

PRO • BLEM

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GCSU IS CLOSED
UNTIL FURTHER
NOTICE

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JUSQU'À NOUVEL
ORDRE



GCSU VS YORK U

Welcome Pro Blem, Glendon College's back up student newspaper to her sibling paper, Pro Tem. The Pro Blem Newspaper is not a stranger to Glendon. In November of 2000 then Editor-in-Chief Mihnea Dumitru printed Pro Blem on an 11x17 flyer due to difficulties publishing as well. This year Excalibur, York University's Keele Campus newspaper supports Pro Blem publishing this issue. The staff of Pro Tem and now Pro Blem realizes the importance of the student voice and the importance of the informed student voice. Without a student newspaper, this voice is all but a whisper.

I came into this position with hope that both the Glendon Council Student Union (GCSU) and Pro Tem would be able to coincide as two clubs running to ensure the student voice is heard, projected and acted upon accordingly. After all that is what these two groups ultimately stand for. Rightfully so I was appalled when Pro Tem was halted for publication. Here is a time line of Pro Tem's struggles.

Pro Tem Time Line:

OCTOBER 5th: Pro Tem invited the GCSU to attend a meeting in order to introduce the two clubs and promote an active involvement between each one. Talk circled around last year's editors and finances.

PROBLEM: Not yet, hold on.

Pro Tem Happily Publishes

OCTOBER 12th: An official meeting occurred between the GCSU and Pro Tem. Pro Tem presented a proposed budget for the 2004/2005 academic year and a financial interim review from the 2003/2004 fiscal year. Pro Tem also requested ratification through the GCSU, specifically the Editor-in-Chief. The vote to ratify was brought to motion and denied by all but one council member.

PROBLEM: President Ron Fiedtkou unprofessionally stated his pessimistic position on the ratification right before the vote took place. We were not invited to introduce ourselves, ideas, or even our eligibility to run the Pro Tem. The outcome was clear: Pro Tem would be, and was shot down, without reason. The cake was iced when the President threatened that "Pro Tem better be concerned with what it prints".

Pro Tem Not Ratified

NOVEMBER 18th: Right before Pro Tem was going into production for the next issue, I received a formal letter from Heydary Hamilton, Business Lawyers representing the GCSU. The letter told Pro Tem to halt production until a formal meeting was set up with the lawyers themselves, Pro Tem, the GCSU and the administration of Glendon in order to "resolve" this issue. The letter stated that Pro Tem needed to:

- 1) Provide the GCSU with audited statements or an Accurate Statement of Expenditure and Revenue outlining the previous year's itemized revenue and expenditures for the 2003/2004 fiscal year, as it is required to do under section 37(a) and 31(c) of the GCSU constitution.
- 2) Provide the GCSU a proposed budget for the 2004/2005 fiscal year, as it is required to do under section 37(a) and 31(c) of the GCSU constitution.
- 3) Provide the GCSU with an explanation for the \$4000.00 honorarium set out in the un-audited statements that have been provided.

The letter also stated that if Pro Tem continued to publish another edition of the newspaper that we would be taken to Court and the GCSU would seek an injunction prohibiting Pro Tem from publishing.

PROBLEM: Pro Tem had already submitted every piece of document this letter was asking for during the October 12 meeting. Louise Lewin, Glendon's Associate Principal of Student Services had approved the honorarium for last years Editors and had assured the GCSU that this issue had already been taken care of.

Pro Tem Halted until Meeting

NOVEMBER 25th: The meeting was set for 4:30pm and cancelled the same day. Pro Tem seeks the Glendon Administration to re-schedule.

PROBLEM: Pro Tem was advised not to print until this meeting could be re-scheduled. Pro Tem was also informed that a petition requesting the GCSU be financially investigated had been submitted to them and since it was of a higher concern, would be looked at first. Alas, the meeting with the Heydary Lawyers was put off and this financial investigation was under full throttle.

Pro Tem Halted until Financial Investigation is Concluded

JANUARY 6th: Enter the lawsuit filed against York University for 2.7 million and enter Pro Tem. The GCSU wants to seize part of Pro Tem's percentage of the student levy. They claim that because of a referendum in 1983 to which Pro Tem was entitled to roughly \$17,000 instead of roughly \$10,000 that this caused a large budget shortfall and sent the GCSU into debt.

