

# pro tem

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Editorial > *The Halt and the Lame* > 3

# Aurevoir, L'Hon. M. Bouchard

PIERRE-OLIVIER SAVOIE  
QUEBEC BUREAU

MONTREAL - Québec students might be in for goodies if Education Minister François Legault runs for the Parti Québécois leadership, student leaders said.

"If Legault goes for the leadership, there could be positive effects in the short run," said Christian Robitaille, president

of the Fédération Étudiante Universitaire du Québec, the francophone federation of university student associations. "He's going to want to build political capital before the next election, which should take place within a year or a year and a half."

Following the announcement of Lucien Bouchard's resignation as Premier of Québec last Wednesday, Legault's name has been one of the five or six

names floating around for the leadership race. Alongside Finance Minister Bernard Landry and Health Minister Pauline Marois, Legault seems to be one of the three main candidates within the PQ. Other names such as Bloc Québécois leader Gilles Duceppe and former Premier Jacques Parizeau have also surfaced in the media.

While Duceppe has publicly dismissed the possibility of his jumping ships to provincial politics, Parizeau and Landry are part of what Robitaille calls the "old guard."

"Landry is supposed to have two years left, so it's perhaps not the best timing for him to become premier," said Robitaille.

A new guard would spark a new debate on Quebec nationalism, and whether one is federalist or sovereigntist, everyone should take part in it to make sure that evolves outside a restrictive Quebec nationalist ideology, Robitaille added.

On the other hand, he said that having a woman might be an interesting precedent in Québec and that Marois has been able to go through rough times, handling both education reforms and healthcare cuts, without losing too much credibility.

But for Phil Ilejevski, campaigns co-ordinator at the Canadian Federation of Students in Québec, Marois is unpopular with unions and nurses, especially after the provincewide summer 1999

nurse strike.

That leaves Legault. However, Ilejevski strongly criticized his "corporate" background - he is a former president of Air Transat - as well as business-oriented view of education. But Ilejevski also pointed, along with Robitaille, to Legault's lack of governmental experience - he was elected to the National Assembly in 1994.

If Legault runs, he will want to achieve political gains, especially with the youth, as they represent a non-negligible force in the PQ, Robitaille said. Among the possible gains for students, he added the possibility of increased financial aid, as well as increased regional university programs. Since Legault is also the Minister responsible for "youth" - which overlaps over several ministries such as labour - the "Youth Policy" to be presented next fall might include important new spending, Robitaille added.

While Robitaille's day-to-day relations with the ministry are more lobby-oriented, the CFS-Q's Ilejevski sees Legault's potential run for Premier means it's time to protest.

"If we pressure him on performance contracts, he might soften up a bit," Ilejevski said, alluding to the government's demands for increased transparency and efficient management at universities.

But Robitaille added that Legault's vision has softened up as education minister, since he jumped ship from Air

Transat.

A first draft of the province's new university funding policy leaked last spring included the possibility for rectors to deregulate fees for international students, but the final copy didn't contain this proposal, he said.

Nonetheless, both Robitaille and Ilejevski think that in the departure of Lucien Bouchard, students are not only losing a premier but also a great advocate of post-secondary education.

"He was quite responsive when we had demos. In terms of the Youth Summit [last year] he blinked pretty fast and restored the funding," Ilejevski said.

"And whether you like what he did or not, he was much better than Mike Harris. But then, I don't think you should compare Lucien Bouchard to the lowest common denominator."

## NOTICE

### Élection/Elections

Les postes suivants sont disponibles sur le comité de publication pour l'an prochain:

The following positions on the Publication Board are available for next year:

Alumni student  
un membre de la faculté  
A currently enrolled student  
(to be approved by GCSU & Pro Tem)

Nominations will be accepted until Friday March 24th at 5pm in the Pro Tem office (Rm. 117 in the Manoir). Elections will be held afterwards. Les candidatures seront acceptées jusqu'à vendredi 25 mars à 17h00, dans le bureau de Pro Tem (117, dans le manoir). Les élections auront lieu tout de suite après.

\* Tous les membres qui ont accumulé un minimum de 5 points (dont un dans les dernières trois publications) ont le droit de vote (Veuillez contacter l'éditeur afin de vous assurer de votre éligibilité). All members that have accumulated a minimum of 5 points (including at least one in the last three publications) have the right to vote (Please contact the editor to verify your eligibility)

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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.

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This issue of Pro Tem  
is dedicated to  
Kevin and his Dad

# The Halt And The Lame

ROB SHAW

Sporting her matching tortoise coloured jacket and skirt, York University president Lorna Marsden appeared unmoved by the recent C.U.P.E 3903 vote to extend the already 11-week-old strike. Giggling and smiling at the assembled media as though she was a drunken schoolgirl in a locker room full of testosterone hungry boys, which much of the January 5th evening assembly at the Park Hyatt Hotel seemed to characterize, Marsden continued with the notion of business as usual. After being heckled by both York undergrads and C.U.P.E strikers to resign, the York University president seemed to encase more of a cynicism held by the rich white men she's been working with over the last few months than an educated president of Canada's 3rd largest university. Unfortunately, the stance of the smirking Marsden went unnoticed by the stream of Toronto area reporters that had been delayed almost an hour and a half for the final votes to be

## To Be Ingested With Haste Is But A Terrible Tragedy

PATRICK BOIS

I saw you.  
I called you.  
You saw me.  
You answered me.  
Then, you ate me whole as if you were a giraffe with a carnivorous appetite.  
Now, I am lounging in your stomach.  
But I have to admit, your insides are not pretentious.  
They are indeed raw.  
It looks as if I do belong.  
Although monotonous cues can arise, I will make certain to exert myself towards another host.  
Hey you...

counted. They, including cameramen and media personalities, seemed too preoccupied with portraying the president as holding some sort of voice of reason for the nearly 33,000 students out of school.

With live feeds from City-TV, and other assorted news and print media scattered among the pressroom of the Park Hyatt Hotel, Marsden, unlike C.U.P.E president Sid Ryan, seemed to use the opportunity as another step up the corporate ladder rather than that of a serious irresponsible situation that she should be resolving. Marsden's address - to the 'no vote' by C.U.P.E 3903 - was that of a lack-lustre attempt at avoiding the issue completely and her time spent in front of the cameras seemed entirely devoted towards encouraging students to return to school as though everything was under control. Throughout the ten-minute speech, she put more of an emphasis on how she had arranged for a shuttle service to help students cross the picket line; an arrangement that not only did nothing to help rectify the conflict, but also may have put student's lives in danger.

As Marsden circled around questions raised by York University publications such as the Atkinsonian and Pro Tem, she made little, if any, attempt to clear the already dark cloud over her and the university's administration. However obvious it would seem that Marsden would avoid questions from York students, as she had been doing for most of the strike, she had no problem detailing answers towards the 'professional-responsible media.'

The exclusivity with which Marsden continued to answer the mundane questions asked by reporters such as Austin Delaney, CFTO News, or Roger Pederson, City-TV, resulted in a simplicity that seemed to make the entire press conference out to be nothing more than a York University shuttle service dilemma rather than almost 2000 people out of work and



33,000 students out of school during the winter months.

While Marsden spent the majority of the question period to seemingly flirt with the slick looking evening newscasters, the only true message that was beginning to emerge was that Marsden, like the nightly news anchors, was doing nothing more than putting on a show: a performance of made up faces under high powered lighting and Clariol make up kits. This notion which became even more relevant as 24 hour news stations such as CBC Newsworld and CTV Newsnet replayed edited images of a worried looking Marsden scurrying away from angry students, followed by voiceovers informing of a heated deadlock bargain that would be difficult to solve.

As much as the Toronto media kept up with their vested interest towards promoting corporations like York University, as they do with, for example, the Police Board. These reporters who had portrayed themselves as interested and educated on the strike at York did nothing during the press conference to question or comment on the irresponsibility of a president like Marsden. In a sense, they upheld a key and obvious trait as not being the responsible

media in which they mandate themselves towards.

A responsible media, or one that questions the establishment, would have attacked her leadership role, forced an issue of her irresponsible actions or simply left it up to the public to ask for her resignation. However, these reporters evaded everything controversial and continued with brushing aside any sort of further issue. In turn, they made, as they have done and will continue to do, Marsden into someone who wanted the strike to end, someone who works hard and honest and someone who believes in quality education.

Much like Marsden, the Toronto media laughed and lied to people whose lives are in limbo.

The strike that ended last week is only a temporary solution. Though order may be restored for the next few months and, possibly, into next year, the truth behind any labour dispute is that it only brings to light the people who hold power over us; a power that becomes all too clear, as we saw in the past 11 weeks, that the people who attempt to hold it in the way of informants and presidents are nothing more than the halt and the lame.

## Notice

The next Pro Tem meeting will be held on Tuesday January 16th at 7:00 p.m., in 117 Glendon Hall. La prochaine réunion de Pro Tem aura lieu le mardi, 16 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 [protem1@yahoo.ca](mailto:protem1@yahoo.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 commentaires, n'hésitez pas à nous contacter au 487-6736 ou par courriel à [protem1@yahoo.ca](mailto:protem1@yahoo.ca).

Toutes les lettres au rédacteurs doivent être signées et inclure votre numéro de téléphone. Les lettres ne doivent en outre pas contenir plus de 400 mots. Merci!

# To Be Or Not To Be... Canadian

MIHNEA DUMITRU

I was coming back to Toronto after a month abroad. The strike had determined me to leave Glendon and return only when a settlement offer was introduced. So once I heard about York's move, I got over my New Year's hangover and decided I should leave the old country. The flight was uneventful, and I soon reached Canada.

I walked into immigration, preparing my Romanian passport. Patiently waiting my turn, I looked around at the people populating the enclosure. A girl just next of me attracted my attention. She carried a black and yellow backpack with a bright red maple leaf sewn on its back. The word 'Canada' was stitched on a white ribbon across the leaf. The girl was a blond Anglo-Saxon, with beautiful blue eyes and white complexion. She must have been in her early twenties. I wondered at how she could be a patriot in a country that was so multicultural, with such a broad horizon in terms of tolerance and liberty. What could I call mine in such a young state, this experimental multi-nation of the West? I was still gazing at this whole image, when the immigration officer snapped me out of my reverie and asked me to step forward.

