned Shirley 'cause she weren't capable of much just at that moment.

You could say all hell had broken loose at the Chestnut Tree Cafe and I expected the bulls to show up any moment and give us all the shake down. Hell' you could half-say I hoped they'd show. A damned disgrace it was to have good fortune and fine prospects shatter an' unravel so quickly, but before it went as far as murder, the grace of memory made me recall l'histoire of the tight-lipped local kid.

"For chrissakes Fidel!!" I shouted, "he don't speak Praguish. He only knows Yiddish, an' on top o' that, he's made of CLAY!! He couldn't speak if he wanted to. His earthen tongue can't articulate "alveolar-palatals", 'labio-dentals', or even 'back vowels.' Give it up already."

That's when Shirley suddenly came around batting those seven foot ultramarine-blue eyelashes at me and giggling, 'How 'bout a cigar for me there, Sailor?' After the initial shock I replied, 'You'll have to talk to Fidel about that Mam. Besides, I'm already spoken for.'

She immediately raised a powdered pink glove to cover her



pouting purple lips and uttered, 'Is that so? And who might I ask is the lucky young lady that finds herself the object of your amorous intentions?'

Well actually Mam, it isn't a lady to whom I'm engaged.' And here the entire table went silent and indeed, if I recall correctly, the entire cafe became still and the brilliant streams of sunshine which entered through the dirty storefront window were replaced by the shadowing silhouettes of the very same ten thousand widows previously mentioned. I guess you could hear a pin drop, but instead you heard the rustling of lace as Shirley leaned across the table, firmly grasping my arm and whispering gently, 'Well, who would he be dear?' And without missing a beat I

replied in dead earnest, 'Jesus, mam. I've given my life to Jesus and am therefore betrothed to him. You ought to think about getting hitched to him yourself, mam. A better bridegroom you'd be hard pressed to find.' Well, poor Shirley gasped and Fidel laughed and Golem walked away, Ezra fumed while Ludwig swooned and Anna had to pee.

I myself sat before the throne of heaven, a neonate of Christ, a scoundrel and a prince, and a grown man forced to give an account of every idle word spoken or written during his lifetime.

Hear El Tuerto on CKRG, FM 90.7

Spoken word & music, every Mon 12-1pm

If I told you that God loved you, would you laugh?
Laugh at the very thought that someone you've never met
Could love you Unconditionally?

Suppose I told you that
You are a special person
Who was created for a reason,
And that you have enormous worth and value. What then?

Because
Even when your room's a mess and you're behind in your work and your
friends seem distant and you had a fight with your parents and you don't like
your looks and you don't have any money
and you feel like you can't take any more,

You are special.
You are precious.
You are needed.
You are valued.
You are loved.

Strider



ver so softly over are heads

y to painfully leave us behin

let me show you the way
you're a commie, but I can change you
you love your rubbles, but they're not worth shit.
Oh Svetlana, let me show you the way,
the way to freedom and happiness,
where we do the bombing and executions,
where we make people
like your family suffer and starve.
Oh, won't you let me show you the way
today.

Jean Chuck