PROBLEM: The GCSU receives a budget of roughly \$100,000, they claim Pro Tem's budget 21 years and running is the reason they cannot fund clubs properly. Yet they can afford \$10,000 of our levy money to put towards anticipated legal action fees.

Pro Tem Still Waiting on the Results of the Investigation

JANUARY 10th: The administration warned Pro Tem that if we continued to print we would jeopardize the administration, since Pro Tem's student levy is under question in the Courts. Even if Pro Tem could find a way to publish using other monies we were advised against using the newspapers name as well.

PROBLEM: Pro Tem is being told not to print on a levy that was successfully passed into our account. Pro Tem's financial responsibilities were fulfilled and passed through the Universities Financial board by last years Editors, yet we were still being warned not to use it.

Pro Tem Halted Indefinitely, Glendon is at a Loss for a Student Newspaper for the Year

JANUARY 17th: Excalibur called and offered financial assistance for Pro Tem to start publishing again.

Pro Blem: The name of the substitute paper, which is suitable as Pro Tem is encountering many problems.

Pro Blem Replaces Pro Tem

When the GCSU claims they have received no complaints against their government and question the genuineness of the petition 202 Glendon students signed (also accepted by University officials), it is easy to see why they do not want Pro Tem publishing. Being the next biggest voice on this small bilingual campus Pro Tem will cover a story, good or bad with the intentions of keeping the students informed. In the GCSU's defense, it is easy to tarnish someone's name or Student Council through a paper that publishes and distributes thousands of copies to the Glendon and Keele Campus every three weeks. As a result, shutting Pro Tem down is an easy way to eliminate the threat of a bad reputation. However, that kind of action committed by any type of government ultimately creates censorship.

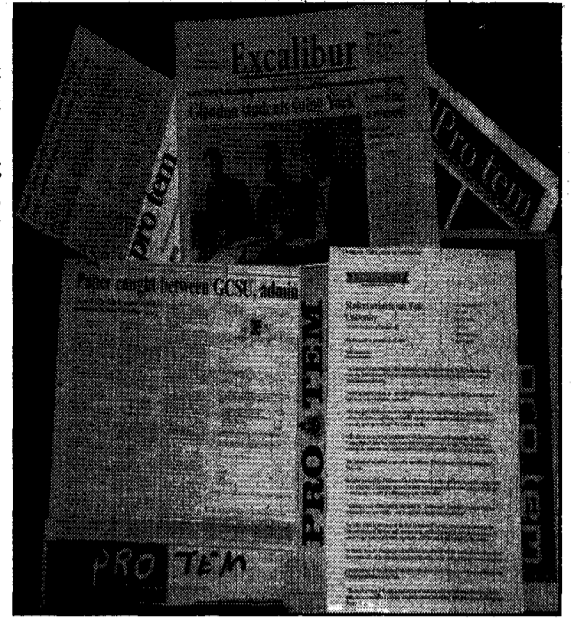
The Oxford English Dictionary defines Censor as *an official in some countries whose duty it is to inspect all books, journals, dramatic pieces, etc., before publication, to secure that they shall contain nothing immoral, heretical, or offensive to the government.* The OED also defines a Dictator as *a person(s) exercising absolute authority of any kind, one who authoritatively prescribes a course of action or dictates what is to be done.* Dictators do not want the bad to be seen or heard, written or talked about, only the positive must be fed to the community. Therefore, a dictatorship of any kind is bound to thrive upon the act of censorship.

The halting of Pro Tem slaps the mouths of students. The GCSU is supposed to be the one cumulative voice that is to represent every Glendon students concerns, so why shut down a huge outlet for students such as the paper. A student newspaper informs, clarifies, entertains and reports on many events that occur in and outside of the campus. A student newspaper allows students to voice their concerns and demonstrate their writing and reporting skills. Among all a proper student newspaper ties together the voice of the school community.

Each elected Student President has the ultimate goal of serving his/her student body. Taking on such a huge position requires a lot of dedication, responsibility, and above all courage and love for the job. Successful leaders inspire others, are a role model for their community and genuinely devote themselves to their elected positions. Some leaders slip and make mistakes, but whom would we be today if we did not fall every so often? When you slip and land hard on your ass, true leaders will get the hell back up again, stand up straighter and look around for the cause of the fall. A true leader takes the initiative to allow their mistakes to be the ultimate learning experience, then turns around and makes the best of the situation. Every true leader also knows when to admit defeat and when to admit victory. Congratulations to all the true leaders here at Glendon, you know who you are.