I handed over my passport. She examined it carefully, took a look at my student visa, and asked me some routine questions. She then observed that I was a student at York, and told me that the two groups were closing towards a settlement. I told her how glad I was at the news, and how I wanted the entire predicament to reach a speedier conclusion.

"We pay twice as much as

Canadian students," I said in a matter-of-fact tone. She looked at me and answered, with an attitude that I found a bit condescending, "Well, that's because you're using OUR educational system." I took back my passport, mumbled a thank you, and as I was picking up my carry-on I said in a similar fashion, "Yeah, you're right, we ARE using your system." I walked away with a grin on my face as the cute girl with the maple leaf backpack had also finished with her declaration.

Last summer I returned to Romania. All my friends told me how fortunate I was, and how they all wanted to get away from a country that could not offer them a viable future. In my opinion, that outlook on life is petty and unrealistic. Despite the soaring prices, the disintegrating

economies and the blatant corruption that plagues the political life in most countries of the former Soviet Union, I still believe that success can be earned.

Through hard work anything can be done. The trouble is that many people our age prefer the easy way out, without realizing the hardships that they will encounter when they try to settle in another country.

Canada's call from across the ocean sounds so much sweeter when the world around you is crumbling. It's a young country, full of opportunities. It carries the promise of a new life. Furthermore, the Canadian Government promotes immigration and upholds multiculturalism. One is not just Canadian, but French Canadian, Romanian Canadian, etc. There are tens

of thousands of people immigrating to this country every year, all in search of that better lifestyle. Many of them are fleeing persecution, or extreme poverty, looking for the security and liberty that comes with the Canadian passport. For these people, there is pride in the Canadian citizenship. For others, however, this country simply represents a way of easily escaping the bleak realities of their own countries. Being Canadian therefore becomes an economic and social asset, not a question of pride. The entire multiculturalism dimension then comes into play here not as a call for peaceful coexistence, but as a hierarchy of identity. One truly is Romanian before being Canadian.

By looking at why people come to this country, many conclusions can be drawn about the current status of Canadian society. There is a reason why the government constantly advertises Canada to the world, and more importantly, to Canadians. Because this country is so young, it lacks most of the elements that could tie its people to the land. Unfortunately, the massive immigration and the entire multiculturalism aspect don't help the problem in any way. Despite talks of a global society and erasing state borders, the world is still made by nation states. These are not about to collapse overnight, nor are their people going to change their allegiance to larger organizations any time soon. Therefore, Canada needs to unify itself, and the only way it can do that is by providing its citizens with an identity. Maple leaves on backpacks don't give you any self-respect, no matter how many countries you can wear them in.

## On The Field

PATRICK BOIS

On the field, I am hungry.  
I am hungry for that sigh, a breath without a reply.  
I smell you.  
I need you.  
As a unit, as a forceful battalion, I will find you.  
Do not crouch into the corners.  
Do not stray away from me, into the forbidden taboos.  
The full grown blades, whistling against the wind on this forlorn day, are running away from you.  
Your boots, cringing with a grin, are constantly gnawing at your feet, tickling your bones.  
I see you.  
I need you.  
I can feel brigade music filtering through my senses, reaching my fingers, my trigger.  
I hear the drums, the trumpets, a far away Edith Piaf crooning in a speak easy.  
Sweat tumbles on my eyebrows.  
It is so silent that I can hear my body crash.  
A flash.  
A glimpse.  
Into the sudden upshadows, I see my foe, my quarantined friend.  
A blur.  
At night, when I find the courage to close my eyes, I can see him.  
His teeth, resembling combat knives, glisten abstractly towards the moon.  
His eyes, stinking of red wine, are always fixated on me.  
I love this man.  
He is my biggest fear.  
A reaction.  
I squeeze.  
Echoes.  
I see red.  
  
I am safe.  
For now.  
On the field.



JEREMY FORTIER

# Students Return To What?

JASON JOHN O'ROURKE

TORONTO-The return of students to their classes last Friday, January 12, marked the end of the strike@York. Dubbed 'the longest strike in English Canadian University history', it pitted the powers of the T.A.s, C.F. and the G.A.s, via C.U.P.E. against the powers of York University.

The contract, which was negotiated by C.U.P.E. and ratified by the workers, was offered by York lawyers, acting as mediators for the Board of Governors. This happened just one week after the biggest story of the strike.

In a forced vote, which took place on January 4th and 5th at the Park Hyatt Toronto Yorkville, contract faculty accepted the new offer, while striking teaching assistants and graduate assistants continued the protest. The vote was forced by the Ontario Labour Relations Board in an effort by the university and government to ignore

the democratically elected negotiating team and union executive of Local 3903.

It certainly is an interesting question of ethics when the university refuses to recognize workers and their unions as peers at the bargaining table. More so, in fact, when you add that the workers are exchanging measly recompense for such total academic subordination, and the undergrads are losing time.

This opens the way for discussion along the lines of this topic: Had the university been acting in good faith, and been respectful to the members of its own community, would the strike have lasted that long?

I asked Joel Harden, C.U.P.E. representative and former president of the C.F.S. (also a past personality of Glendon life) what he thought the government intervention meant for union members. Instead of waiting over three weeks from the Dec. 14th decision, that "...time could have been spent at the bargaining table, but the

University [had] taken a gamble on its stratification vote strategy. It's typical of the Harris government to try these tactics" Apparently, the university's as well.

It seems as if there is a push from the Ontario Left to keep the government accountable for the funding they are withholding from the post-secondary institutions. Rosario Marchese, N.D.P. M.P.P. for Trinity-Spadina, has this to say. "The government has cut 1.5 billion dollars from all universities, and this problem is being downloaded to the staff and students. It is lunacy that these people are being asked to take less than their fair share while we are in good economic times. What will happen when we are in bad economic times?" But it is not simply a question of Ms. Marsden teaming up with the unions to pressure the government, "I would like to see All University Presidents stand in solidarity and stop feeling intimidated."

So it remains to be seen if

President Marsden will take something like that seriously, although it does seem an unlikely move. It would be strategically bad for her to put pressure on the government that just tried to help her. However, when I posed the question to her directly, she said that "[She has] always invited members of the university community to participate in this type of action", but adds that though undergraduates have expressed commitment, she has not been approached by graduate students.

Joe Kispal-Kovacs, C.U.P.E. Local 3903 representative says "I approached Lorna Marsden last summer regarding long term solutions to this problem, which included government pressure. She was dismissive, and not very interested because of problems with tuition arrangements."

Students and staff are not only feeling the direct effects of administrative downloading through time lost and raising tuitions, but cutbacks are also threatening the integrity of academic departments as well, indirectly lowering the quality of education that is becoming increasingly more expensive. Presently, a report is being prepared by the Glendon Policy and Planning Committee in response to the question "What steps have been taken to limit the effect of budget cuts on the achievement of Faculty and Unit planning objectives and on efforts to pursue strategic priorities reflected in part IV of the University Academic Plan?"

The latest draft begins:

"The 1% budget cut for 1999-2000 is the latest in a long term series of drastic resource reductions at Glendon in the faculty complement, course directorships, academic support staff and operating budgets. The ongoing history of decline in the faculty complement and cutbacks to support staff make envisioning any further cuts that will not have an impact on the ways Glendon can fulfill its own and York's strategic priorities a difficult challenge. This latest cut was taken entirely from the College operating budgets. It has meant delays in maintenance, necessary renovations and equipment purchases that cannot be prolonged over future years without serious

problems in these areas. Nor does Glendon have any surplus to use as a temporary cushion against future cuts. Future cuts can, therefore, only come out of academic programmes. The responses of the twenty units to APPC's question confirm that further cuts will undoubtedly have a negative impact on the academic integrity of many programmes. They also risk counteracting the success of the initiatives undertaken to promote growth at Glendon."

It is now a question of leadership on behalf of the Board of Governors at York whether or not we can find an equitable, long term solution to this problem. God help us.

## Sunday (Present)

PATRICK BOIS

TIS' EVERMORE THIS DAY  
OF CRASH  
RUMMAGING THROUGH  
KNOCKHEADS OF LUST  
WHEN SILOS ARE PIL-  
FERED, MINDS ABASH  
CULMINATING FROM FAR-  
CICAL BEDS OF LOVE

TIS' AN ANGEL, MINUS  
HALO, PLUS TOUCH  
THAT OPENED MY  
SPHERES FOR FRENZIED  
LUSH  
CAN A SILHOUETTE PRE-  
SENT ITSELF THROUGH  
FORCEFUL FIRES?  
HENCE, ONLY AN ANGEL  
WITH EYES TO ADMIRE.

STILLNESS IS A SPORT IN  
MY COUNTRY  
ORBS STUTTER AND  
FINALLY DETER  
HOLINESS IS A VIRTUE IN  
MY FAMILY  
MY FAMILY OF THOUGHTS,  
GOLDEN STATUES AND A  
FUTURE

TIS' EVERMORE THIS DAY  
OF JOY  
FULL OF WARMTH, SILOS,  
MUCH TO BE RETURNED  
NEW LOGIC CAN BY NOW  
BE EMPLOYED  
T WAS' AN ANGEL THAT, IN  
TIME, TAUGHT ME TO  
LEARN



PATRICK TOMLINSON

# We Have Nothing To Lose But Our Sanity

KATERINA BAKALIS

I was at work today, returning movies into our database, talking to a fellow video store employee about human behaviour. You see, many of you might not think about it as a consumer in today's society, but people have become increasingly absent-minded and numb to any stimulus around them. With all of today's conveniences, we hardly have to think for ourselves anymore.

The reason why my co-worker and I decided this was due to the amount of stupid questions, ridiculous excuses, and ignorant remarks that come out of the mouths of many customers we serve each day.

For example, I answer the telephone "Rogers Video, Kat speaking," only to be replied with "Is this Rogers Video?" or "Are you open?" DUH!! Who are these people? Do they live in holes? Or I'll ask a customer to please drop their movie in the slot of the drop box, and they'll be looking for the slot for half an hour, turning around and checking the glass door behind them to see if it's there. I wonder sometimes if it's a joke, but no - it never is.



It's also commonplace for a customer to bring the showbox - that is, the empty cover box that sits in front of the actual movie - to the counter, ready to pay for the rental and take the empty box home with them. I'm often tempted to just let it happen. How can they not see that there is a movie behind the box? That the movie is what is meant to be brought up to the front? Is it an

act of God that so many people are dumb?

My personal favourite, though, is when a customer comes up to me with a list of movies on a piece of paper and expects me to find each one for them and bring it to the register. Do I have 'slave' stamped to my forehead? Since when did people get so lazy that looking for a fucking movie puts too much physical

strain on their fat asses? And don't ever ask me what is a good movie to rent. That sentence strikes a nerve in me that brings me to convulsions. It's like going into Toys R Us and asking what is a good toy for a 6 year old. I'm convinced this is a plot to drive me insane.

Thus, my fellow co-worker and I agreed that the average human being is becoming more

mechanical and devoid of mental stimulation with each passing day. And me, well, I'm sure that a year of 'Would you like a bag or a receipt?' and 'Do you have your membership card with you?' every five minutes hasn't done too much damage to my brain. Yet.

## The Dawn of a New Era

KATERINA BAKALIS

So can you remember what you thought you would be doing in the year 2001? I remember what I thought the year 2001 would be like when I was 12 years old. I thought I'd be all grown up and sophisticated, dating some doctor or engaged, or living in a great apartment in the heart of the city, going to crazy cocktail parties and making a large sum of money. Isn't that a laugh! Instead, I'm a starving, poor, fourth-year student, barely scraping by, still dressing like a rebellious teenager, single, and staying in every Friday and Saturday night to do homework unless I'm scheduled to work at the video store. What a far stretch from the daydreams of my youth.

Inevitably I'm reminded of Stanley Kubrick's timeless classic '2001: A Space Odyssey' and how his ideas of technology taking over are frighteningly not far from the truth. The 21st century is marked for exponential progress in technology - space travel, cures for disease, and advancements in time-saving devices for the ever-growing, fast-paced lifestyles people live. Even this is no phenomenon - with so many new inventions and ways of living entering society at increasingly shorter intervals, it's no wonder that people have to fast-track through their lives, trying to fit in as much as possible into each day to try and keep up with the pace at which society is advancing. 1000 years ago, not much happened during the span of a 50 year period,

except perhaps a war would either start or end. But now, if you look at the last 50 years in history, so much about the way people live and think has changed. And not just a little, but tremendously, in leaps and bounds. Who could have imagined a cell phone or the Internet back in 1951?

Which means, of course, that within the next 50 years of our lives, we will see even faster evolutions of ways of living and thinking. Who can imagine today that 50 years from now we will be able to enjoy rides to the moon and back at an affordable price? I don't know many people who would agree with me that this sort of thing will be possible so soon, but I have little doubt. At the rate we're going, I wouldn't be surprised if the first

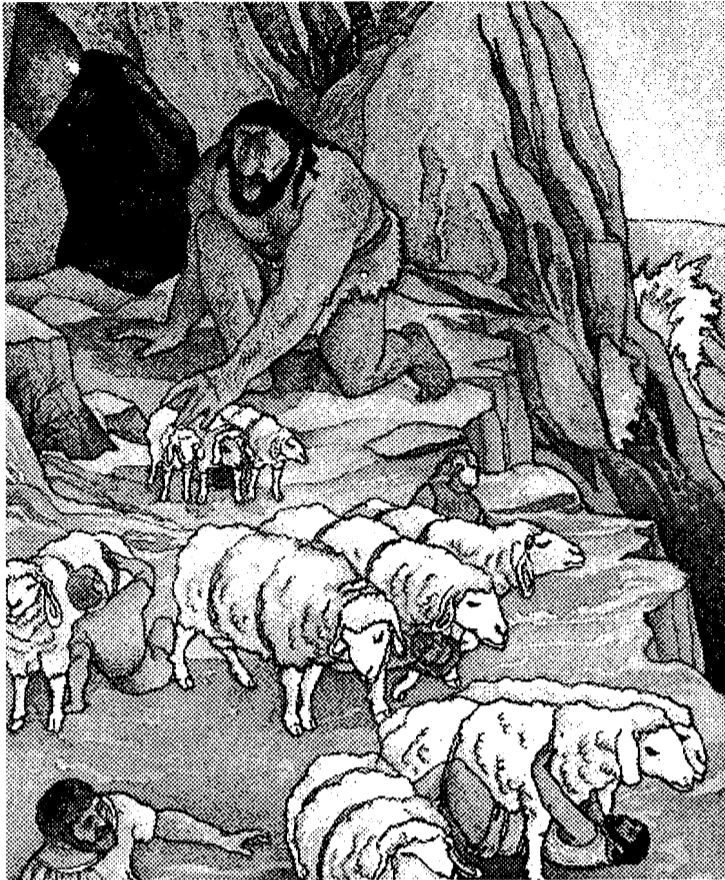
colony were erect on the moon by the late 21st century.

A lot is going to change by the time we reach our parents' age, to the point where we will experience *deja vu* when we look around us and say the words 'back when I was a kid'. Something we have been hearing our elders say since we were little children, thinking to ourselves, 'Geez, it's like they're from the dark ages or something'. Because, of course, we were so caught up in the here and now, perhaps some of us still are, completely in tune with all that moves and flashes before us. One day, we will be in awe of how fast things are going, just like our elders did or do now, and we will realize how they felt.

Who I am today is drastically

different from what I imagined when I was a kid, which is why it's hard to rule out any possibilities when looking to the future. What is next in store for human evolution? How will our physical and mental bodies adapt to our surroundings? Will we be able to change ourselves by merely willing it to happen? Like I said, anything is possible. I greatly appreciate the vivid imagination I had as a child - after all, without an imagination, the progress we now experience would not exist. Our ability to stretch our range of perspective so vastly is the key to our evolution, and the reason why it is no wonder I am not some rich Barbie doll bitch today.

# They're Bona Fide



KRISTIN FOSTER

Well, yee-haw. Put on your stripes and grab yer best pickaxe, the Coen brothers have done it again in a very, very loose adaptation of Homer's poem The Odyssey. A greasy George Clooney, with John Turturro and Tim Blake Nelson as his dimwitted sidekicks, tries to break out of jail in hopes of reaching his estranged wife and numerous daughters.

The movie chronicles the various obstacles he must surmount in order to prove to his wife

Penelope that he is truly bona fide.

The film was first shot normally and then a yellow filter was added to create a sepia-like tone reminiscent of old-fashioned photographs. A crane shot, which was added to the beginning of the film, depicted a long double line of prisoners in shackles and stripes, singing in time with their swinging pickaxes. It gave a great intro to the film, which included everyone from midgets to the KKK to John Goodman. One particularly interesting scene involved the

KKK in a rather complicated song-and-dance ritual routine, which made the person next to me wonder, how would they have done that in real life? Is there one especially flamboyant KKK member who was in his little pointed hat, clapping his hands and saying: "Okay people, work with me here, we need four lines of twelve each to march down and part where I put the X..."?

And, of course, there's the soundtrack. Usually I don't pay that much attention to music in films, but somehow the Coen brothers managed to pull this one off nicely, with the help of T Bone Burnett, Chris Thomas King, Gillian Welch and Alison Krauss, among others. The pieces, some very traditional and some newly composed for the movie, were aids in giving a tone to the film in the same way that the sepia evoked the time.

The only problem I had wasn't with the movie itself, but with the author of the poem, Homer. According to a questionable website, "Legend has it that he was blind, and possibly a woman. However, there is no actual proof for either speculation. There is also the belief that the Iliad and the Odyssey were written by two different authors, and that Homer did not exist at all; the Odyssey and the Iliad were written by a group of people."

Hmmm...

## Are you an international student?

Are you interested in exploring Christianity, or simply engaging in English or French conversation in a non-threatening atmosphere? Then we have the event for you!

The international student branch of Glendon Christian Fellowship is inviting you to dinner!!

When: Saturday, January 20, 2001, at 6:30 p.m.  
Where: Salon Garigue

It will be an evening of food, fun, a chance to spend time with other international students, and discuss upcoming events. If possible, please bring something that represents your country (clothing, flag, etc.), so that we can all learn about each other!

All nationalities and world views are welcome!  
Contact Christina (440-9512) if you want more information!

## Êtes-vous étudiant(e) international(e)?

Aimeriez-vous en savoir plus sur le Christianisme, ou simplement pouvoir causer en français ou en anglais dans un environnement non-menaçant? Nous avons l'événement que vous cherchez!

La branche internationale du Groupe Biblique de Glendon vous invite à souper avec nous!

Quand : le samedi, 20 janvier, 2001 à 18h30  
Où : le Salon Garigue

Ce sera une soirée pour manger, s'amuser, rencontrer d'autres étudiants internationaux et planifier d'autres événements. Si possible, on aimerait que vous apportiez quelque chose qui représente votre pays (vêtements, drapeau, etc.), parce que nous voulons que tous apprennent à se connaître!

Les étudiants de toutes nationalités et de toutes perspectives sont les bienvenues!  
Veuillez contacter Christina au 440-9512 si vous avez des questions!

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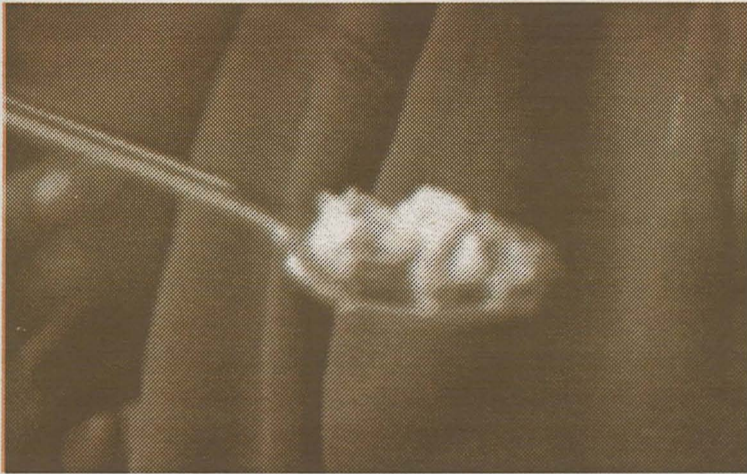
- Visit the Service Canada Access Centre nearest you
- Visit [www.canada.gc.ca](http://www.canada.gc.ca)
- Call 1 800 O-Canada (1 800 622-6232)
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Canada



# Force Fed

## Students Find Tuition, Parking And Residence



NOEL W. BARNETT

Long before CUPE's final ratification of York's last offer, students began to question their obligation to fulfill various financial responsibilities for services not rendered by the university.