Alas, here we are with the first 20-page issue of Pro Blem and perhaps the only one, so enjoy Glendon. God willing in time the leaders of Pro Tem and the GCSU will sit down at a Starbucks, order a strong pot of coffee, put on one another's frayed friendship bracelets and figure things out as respectable leaders, together. Although Glendon students will not likely see Pro Tem until the next academic year following the end of the lawsuit, Pro Blem will be here battling for the student voice, uncensored.

Sincerely,
Ashley Beaulac
Editor In Chief



Editor-in-Chief

Ashley Beaulac

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Marya Repac

Assistant Editors:

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Marya Repac

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Geraldine Marie

Special Thanks to:

● Our Advertisers

● All the students who gave their opinions

● The GCSU

● The SFGG

Dearest Reader...

My name is Mihnea Dumitru and I am a graduate of the class of 2003 (BA Honours, International Studies). During my time at York University I served as Club Manager, Vice President, President of the Glendon College Student Union as well as News Editor for Pro Tem over the span of some three years. I have been following the Pro Tem - GCSU debacle with both curiosity and amazement. As someone who took part in both of these student organizations and has spent four years at Glendon, I cannot help but state my serious concerns towards this situation.

The core of this entire debate is a very simple one: whether Pro Tem, York University's oldest student-run newspaper and organization can have financial -and therefore editorial- independence. In my experience, whenever Pro Tem would question some issue regarding the GCSU, acting as a balancing force of the student conscience towards

their representatives, the Union would vehemently react against it, most times stalling Pro Tem's legally raised student levy money from reaching the newspaper. The system of checks and balances in which the GCSU would act as a middle man for the money Pro Tem was due twice a year only against an audit of the newspaper's finances was therefore flawed.

After the impeachment of the GCSU President over financial irregularities in 2001, a continued culture of dubious financial standing and Pro Tem's persistent pleas for justice to the administration, York University cut out the

middle man. The GCSU again reacted outside the norm by complaining that the funds were needed, and that because of the administration's decision, the union would end up in debt. Come again? You spent money that wasn't yours?

I believe that what York University did was fair and legal. To my knowledge, the GCSU barely attempts to create revenue, opting instead for the division of funds between different clubs and events. This process in itself is flawed, as cheques are usually written on a preferential basis to whatever personal relationships exist between the members of the executive body and the presidents of the student clubs. These clubs also gather few funds, rarely - if ever- going in the black.

The GCSU's financial papers have rarely been in good order. Organizing a ball only to later hear that the President's friends were allowed in for 1/10 of the fee, having union funds diverted into deep pockets by renting out fictitious hockey rings and having the manager of the student pub hijack GCSU meetings and preside over them without as much as a vote of confidence. These all represent real events and pose serious questions towards the financial and ethical health of the organization.

There are two sides to student autonomy. The first involves the legal and natural act of representation in a democratic and transparent environment. The second side of autonomy regards financial responsibility, especially when the money that you impart belong to the students and are given to you by mandate.

There are two kinds of student organizations at Glendon, those who are financially responsible and those who are not. Placing money in the hands of those who are not responsible and expecting the funds to be divided fairly between those organizations that at least try to be correct and perform a service to the student community -i.e. Pro Tem- is wrong.

In a Pro Tem article from last year I pleaded for a serious financial review of all of the Union's documents. More importantly, I asked for a more transparent environment, with members of the administration and the faculty participating in GCSU meetings and events. This is why I whole-heartedly salute the administration's involvement in signing the Union's cheques. The current legal battle being waged is nothing more than a group of sore losers attempting to blackmail a major university and ending up completely out of their depth. I would only ask a few final questions that I hope the administration and the student newspapers pick up on: What is the financial state of the Glendon Pub? What connections are there between the top GCSU executives and the Pub owners? And finally, what conclusions can one draw from the audits of the two previously-mentioned, student-ran and embezzlement-ridden organizations?

Sincerely yours,
Mihnea Dumitru

January 13, 2005
Bucharest, Romania

Dear Pro blem

I write this as a second year student at Glendon, who has identified with Students for Good Governance's cause. Though I was not implicated in the writing of the October petition, I have taken interest from a student's point of view in the developments of the GCSU saga that has been unfolding ever since. As time passes, and the complexity of the situation grows, I find myself more and more perplexed with the council's actions and the behaviour of certain council members.

I am not, and have never been a member of the GCSU. As such, I have nothing but second hand knowledge of the internal proceedings of the council. My aim is not to scrutinize the council on behalf of other people's experiences. What I wish to bring forth are the inconsistencies and theoretical problems that have become so evident that even I - a regular student who simply took an interest in my college's politics - have come to see.

The GCSU operates in a world of appearances. In this world, better known as politics, intentions must be padded with an air of responsibility. In other words, life would be a lot easier for the implicated members of the GCSU if they took the slightest interest in how their actions appear to the students, to whom they are responsible. The repeated actions that hurt the image of the GCSU range in severity from tearing down posters from the walls of York Hall that promoted SFGG's website to the conflicts of interest that have pervaded the council over the past two years. Though these are only two of the many examples, it baffles me that the parties involved would not stop to think how these would appear to the student body.

When I asked the Director of Academic Affairs, Rhoda Mousa why she was

(More time elapsed if one has to call them to come downstairs.)

- 6.) 2 minutes for them to come outside.
- 7.) 2 minutes for the "hey's" and other random, incoherent greetings.
- 8.) 2 minutes to walk up three flights of stairs.
- 9.) 2 minutes to walk down.
- 10.) And however many minutes you need to spend with that person.

And the calculation is? You tell me! The whole point of this is, 15 minutes is hardly enough time for a visit. Even raising the limit to 30 minutes would make a difference! If this is done, this would actually give people time to drive in, park, visit, and drive out without being charged. Money doesn't grow on trees, and I don't agree with paying \$2.00 for parking on the property and going over the 15

tearing down SFGG posters she referred to a non-existent poster policy that involved having each poster signed by the GCSU. Even if such a policy existed, did she not stop to think that she was in fact hurting the council's image by censoring the voice of a student group? Anyone politically minded will agree that not only does democracy permit dissent, but that it is crucial to the health of a political society. Leaving the posters up would have been positive for the GCSU's image, and instead she opted to show that the council is taking action to censor all opposition. This in turn makes one wonder, why would the council censor opposition if they feel they have nothing to hide? In the world of appearances, such a gesture will cost you public opinion.

The lack of satisfactory response to SFGG's October petition was alarming. Again, the responsible thing for the GCSU to do would have been to answer the questions raised and take precautions to avoid the image of corruption that they rightly or wrongly have been portraying. The extreme, and costly, retaliation to the administration's response to student concerns is also disheartening. As an observing student, I can't help but sense the council is hiding something behind the lawyers and the lawsuits. Unfortunately, this is one costly game of hide and seek that students are financing.

My advice to the GCSU: stop defending your personal interests, whatever they may be, and answer the students. In the world of appearances, sometimes you need to cut your losses on a personal level and own up to the responsibility of holding an office. Or at least, give us that impression.

Sincerely,
Stephanie Franklin

minute time limit by a couple of minutes. That's just plain stupid.

On a personal note, I have experienced this same injustice as I surrendered my parking ticket to a guard a week ago. Positive that I did not go over 15 minutes, I expected not to pay a cent. Do you think this happened? Not at all! The guard claimed that I had gone over the 15 minute limit and charged me \$1.50. I looked at my receipt and it read: Time elapsed: 14:43. Now is that under 15 minutes? Even though my math teacher would doubt my calculating skills, this obviously is under 15 minutes. Yet I am still charged. From cafeteria prices to parking prices. I wonder in what way the students will be ripped off next?

-Lourdes Villamor

Glendon Parking Prices

You're awoken by the sound of the telephone and are informed that a few of your friends are planning to visit you at residence. You agree and prepare for their arrival.

As their promise of "Be there in an hour" results in a two hour delay, they finally arrive. After catching up and laughing about how a friend who was piss-drunk the night before ended up at a random yard two blocks away, they leave.

You receive a call later that night. It's one of the friends that visited, and they begin to vent: "I had to pay two *enter profane word here* dollars for parking because I supposedly went over the 15 minute time limit by two minutes! What the hell is wrong with Glendon's parking service?"

Have you asked this question or something similar to this question? Most know about the Glendon Parking Service, discussed in the last issue of Pro-Tem. There is an allotted 15 minute free-of-

charge limit for parking on campus. Once one goes over this limit, however, one is charged a \$1.50 from 15 - 30 minutes, then is charged by the half hour.