"During the first few weeks of the strike it was something we joked about in passing," says student in residence, Everton Jones, "but as the holidays approached some of the foreign students, who face astronomical fees coupled with high living expenses, began to truly worry and consider what appeared to be their limited options."

With frustration mounting, their unorganized numbers found sympathetic ears in the various on-campus cultural organizations such as York's Caribbean and African student groups.

"Leadership was already aware of a move by some students to organize a class action lawsuit against the university," recounts Haitian student, Albert Daport, "but there were concerns that those students lacked the financial wherewithal to actually bring the

matter to court and sustain the costs associated with a long drawn out legal battle. But by that same token, the forty or so students which comprised the sum of our parts were also without the capital to hire a local firm and file for legal action."

Thus began a wider search throughout the various groups combined memberships to seek out not financing, but rather contacts that could possibly lead to an amelioration of the situation in the students favor. In fact, as it turned out this was the wisest course of action since several visiting students had family members practicing law in the United States amongst other countries. After initial inquiries were made, a New York firm with a senior partner who also happened to be a concerned parent, made a conditional offer to what in early December was a still loosely grouped number of concerned students desirous of remuneration. The offer's initial stipulation required a number of no less than 200 hundred students to register and sign binding legal documents to gain official representation by the law firm.

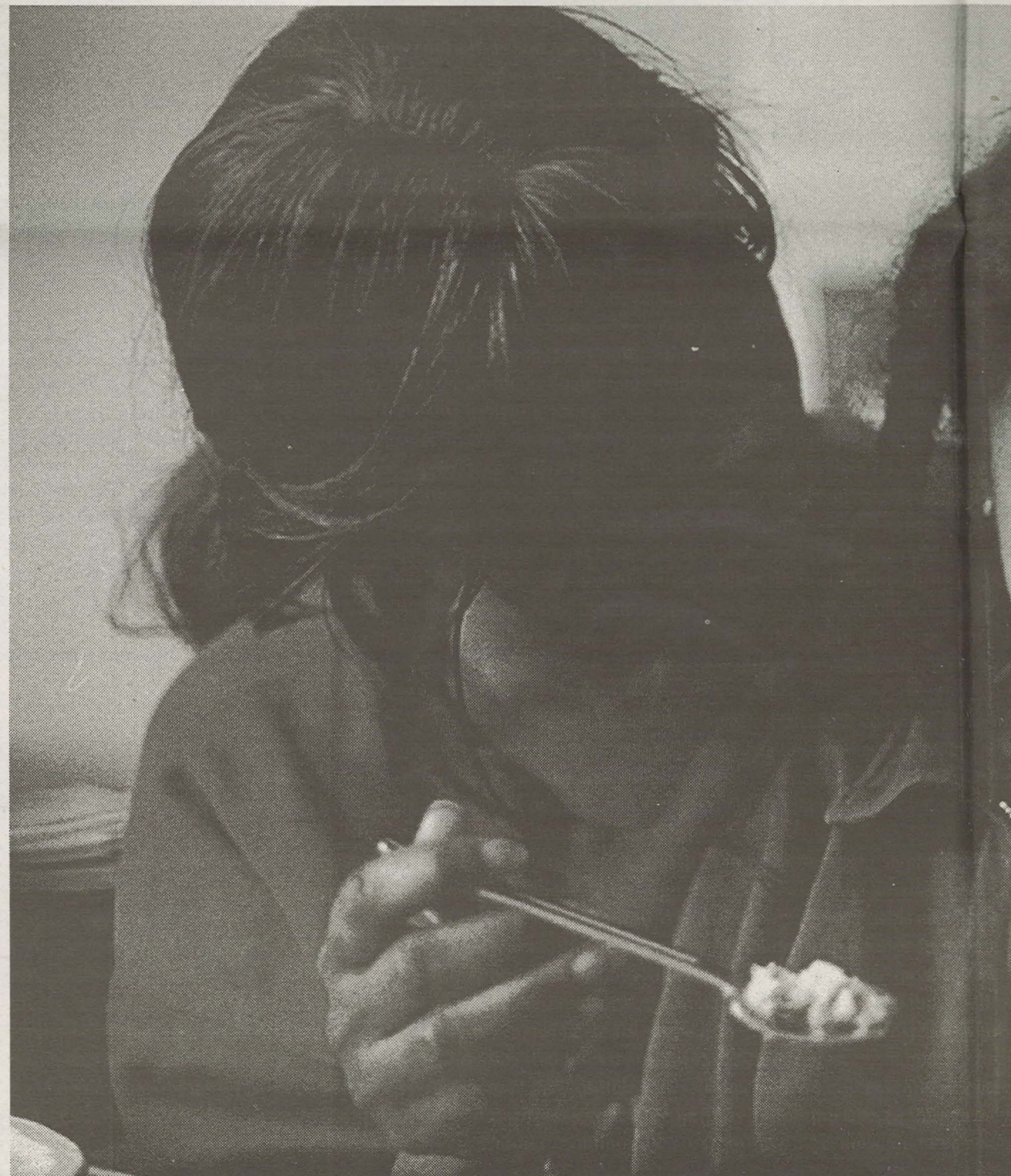
"At first this seemed to put an end to our hopes," says Muriel

Francis, a student visiting from Mauritius, "many foreign students had already left for the holidays to their respective residences in a number of foreign countries and time appeared to be of the essence. What salvaged the situation were the meticulous record keeping skills of a number of secretaries in the various organizations. Many of the clubs

put up sizeable amounts of their already limited 2000-2001 operating budgets to facilitate contact with approximately 300 students in over 15 different countries. After a period of about three weeks, we had phoned, faxed, emailed, and couriered documents to the bulk of that number and have since received the necessary responses of more

than the required figure. The entire operation costs upwards of \$12,000 dollars."

Having completed the first phase of the conditional offer for representation, leadership for the students met a legal detachment from the New York firm at a Montreal hotel during the first week of January. After three days of negotiations, the





# ed Fallout:

## ce Fees A Hard Pill To Swallow Après La Grève

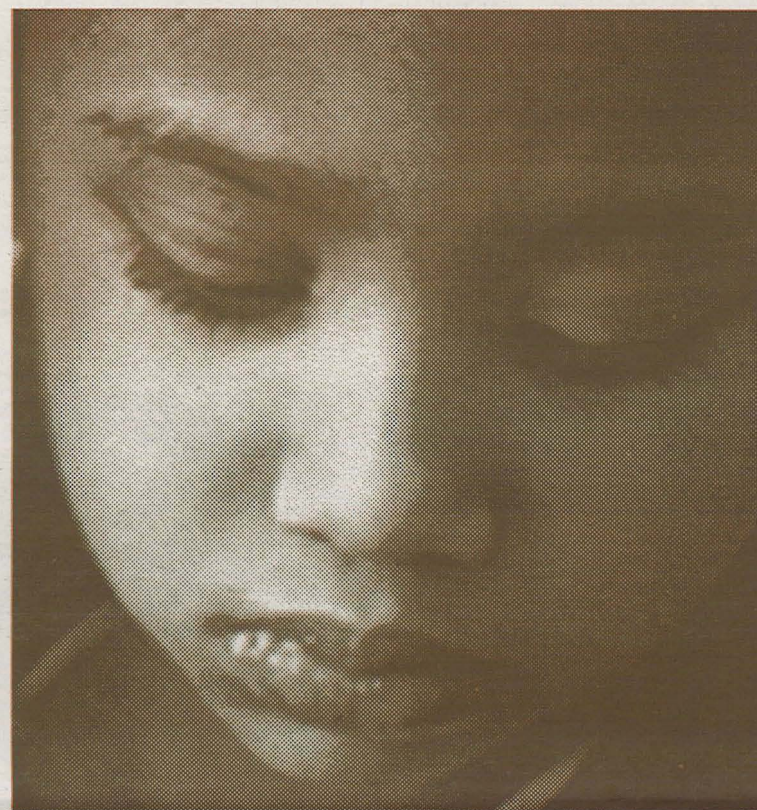
essentials of a settlement fee were roughed out and an agreement signed for the official commencement of an investigation into the plaintiffs case, the cost of which was to be recouped by the firm as laid out in the tentative financial agreement between the students and their representation. Unwilling to divulge either the name of the firm, the princi-

ples involved on behalf of the students, or any possible figures associated with the settlement demands, the entire affair is somewhat clandestine at this stage and presently not open to any other disgruntled members of the student body.

“We went from being a handful of pissed off students to becoming a sizeable and well

organized group of legal clients with a large financial investment at stake in a very brief time,” reports Ms. Francis, “For us to jeopardize the current wording of our agreement with our representation could result in total forfeiture of shares once the matter is finally settled. It’s not that we don’t wish to increase our numbers and possibly the eventual size of a possible settlement, but rather our hands are tied by the legal process. That is not to say that there is no potential for such a move, but at this stage we have been advised to refrain from tampering with the current number of students involved. To be honest, a great deal of the outcome is now out of our hands, but I should add that this is to our great relief since the majority of it is so amazingly complicated. The ramifications of the international character lent to this type of litigation given its queer circumstances was enough to mortify the legal students present in our number. Suffice it to say, we’ve exhausted ourselves pursuing the matter and would prefer to defer any such inquiries to a later date in time.”

As for administration’s response to any pending litigation, no one has yet any word. One individual who spoke on the condition of anonymity was quoted as saying, “For certain, mention has been made of the possibility of one or more class actions, but any initial inquiries by either organized students or the law firms representing them appear to have been unsatisfactorily addressed on the part of the plaintiffs. The university is currently evaluating possible



NOEL BARNETT

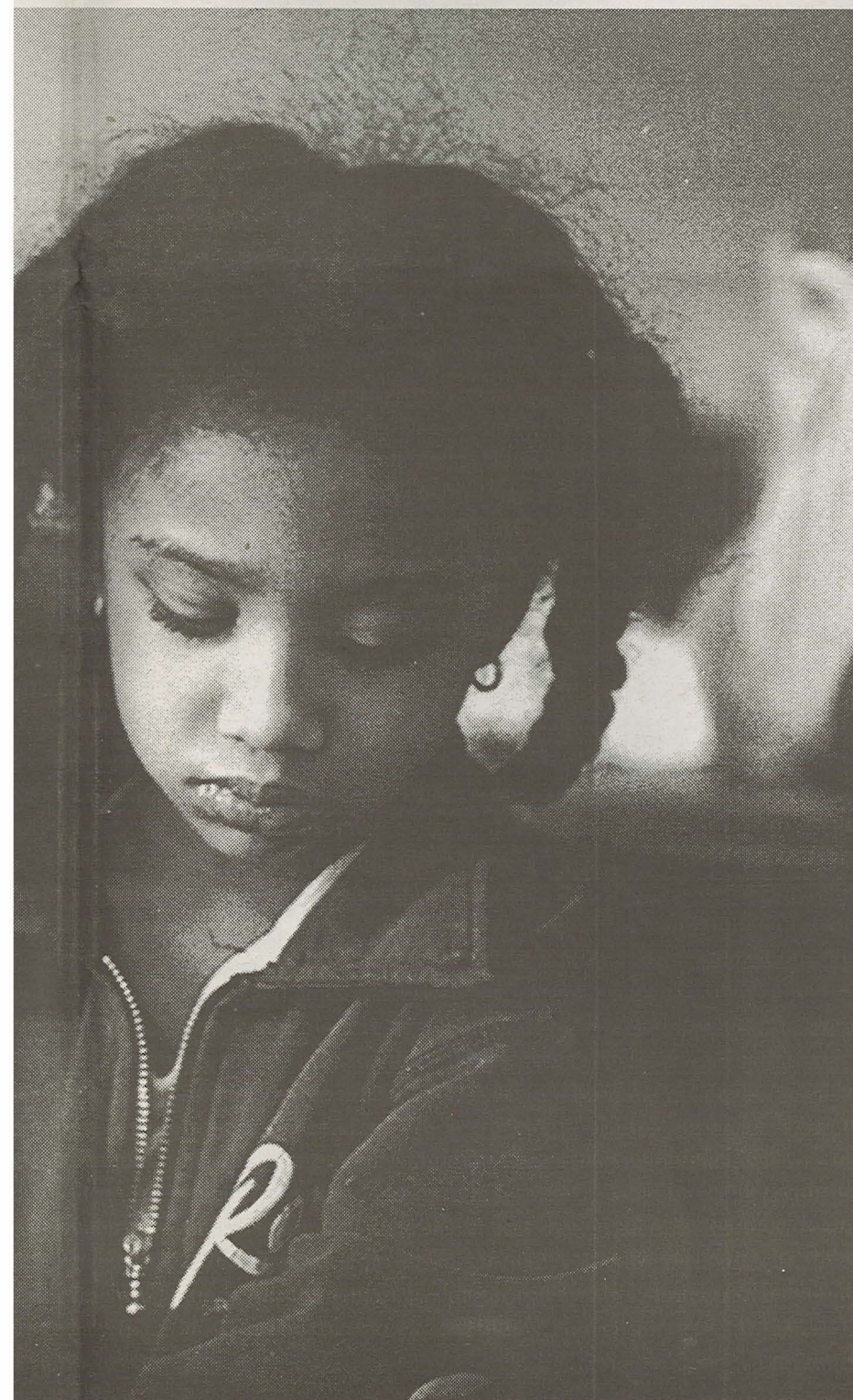
ways in which to reimburse students for situations of immediate interest such as parking and possibly food and beverage fees accumulated by students in residence during the period classes were inactive, but issues involving fees should be addressed by the strike settlement and the fact that students will have the opportunity complete all of the courses they paid for with the now newly revised schedule.”

For students already committed to seeing the matter played out in the courts, this appears to be of little significance.

“Although those concessions may alleviate the concerns of some students, to us it is a mere pittance, especially in lieu of the expenses we have collectively accumulated in the space of three plus months of dormant classrooms,” laments Ms. Francis. “We’re presently committed to pursuing the matter through avenues other

than what the university decides are fair in its benign indifference. In fact, I fear for those other students who are placing their hopes on the administrations’ designs for amelioration. Certainly they have said nothing publicly about extending parking or reimbursing students in residence for food and beverage expenses incurred. Where are the official statements to inform the student body of such measures to avoid persons of making the mistake of purchasing new parking passes when they return?”

Indeed, official statements of any kind are curiously rare as students return to classes amidst the general confusion of what term starts when, for how long, and an unrevised fall exam schedule, but one thing is certainly clear and that is the fact that the party for many students is unceremoniously over. Now to endure the hangover.



# Dude, Where's My Refund?

CATHERINE HANCOCK  
AND KELLEY GREEN

After an incredibly long and painful strike, our attention spans were all shrinking away to nothing. Some were even finding it difficult to play a game of solitaire and watch television at the same time. Not feeling

capable of anything too insightful, some students checked out the film "Dude, where's my car?" Here's what we had to say about it:

C - Dude, what did you think of this movie, dude?

K - I dunno, dude. Whadya think of it?

C - I think Ashton and Seann are sweet, dude. They can shibby over here any day.

K - And then? No, in all honesty it was good. I found it a bit confusing - probably because I thought it was gonna be one of those mindless movies. Word to the wise - pay attention. And those with A.D.D. - don't watch

for prolonged periods. Not that you could, but...

C - Dude, I think I must have A.D.D. I have no idea what you're talking about. All I know is that this movie is a laugh and a half.

K - Sweet. Didn't you find it was hard to see Ashton as someone other than Kelso ("That 70's

Show" character)?

C - I don't watch the show enough to really know the difference. It's on the same time as "Buffy." Come to think of it, Seann William Scott plays close to the same character as he did in "American Pie" and the incredibly hilarious, "Road Trip." But he's funny, so why not stick to what you're good at?

K - I guess. I watch the show often enough to know. They're basically the same, half-wits. You're right though. It is funny and they are good at it so why not stick to it?

C - Do you think that these guys have the capability of playing other types of characters?

K - Yeah they've got the capability but I think the more appropriate question is will they? I think yes, but not for a while. They're riding out the way.

C - You're probably right. Did you have a favourite scene or part? I enjoyed the answering machine and "the kiss". I couldn't believe they did that! It will definitely win them the popcorn award at the MTV movie awards.

K - The part I enjoyed was the "dog up in smoke". Another favourite part was the garbage scene. Would that suck?

C - It sure would. That made me laugh, too. This movie was fun. I recommended it to all my friends.

K - Dude - thumbs up! Stupid humour is sweet.

C - Dude, this movie is sweet.

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## Not Fucking Fodder

BY TRAGEDY

Only a fool truly believes education to be bought and sold yet still we worry about make believe ivy leagues and secret societies of hallways and arches where everyone wins... Down here we are assumed insignificant. Down here we are assumed defeated.

# Professional Disgruntled Student

KRISTIN FOSTER

From my perspective, this strike has not been positive. As far as I'm concerned, my entire year has now been wasted. Even when classes resume, the quality and extent of the education I will receive will be a fraction of the one that I paid for. I worked two jobs this summer, diligently saved up, missed out on vacation opportunities and did overtime just so that I could have the privilege of attending Glendon College. To see that my time and money is seemingly being wasted is obviously very frustrating for me. I understand that C.U.P.E. is working on improving their situation but it is costing me and thirty-three thousand other students a lot of money and for some of us it is putting our professional futures in jeopardy. I am lucky that it is my first year and I can restart my post-secondary education elsewhere. A student who would have graduated this year is not so lucky.

I understand that the members of C.U.P.E. 3903 are frustrated with their situations and that they have suffered. This is the cycle, it is like the snake biting its own tail: they suffered in the past and are trying to regain some footing and remedy what has obviously been a difficult situation. As a result they are putting the students in a similar position of suffering, one which they are so vehemently fighting against. Is that fair? Obviously it is fair to them; they are striking for what they believe to be their



JEREMY FORTIER

rights and they hope to win. Now we, the students, the bottom of the hierarchy, are the ones who are losing, but unlike C.U.P.E. 3903, who are roughly one and a half thousand, we are thirty-three thousand. They are our teachers and our teaching assistants, but we are the ones trying to build ourselves a future and because it hinges on our success in post-secondary education, they are putting us all at risk. The difference between us and them is that they have more choice as to whether or not they want to take that risk; we do not. People near the top of the pile, like Lorna Marsden, the President and Vice-Chancellor of York University, have tenaciously held their ground during the strike. I wonder why? With tuition rates ever-rising and with the help of government subsi-

dizing, I wonder why the University's administration would hesitate so much to let C.U.P.E. 3903 earn more money. If they can pay those annoying lawn care people to blow leaves around campus at eight in the morning, why can't they afford to pay my sociology T.A. so that he doesn't have to worry so much about his bills? I am aware that there are more issues at stake than that, however much talk in and around the Glendon campus seems to have revolved around paycheques and money. I would be interested in knowing where my robust tuition cheque is going now that it hasn't helped C.U.P.E. members already. I would be interested in knowing the politics of need in terms of these paycheques.

From the perspectives of the

people who are getting them, from the lowly teaching assistants to the high and mighty Lorna Marsden. We are experiencing a time where people don't seem to be satisfied with what they are receiving. When do we say "enough is enough"? I have been raised in a school system which has been riddled with strikes and unhappy educators. I am absolutely fed up. My career as a student has constantly been put at risk for the sake of my teachers and their associates. Nary has a year gone by where I have not at least been threatened by a strike. My future, as a result, is shaky at best. The rub here lies not within the creators of the strike but its consequences and when its consequences effect tens of thousands of people, then you've got a problem.