True, this new system will ensure tighter security and deter outsiders (even family members) from visiting the campus. But do we really want to pay \$1.50 for going over the 15 minute time limit by even a few seconds? Call me cheap, but I'm a university student, and money is tight. Furthermore, that \$1.50 could be used to buy food. (Oops, I forget, the cafeteria prices are \$2.00 and above!)

Visiting hours are extremely limited with these prices. For those that live in residence - we spend a good \$6000 to live here, and yet our relatives and friends have to pay those prices for visiting? What will they charge us for next? Simply walking through the school?

The entire system doesn't need reform, but maybe

the relatives of those living in residence should be given special privileges; say, a pass of some sort, or special prices. This would ensure greater access to family members and friends, especially for those who don't live anywhere near the campus. Moreover, a time limit of 15 minutes for free parking? What exactly can you do with that?

Let's calculate, shall we? (Who knew I would actually use my math skills?):

- 1.) 1 - 2 minutes to get through the gate and find a parking spot.
- 2.) 1 minute to park (Varies with driving skills.)
- 3.) 1 - 3 minutes to walk up 80 flights of stairs (Varies as well. Time should be allotted for the breathers and for cursing.)
- 4.) 3 - 5 minutes to walk to either Hilliard Residence or Wood Residence (If one gets lost, there goes another few minutes.)
- 5.) 2 minutes to meet the student who lives in residence.

Dear fellow students....

We are all aware of the current GCSU lawsuit against the administration, for the ridiculous sum of \$2.7 million. We are also all very aware of the student apathy that exists in our school. The only comfort I find in the midst of this sad situation, is in my belief that at least, what seems to be an attempt by our Speaker and President to make their mark, (and oh what a mark!), might entice the rest of the students to awake from our present comatose state.

Perhaps we should go on ignoring all these issues. The world certainly won't end if the GCSU doesn't perform well. After all we are only talking about our silly student government, which apart from having the power to spend the money we pay (around \$57 per full time student taking 30 credits) and managing a budget of over \$100,000.00, really doesn't seem to affect our lives. Perhaps we should go on thinking, who cares? But then again, NO.

The GCSU DOES affect our lives. It has a direct influence on our university experience. If we think it doesn't, we should ask ourselves, why doesn't it? Isn't that the point? I believe our student government is not inconsequential and unimportant. It is a government that SHOULD play an active role in our student life, that we SHOULD care about and that we SHOULD be able to trust. Furthermore, the GCSU is a model of the "real" governments we may one day lead outside of Glendon.

Let's remember our founding Principal Escott Reid. His vision for Glendon was that it would be a liberal arts faculty focused on educating the leaders of tomorrow. Students who would leave Glendon with a solid knowledge of the world and the tools to later become its diplomats and politicians. Dans un pays merveilleux comme le notre, où nous avons le privilège d'avoir deux langues officielles et l'opportunité de les apprendre, il voulait encourager cet apprentissage pour que nous soyons préparés pour mieux représenter le Canada dans le monde.

With such an important foundation, how can we allow and accept that our own student government, the Glendon leaders of TODAY, perform at such low standards? Est-ce que nous pouvons maintenant permettre que les étudiants soient représentés par une association étudiante qui ne peut pas fonctionner en français, ni représenter les étudiants francophones? If we allow a corrupt Glendon government to represent us today, how much will we tolerate of our country's government tomorrow?

To the government I say, show us through your actions that you do in fact want to represent us in an accountable manner, and that you want to uphold our highest standards. Please do not interpret the investigation taking place and now the petition being circulated by SFGG as a personal attack against the members of council but rather as a voice from students who care about their government and want it to be responsible. Regardez-la comme une grande opportunité pour nous montrer que vous respectez notre système démocratique et que vous voulez sérieusement représenter nos meilleurs intérêts. Aux étudiants nous disons, la situation ne changera pas, au moins que nous, ensemble, criions au monde entier, que nous ne sommes pas conforme! Nous espérons mieux de nos représentants, car nous sommes des étudiants intelligents et capables de faire mieux. La situation actuelle est absolument honteuse et inacceptable. What students have done so far is not enough. We still lack an interest in politics and in our own government. I recently came across these words of wisdom by a student from the University of Alberta in 1960. "This disinterest in large and important matters is not the sign of a healthy student society. It is the student expression of a narrowness and a selfishness which are eating the innards out of the democratic life...Especially in a democracy, where an informed public theoretically controls government, a society which won't think about political questions is suicidal." Coincidentally this student later became Prime Minister of Canada, the Rt. Hon. Joe Clark...