## Mega Movies and More In 2001

CATHERINE HANCOCK

Toronto, being the big and busy mega-city that it is, has so much going on in the next few months that it is virtually impossible to do and see everything. Here are just some of the many things the North American entertainment industry has in store for you in the coming months.

In early January, MTV movies

will release the film "Save The Last Dance" about two inner-city teens and the societal and cultural pressures they face as they try to make their inter-racial romance work. The soundtrack, set to release around the same time as the film, is expected to be a formidable force with artists such as Lucy Pearl, K-Ci & JoJo, Ice Cube, Montell Jordan and more.

Closer to home, The Koffler Centre of the Arts (at the J.C.C.) is now presenting Cathy Daley's art work entitled "Little Black Dress". The seduction of the contemporary fashion industry and the ideals of femininity proliferated by the media inform Daley's recent works.

Jane Miller's play about how she used hockey and disco to navigate her teen years is now

playing at the Artwood Theater. "Disco Goalie" will be playing until the end of the month.

Even closer to home, right here on campus, Theatre Glendon will present "Babel Rap." It is a one act play consisting of two characters (but played by four) who search for the meaning of life.

(continued on page 12)

## News in Brief

### GCSU PLANS TO WAKE GLENDON UP

Eric Dansereau, the president of the GCSU, has set out his hopes, aspirations and expectations for the new year. As well, he is proposing events, both new and old, that could prove to warm the students interests and break the monotony of the winter semester. 01/15/91

### DOWN THE HALL

A shriek of terror brought Glendon security to their feet and running late last night. Deep in the catacombs of Hilliard residence, an unidentified female awoke with a start to discover a strange man in her room. Gasping with shock, Miss X frantically peered into the darkness to discern the villain's unspeakable intentions. Was he searching for jewels or cash? Was he intending to violate her body in a savage act of violence or lust? No.

After calmly emptying his bladder in a corner of her room, this to-be-left unnamed person neatly re-zipped his vestments and left the premises. 01/16/81

### TO RADIO GLENDON; COUNCIL VOTES \$1 600

Last Thursday evening, January 14, student's council appropriated \$ 1 600 for the purchase of electrical equipment to establish Radio Glendon. Total costs are expected to reach \$2 500.

Speakers will be installed in the dining halls, the JCR, and the Terrace Room to broadcast programs produced by Radio York and Glendon. 01/20/71

### YORK PRO-TEM

At first glance, the new reader will most probably be prompted to ask himself what a pro-tem is. Is it a Russian Cosmonaut or a wild animal found in a dense forest? One might even be prompted to suggest that if pro-tem exists then is there perhaps an anti-tem (not yet anyway).

In order to quell all uncertainty, the answer is that Pro-Tem is simply the student weekly publication of York University. This paper will appear once a week, at noon, every Thursday. 09/20/62

# Voicing Reason and So Much More

Dear Editors-in-Chief:

Encouraging students to read newspapers—any newspapers—to develop an interest in world events, and fostering an appreciation for The Star as the newspaper of choice. These are the reasons The Toronto Star has embraced the Campus Readership Program and is distributing copies of the newspaper on college and university campuses free of charge. And a thirst for this news is driving thousands of students to deplete our racks by noon every week-day.

Some campus newspapers and student organizations are concerned about the impact of the Readership Program. Numerous articles in campus papers have portrayed The Star as Goliath smothering David, or as scavengers out to steal advertising revenue. This coverage is misleading and often wrong. We want to again set the record straight by addressing the biggest concerns about the program.

First, opponents fear The Star

will produce split run editions of the newspaper that carry advertising aimed directly at students, thereby threatening the advertising base of campus newspapers. We absolutely will not do this. We guarantee against split run editions in every contract we sign with participating universities. Split runs are so expensive they are cost-prohibitive even for large regions, like Mississauga or Brampton, where there is extensive advertiser interest. Besides, what advertiser would spend \$28,000 for a page in The Star (which reaches only 5-10% of the student body) when he can spend less than \$500 to advertise in a campus paper written for and by its target market? Other free-distribution publications circulating on campus, such as NOW Weekly, pose a more direct threat to campus advertising than The Star ever will.

Secondly, some attest that free distribution of large dailies on college and university campuses hurts the readership and circulation of the campus newspaper. This runs completely counter to

our objective to increase newspaper readership of all kinds. It also contradicts evidence from similar campus readership programs in the U.S. At Pennsylvania State University, for example, distribution of The New York Times and

USA Today boosted student readership of all newspapers (including the campus press) to 73% from 15%. If we at The Star ever saw confirmed evidence that our program was directly responsible for a decline in circulation of a campus newspaper at a participating college or university, we would seriously reconsider the nature of our involvement with that institution. There is language in our agreements to address such circumstances.

Finally, some complain that The Star dictates placement of the campus press, requiring that their newspaper stands be at least three metres from The Star's racks. This is absolutely not true, as even a quick review of the contracts with participating institutions would confirm. Our clean, well-organized racks

make space available to all publications sanctioned by the colleges and universities involved and, in fact, raise the profile of the campus newspapers which otherwise are often simply dropped in piles around campus. If a student paper wishes to maintain its own boxes or distribution channels, this has nothing to do with The Star, and is not a demand in any of our agreements.

Students are best served by having broad access to both campus news as well as world events and issues. In this respect, The Star and campus papers are complimentary. We also contribute through the Toronto Star Speaker Series in which columnists or members of our editorial staff host seminars on topics of interest.

The Star has also recently hosted our first semi-annual Mentoring Program on November 10, in which dozens of journalists from campuses across Ontario visited The Star for a day of learning and expertise sharing. We plan to continue these valuable programs.

The Campus Readership Program is to contribute to the learning environment, which is consistent with The Star's values, and to build a readership base. It is our hope that the students will continue this newspaper reading habit by subscribing to their newspaper of choice after they enter the full-time workplace.

Examine the facts and you will see that The Star's Campus Readership Program can be a win/win for students, student newspapers and daily newspapers alike.

Brad Henderson - The Toronto Star

Dear Brad,

Unfortunately, I wasn't quite able to finish your letter. As much as I applaud your effort of meeting our deadline, I find your arguments to be nothing more than the same lie by which you and your business partners have been using since the Star first arrived on campus. As if you've ever read the Pro Tem. - ed

## Devenir enseignante ou enseignant **EN UN AN!**

La Faculté d'éducation offre une solide formation permettant d'enseigner dans les écoles de langue française de l'Ontario. Cette formation mène au baccalauréat en éducation et à l'obtention de la carte de compétence accordée par l'Ordre des enseignantes et des enseignants de l'Ontario.

Le programme est d'une durée d'un an (septembre à avril) incluant deux stages.

Pour être admis au programme de la Formation à l'enseignement, vous devez maîtriser le français, détenir un diplôme de baccalauréat reconnu, avoir acquis de l'expérience relative à l'enseignement et présenter un bon dossier scolaire.

Date limite d'admission : 1<sup>er</sup> février 2001

Renseignez-vous!

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(continued from page 11)

At the end of the month, BRAVO 2001 (The Annual Glendon Talent Show) will be holding auditions for all singers, dancers, actors, musicians, comedians, etc... who would like to take part in the show, which will be performed later in the school year.

Toronto band Zygote will perform this week at the Opera House. They have been hailed for their live performances as well as their stamina to continually battle their way through the trenches of the Toronto music scene.

For those interested in a more commercial music scene, in February, hip hop's hottest new female, Eve, and punk rock band, Fenix TX, will both follow up their debut CDs with a second release. This means more great music and tours are in store.

And speaking of music, a sing-along "Sound of Music" is com-

ing to the Eglinton Theatre beginning February 23. Tickets are now on sale and a portion of the money raised will go to the United Way.

The Artwood Theatre will present "Cu'fu?", written and performed by Charly (Calogero) Chiarelli. The hit show has toured the country and played on the BRAVO channel. The show is about being a Sicilian in Hamilton, Ontario.

The OMNINAX Theatre at the Science Centre plans to thrill our senses with daily screenings of "Cyberworld", "To the Limit", "Islands of the Sharks" and "Greatest Places". The OMNINAX is one of the top 10 domed theatres in the world.

DreamWorks Pictures will release "The Mexican" starring Brad Pitt, Julia Roberts and James Gandolfini in March. This movie's stellar cast and production team is sure to be a number one hit.

Remember to have fun and keep busy.

# Le contrepét

LINE PONG

Contrairement à ce qu'auraient pu croire les rustres - impermables aux plaisantes subtilités de notre belle langue, c'est à dire ceux qui ne peuvent que s'emmerder, donc par extension les enclûs - contrepéter n'est pas un mot à consonnance ni nasale ni anale. Nous nous devons cependant de mentionner le fait qu'en ancien français, la lettre S était bien souvent représentée par un symbole que nous qualifierions aujourd'hui de zigouigoui ressemblant plus à un f qu'à un s. D'où cette regrettable méprise - encore courante de nos jours - de certains qui pensaient, et ce de bonne foi, que contrepéter signifiait prendre un fion pour un autre au lieu de prendre un son pour un autre. Dieu ait leur âmes, moi j'en veux pas. A la fin du XVI<sup>e</sup> siècle, contrepéter signifiait de manière générale imiter par dérision, et plus particulièrement prendre un son pour un autre. Nous ne conservons aujourd'hui que le sens particulier du mot. La contrepèterie est un véritable art, rabelaisien certes, mais un art quoi qu'on en dise. N'est pas contrepéteur qui veut, qu'on s'le dise! Timide, la contrepèterie se cache, s'insinuant insidieusement dans des textes ou des discours. Elle se masque généralement derrière une phrase innocente ou insignifiante qui ne prendra toute sa portée qu'un fois la contrepèterie décelée, sans quoi pour le commun des lecteurs ou des auditeurs, elle demeure une simple phrase parmi tant d'autres. Le contrepét (art d'inventer les contrepèteries ou de les résoudre) consiste à intervertir des lettres ou des groupes de lettres dans une phrase anodine, qui, une fois modifiée, prend souvent un sens des plus grivois et vire dans le burlesque. Ainsi, je suis arrivé à pied par la Chine deviendra en intervertissant les lettres je suis arrivé à chier par la pine. Autre exemple plus connu, une femme folle de la messe devient une femme molle de la fesse. Quoi de plus jouissif que de pouvoir lire entre les

lignes, car bien souvent, comme nous l'avons déjà mentionné, les contrepèteries passent inaperçues aux yeux du lecteur ou de l'auditeur non préparé. D'autre part, il serait faux de penser que l'art de la contrepèterie ce limite à la seule France métropolitaine où à la francophonie de manière générale. Nos amis les Belges me faisaient il y a peu partager un de leurs fleurons en terme de contrepèterie : il fait beau et chaud, qui devient comme vous l'avez déjà sûrement deviné, il fait cheau et boud ; hilarant n'est-ce pas ; ah, l'humour belge, on ne s'en lasse pas. Quant à nos grands amis d'outre manche, les rois de la vache folle, ils partagent, dans une moindre mesure cependant, l'art de la contrepèterie. On pouvait ainsi il y a peu lire dans le journal : Her soul is full of hope, qui devait se comprendre her hole is full of soap. Comme nous avons pu le voir à travers ces exemples -plus ou moins de bon goût - la contrepèterie se base donc essentiellement sur la phonétique, le son où la façon dont cela sonne à l'oreille. Sur ce, bonne lecture, à vous de dresser votre bête à lire libre.

## La voyante et les trois frères.

La chapelle des Congres Debouts était un endroit où les rillettes en fût étaient fort appréciées. La place était occupée par trois religieux, poètes à leurs heures, qui, sans être protestants, n'étaient pas très catholiques. Un soir d'automne, une voyante, ne craignant pas que sa mue la perde, patientait, sachant que c'est surtout au couchant que l'on voit l'épervier. Elle frappe, un des moine vient lui ouvrir :

- Vouii?

- Je me suis tordu l'humérus et je suis aux abois.

- Si vous n'avez pas peur des beaux ogres, entrez donc.

- Ne vous en faites pas, ma boule est formelle, je saurai mettre les chèques en valeur. Qui plus est, sachez joli moinillon que je jouit d'un nom bien côté.

---

“D'où cette regrettable méprise de certains qui pensaient, et ce de bonne foi, que contrepéter signifiait prendre un fion pour un autre au lieu de prendre un son pour un autre.”

---

Sur ces entrefaits, un second moine paraît :

- Pardonnez sa méfiance, mais les concierges ne sont que trop souvent avides de nos jours. Votre venue tombe à point nommé, l'agitation de Novembre accroît notre malheur. Mais entrez donc, j'aimerais vous montrer quelques vers belges, après quoi nous pourrions dîner en pensant.

La gente damoiselle pénètre dans l'antre des bons cordeliers et rencontre Jeannot le troisième moine. C'est un être à la stature imposante, presque intimidante. Il a tôt fait de rassurer son hôte :

- N'ayez crainte, trop grandir n'a jamais empêché de bosser, et puis comme dirait ma mère, la peau de Jeanine est bien douce. Enfin trêve de bavardages, vous semblez affamée, j'ai une grosse frite dans mon bock, elles est votre ; à la tienne. D'autre part, monseigneur m'a fait venir des lits pour l'évêché, je les met également à votre disposition.

N'y tenant plus, l'eau à la bouche, la mégère se jette sur la frite. Néanmoins, ayant tout avalé un peu trop promptement, tout gobé sans discernement, à bout de souffle, la voilà qui s'étouffe. Recouvrant cependant l'usage de la parole, elle s'exclame : «Votre poire a un goût de terrine».

Voyant qu'elle n'était pas rassasiée, les deux autres frères l'interpellent : «Voulez-vous, mademoiselle des nouilles encore?». Se voyant sollicitée de la sorte, notre donzelle ne fait pas la fine bouche. A cette nouvelle subite de l'action, Jeannot s'empourpre, c'est plus qu'il ne

peut supporter. A la fin de ce copieux festin, elle avait perdu la boule mais portait main-

tenant un ravissant chapelet de citrouilles autour du cou. Puis, histoire de bien digérer, tout ce beau monde s'en alla fouiller dans les coins. Tout allait pour le mieux dans le meilleur des mondes, amen.

## Les trois frères et la voyante

La chapelle des Congres Debouts était un endroit où les rillettes en fût étaient fort appréciées. La place était occupée par trois religieux, poètes à leurs heures, qui, sans être protestants, n'étaient pas très catholiques. Un soir d'automne, une voyante, ne craignant pas que sa mue la perde, patientait, sachant que c'est surtout au couchant que l'on voit l'épervier. Elle frappe, un des moine vient lui ouvrir :

- Vouii?

- Je me suis tordu l'humérus et je suis aux abois.

- Si vous n'avez pas peur des beaux ogres, entrez donc.

- Ne vous en faites pas, ma boule est formelle, je saurai mettre les chèques en valeur. Qui plus est, sachez joli moinillon que je jouit d'un nom bien côté.

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NDL : Toutes ces magnifiques contrepèteries

Ne sortent pas de mon pourtant fertile esprit.

Je ne me suis contenté que de les glaner

Puis dans un seul texte de les réassembler.

# Blink This!

CATHERINE HANCOCK

The increasingly popular punk band, Blink 182, has recently released a live CD of their latest tour, "The Mark, Tom & Travis Show." It is a compilation of their most popular songs and also includes the studio version of their latest single "Man Overboard."

I had the opportunity to talk with them about this CD before they even knew whether or not it would be released. Mark Hoppus (vocals, bass) explains, "We did record two shows live in San Francisco and Los Angeles. I'm not exactly sure if we're going to have a live CD but we're to have extra tracks and compilations... Every song we've recorded has been released. So people are asking for compilations, or whatever,

but we don't have anything to give them so we recorded these live shows and we're going to use these songs for those kinds of things."

And that's exactly what the CD is: two shows, recorded in 1999 with such tracks that can only be heard live (or downloaded off the Net) like "Family Values" where they repeat bad words over and over to a catchy tune or their latest ditty "Blew Job". Both songs end with - of course - mom jokes.

However, when I talked with the boys, they still hadn't listened to the recordings so the possibility of a release was unknown. Tom DeLonge (vocals, guitar) says, "You never know. We might. If the kids want it, we'll do whatever. I don't know if people want a live record or not." Mark worries, "I think a lot of it will

be bad because they'll realize we just say the same jokes over and over again." But Tom points out, "Not exactly the same. We change peoples names."

It's true. The first time I listened to the CD I thought it was their show from this summer in Toronto. Though on the CD they keep making Satan voices and I can't remember if that happened or not. Chances are it probably did.

To some, this may seem lame but they're punks and acting that way is funny. "We're dorks," says Tom. "We get more slack in the press now about being sexist, misogynistic assholes. Immature, juvenile... And I think it's funny." Mark adds, "We're really just feminists."



JEREMY FORTIER

# Don't Relax Too Much

DENNIS YANCHUS

As all of us get back to our classes thankful that finally we will be able to finish what is left of a terrible semester, we should try not to get too comfortable. As many of you may or may not know, the YUFA contract expires April 30. Now that the semester has been pushed into the month of May, this puts the expiration date of the YUFA contract three quarters of the way through our second semester rather than at the end of the semester as it would have been had our benevolent teaching assistants not fought for 'access to education'.

Some may argue that the University's decision to go back to the bargaining table, after the failure of the vote administered by the Ministry of Labour, was a smart decision on their part. That Lorna Marsden had finally come to her senses and realized the only option was a better offer.

However, I have the opposite view. I would have preferred staying out an extra month while Lorna Marsden forced the union to accept the previous offer even

if it meant the firing of teaching and graduate assistants. Don't be fooled, the CUPE coalition was not as solid as was made out. This approach would have sent a message to the other unions at York that the university is no longer willing to be controlled by it's labour. Instead, what message have we sent? Given the resolution of the CUPE strike, if I were a member of YUFA, I would be smoking a cigar with my feet propped on my desk making plans for a new home, a trip to Europe or the installation of a new swimming pool. Now that the University has shown it is willing to blink first, YUFA can expect to receive all of its (inevitably outlandish) demands, for if it doesn't, students will be held hostage. One thing is for sure, if and when YUFA does go on strike 'access to education' certainly won't be part of their reasoning even if they use it as one of their defenses. Although given the gullibility of the YFS during this past strike I'm sure they'll eat the 'access' argument right up and be right behind YUFA.



## Masked

JOEY

Through tears I now see  
He was so strong  
Now influenced by an illusion  
of what is real  
Sucked into a fallacious oblivion  
of fancy  
Brainwashed  
Justifying it any way possible  
Discarding all that was true to  
his heart  
With lame attempts to convince  
his past  
that this is now his future  
Could he have only convinced  
himself he might have  
succeeded

Where is he now?  
Behind a mask  
The mask of denial that has  
engulfed his being  
Will he return to reality?  
Will he once again find his heart  
and home?

Too much good is lost  
Not you too, don't settle  
You are strong  
Stand up for what is you  
Fight for your dreams  
Let not yourself be lost forever

# Your Average Teenage Boy

CAROLYN HENRY

I ran out of that class faster than I have ever run in my life. It wasn't until I had reached my car in the lot that I realized I had no idea where I was going. I wiped the tears from my eyes and noticed that Nicholas was sitting on the trunk. He took the keys from my hands and hopped into the driver's seat. "Where to?" he asked as he started the car. I didn't know so I just shook my head and continued to cry as he pulled out of the school lot. We ended up going to a nearby park. Neither of us could go home at this hour, we were both already in enough trouble for skipping so much school. Trying to tell our parents why we were home this time would be impossible. Neither of us had come out of the closet yet.

We were both from the same neighbourhood. I guess I should say that we both are from the same neighbourhood. We were both rich, white, gay, teenage boys who feared nothing more than telling their parents the truth about themselves. Where we come from, being gay is not an option. The options for us are as a lawyer, doctor, executive or professor. We are not supposed to be gay, even though about 30% of our neighbours are. It's different for them though, because they are artists and, according to our parents, entitled to their eccentricities.

We sat in that park for hours and talked. Nicholas told me that for the time being it could be best if maybe we just took a break. He told me that a couple of the football players had seen us going into an out-of-the-way gay bar,

when they were on their way to an after practice drink the night before. He said that word had spread pretty fast and that most of the school knew that we were a couple. He told me that maybe if we weren't seen together for a while this would all go away.

Basically, he broke up with me and even though the break up was only going to be temporary it broke my heart. This was something that I thought we should be going through together. It was a time when, more than anything, I needed him by my side. I needed someone who knew what I was going through, someone that I knew I could trust, and someone that I loved. When he told me that we were going to have to stay away from each other I panicked. I couldn't cope with that. That was why I decided to kill myself. That was when I decided that I would rather die than have to go through it all alone.

I dropped Nicholas back at the school to get his car, and followed him back to our neighbourhood. After he pulled into his drive, I quickly changed directions and headed for the pharmacy.

Getting sleeping pills is so easy. They sell them to you without a prescription. Then again, that's probably why I am still alive today - I could have planned it better and got stronger drugs.

I got back from the pharmacy around 5pm. My father was still at work, and would be for at least two more hours. My mother was nowhere to be found, I later discovered that she had been at one of her horrible self-help book signings - she is a writer. The thing that matters is

that I was home alone. I stashed the pills up in my room and collapsed in front of the TV. My parents wouldn't suspect a thing. When they arrived home around 7pm, Maria had dinner ready. We had one of our usual silent family dinners. They start with a "How was school, son?" and end with the sound of forks clinking on plates. This time the meal seemed a lot longer.

I went to bed that night around 11pm. That was my usual bed time, so my parents didn't suspect a thing. I have my own private bathroom which made taking the pills easy. I untaped my farewell note from its place under my desk drawer and placed it on the bedside table.

I got into bed, lay as still as possible, closed my eyes, and whispered sadly "Goodbye world." I was so melodramatic. Within minutes I was feeling dizzy and just a few more minutes later I was fast asleep. I was ready to die, or so I thought.

Waking up that next morning - or afternoon, I suppose - changed my life. After the initial shock of realizing that I was still alive, I realized that something in my life had to change - almost dying will do that to you. I showered, got dressed, went down to the kitchen and announced to my two astonished parents, "I'm gay," before walking out of the house. I got into my car that day and drove down to the youth centre. I was out of my neighbourhood, and out of my league, but I had to do something. I had been given my life back and I wasn't going to let it go to waste this time around. I was convinced that there had to be some reason that I was still

alive.

Going to the centre was hard and signing up to be a teen advisor was a little bit harder. However, nothing compared to going home to face my parents. When I got home the lights were still on, I could see my parents' shadows through the living room curtains. They were waiting up for me. They had never waited up before. When I took my keys out to open the door, they had already opened it for me. I could tell from my mother's eyes that she had done a fair bit of crying that day. I felt bad that I had hurt her, that I had hurt my family, but I couldn't change who I was. It was time for me to be honest with my family.



JEREMY FORTIER

My father looked me in the face. He looked me right in the eyes and then reached out and put a hand on my shoulder. He hadn't touched me in so long that the gesture itself brought tears to my eyes. When he called me "son", and wrapped his arms around me, I couldn't contain the tears. I sobbed into his shoulder, as I hadn't done since I was a child. My mother began to cry with me and she whispered softly to me, "Are you sure?" I wanted to laugh at the idea of being able to change the fact that I was gay. One look in her eyes, one look at the hope that rested with that question, told me that laughing wouldn't be the right thing to do.

## Stage Fright

PATRICK BOIS

Vertigo plank, non-resuscitated tank

Lungs plugging into sockets  
Getting ready for a shock  
Eyes bugging into pockets  
Never leaving, itches unlocked  
Gasp, Gasp?

I forgot how to gasp  
Ahem!

## All in All and All

KELLEY GREEN

As my favourite Lottery commercial says, "Fan-Tas-Tic!" I thought the movie would be slow moving and extremely boring with the lack of dialogue; however, Tom Hanks' on-screen presence was enough. I am not even that big of a fan of his, but it was a good movie. Honestly, I

can't think of another actor who I would have enjoyed in the role as much.

The two huge flaws the movie had were its length and the fact that it wasn't just a theme of "man against the elements." That's what I was expecting. Just Hanks in the tropical surrounding. Instead, a pointless love story was included in the

plot.

All in all it was a great movie.

### DRACULA SUCKS

What can I say? To put it bluntly, this movie sucks. I really didn't like it.

The director, Wes Craven, has disappointed me. Maybe it is because I was much younger

when I first watched his movies and it was with all my girlfriends at slumber parties.

It's all relative. I was expecting more scare...

And the ending was lacking. I am finding it hard to say good things about this movie, since there are too few. And I really hated it.

# Racing Toward Slavery

Dear Pro Tem,

I feel it is my obligation as an "ethically-conscious" individual to respond to the article "Racing for a Network" written by J.J. O'Rourke in the Oct. 31st edition of the Pro Tem. With complete bewilderment, I read every word of this article. I cannot believe that Mr. O'Rourke dissuades the notion of "Canadian identity" for one of "global citizenship". I believe it is rather clear that any promotion of "global citizenship" is simply dangerous and should be avoided at all costs.

Mr. O'Rourke's article begins with a "critique" of a recently established campaign designed to promote "Canadian identity". Although I believe Mr. O'Rourke's arguments to be misguided; I do agree with him that even this level of nationalistic sentiment is problematic. He cites (rather industriously) that the misgiving of a "Canadian identity" is that it is only partly representational. In his own words: "Policies that [are] developed to preserve a dominant culture, rather than allow all cultures the dignity of realising the dream of a "Canadian free space"."

What I wish to bring to Mr. O'Rourke's attention is the fact that it is NOT possible to have a "free space" as long as any nation is being promoted.

**Nationalism of every kind is DANGEROUS, it promotes COMPETITION, it implies COMPARAISON and its meaning is based on DIFFERENCE.**

Mr. O'Rourke seems to believe that if more nations are represented in this country the problems of self identity will dissipate. Mr. O'Rourke, do you recognize how many "nations" exist in this country? You seem to imply that you do, because you forwarn us of the "nations to watch" (presumably in the future?). The three nations listed in the article are: Newfoundland, Quebec and the

Aboriginal People's. Mr. O'Rourke states that: "these are peoples who are arguably living a different experience of Canada than most".

Mr. O'Rourke, if this is your criteria for either your definition of a "nation" or of a "nation to watch" I am absolutely dumbfounded.

Are you aware of the Acadians? They are the 300,000 "Canadians" who live on the East Coast. They are represented in the international organization (that was designed to promote "french nations") LA FRANCOPHONIE. Most Acadians live in New Brunswick, however thousands more live in P.E.I., Nova Scotia and Newfoundland. And what about the Nisga'a people's Mr. O'Rourke? They are the native band that has just recently been recognized "under Canadian law" as being a nation (as well as being given the biggest compensation package ever to one band). And what about the native Chinese residents of this country? Are you aware of the fact that there are more native Chinese living inside Canada than there are Newfoundlanders or Aborigines? With great hesitation, I might even argue that this "Chinese nation" has more influence in this country than either the "Newfoundlanders" or the "Aborigines".

The fact is that if we were to promote "more nations" the problem of unequal representation would not be solved, it would only become worse.

The promotion of nations is fundamentally problematic and this can easily be demonstrated in Mr. O'Rourke's own examples. What is not mentioned in his article (and what should NOT come as a surprise to anyone because you all PAY ATTENTION to Canada's history) is that even Mr. O'Rourke's three "nations to watch" are by no means enjoying a stable solidarity.

You are no doubt aware that over 50% of Quebec (and the number is supposedly rising) decided to choose "Canadian" in

a referendum concerning Quebec's nationhood. I am sure as well, you have heard that a passionate division exists in Newfoundland between those who are happy to stay a part of Canada and those who would leave instantly if given the opportunity. Go to Corner Brooke and ask for Al Pittman, he will tell you all about it. And perhaps the greatest misconception is that the various native Bands of this country are tightly bound to form one group called "Aboriginal People's". Although it is true that many Bands have agreed to be represented by one council this organization is by no means representational of every Band in Canada. In fact, many Bands in this country are faced with huge regional disparity from one another simply because many of them are located in obscure, Northern parts of the country. The dynamism of nationalism at any level is problematic and that is why it is always breaking at the seams.

Mr. O'Rourke's proposition is to change the scope of Canadian nationalism altogether. He writes: "Perhaps this could be the new Canadian identity; Canadian- one who participates

in the effort to establish a global citizenship that is free from unjust policies."

Mr. O'Rourke, my first question to you is: how do you figure it is possible to achieve an end of one predominant nationality by promoting more nations than are already being promoted? The idea of promoting anything has in its roots the conspicuous act of privilegedging. By using any space (in Newspapers) or time (on Television or on the Radio) to promote any one nation, all others are immediately EXCLUDED. In promoting an "Aboriginal nation" you are implicitly promoting a "Chinese nation" as well. The loud voice promoting an "Aboriginal nation" is equaled by a deafening silence coming from every other nation in this country. And I am sure you are well aware Mr. O'Rourke, the greatest danger in the game of nations is silence.

As a secondary point, I wish to advise Mr. O'Rourke that an idea of global citizenship involves the greatest amount of silence imaginable. As a "global citizen", Mr. O'Rourke, I have lost absolutely all my power as a morally subjective agent in this world. In

Nietzschean terms, it would represent the greatest of all HERDS ever amassed in the history of human kind. We as individuals would not only be silent, but we would be unable to speak at all.

**WE WOULD BE SLAVES MR. O'ROURKE!**

Slaves to an ideology that holds me as being equal with the 6 billion other human beings on this planet in that we all hold no identity at all. If everybody were represented inside one nation Mr. O'Rourke, what would be the necessary conditions to being a member of "the club"?

The only answer to this question is simply to be alive, or as Descartes put it "recognizing consciousness". And Mr. O'Rourke, I would argue that if the answer to the problem of unequal representation is simply that we must BEGIN making a conscious effort as individuals (or as a global community) to promote the benefits of being alive...We as a civilization are DOOMED to eternal despair.

BOBBY DEAKOS  
1ST YEAR STUDENT