We attend a serious College founded by extraordinary individuals whose vision we are destroying. Our Student Council has turned our school into a joke. Sadly, it is not funny. Glendon's potential is so great. I see it every day in the students that actually do care about our community and spend countless hours contributing to it through the few clubs that manage to survive every year. I see it in the incredible relationships that are so spontaneously created between students as they pass each other in the halls for the hundredth time each day. I see it in our professors as they go out of their way to make a connection with us through dialogue and discussion in the luxury of our small classes. I see it in our beautiful campus, a gem hidden in this bustling city where everything we need is there, and everything that isn't there; we find right here in the peacefulness of a snow covered tree or a falling orange leaf in mid air. Je le vois chaque fois que j'écoute quelqu'un alterner du français à l'anglais et vice versa sans s'en rendre compte.

We cannot waste our potential. We need to stand up for our school and say we've had enough! It's time to stir Glendon back towards our vision of what we want it to be. We just need to open our eyes, see it and take one step forward.

WAKE UP GLENDON STUDENTS

Truly,

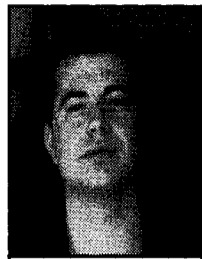
Jessica Duarte
Third Year Political Science

excal

...because one
issue a week
just isn't enough...

,on,ca

Fiasco 2005: GCSU vs. York U



Robert Zanfir

Well now, where do we begin? We must first establish the facts, of which there are few that we can be absolutely sure about.

The facts are that there is a 2.7 million dollar lawsuit that has been launched by the GCSU against the York administration and that not enough students know what is actually happening at their school.

On December 16th, 2004, the GCSU officially sued York University; naming Lorna Marsden, Kenneth McRoberts, Louise Lewin and Bonnie Neuman as defendants. The suit generated media attention and garnered virtually the same question; why? This is the same question I asked the President of the GCSU, Ron Fiedtkou. President Fiedtkou gave me his three main reasons for the suit, which he said are "to stop the school from redirecting the GCSU's funds, to maintain the autonomy of the GCSU and to stop York University from implementing the e-vote system at Glendon." President Fiedtkou maintained that the lawsuit is in the best interests of the students of today and also the students who will attend Glendon College in the future.

The administrative position is

that it responded to student complaints by asking the student union to hand over all financial documentation. This all stems from a petition that was circulated by members of Students for Good Governance that asked the administration to investigate the activities of the GCSU. This petition was allegedly signed by 202 concerned students at Glendon and presented to the administration. However, when the administration brought this to the attention of the GCSU it did not include the names of the students who signed the petition. This was at the request of certain students who did not want to be identified for fear of persecution. President Fiedtkou said that a petition without signatures is not a petition at all and therefore does not give the administration jurisdiction over the affairs of the GCSU. So now we have a lawsuit.

The reason for the petition was because of a number of rumours circulating around financial improprieties that were being committed by the GCSU. This was a result of former Vice-President and current Council Speaker Hossein Samiian retaining signing authority after his term as V.P had ended. President Fiedtkou's comment regarding this issue was that "there was a debt that was accumulated the previous year and that V.P Hossein had retained signing

authority at the request of incoming V.P Vanessa Stepnowski because she did not want to assume that debt." President Fiedtkou added that "this only continued until early September". This does nothing to quell rumours that Hossein Samiian, who manages the pub, was writing cheques for use of the pub.

Additionally, I asked President Fiedtkou about the issue of there being two constitutions. He said that the constitution they are following was retrieved from the York archives and that it was from either "1988 or 1987". President Fiedtkou went on to assert that everything that he and his council has done has been in compliance with the constitution. I was also assured by President Fiedtkou that a forum where the GCSU will answer all questions in regards to this lawsuit will come, and that the Students For Good Governance are invited to participate.

In my 45 minute conversation with President Ron Fiedtkou all of my questions were answered and the rumour that he was not willing to talk to anyone, especially media, was dispelled. However, this did not eliminate the fact that President Fiedtkou has used \$10,000 of our money on lawyers. He also confirmed that the case against York University is being handled pro-bono, but only as long as it



GCSU President Ron Fiedtkou (centre) fields questions at a press conference

is followed through to the end. "If we don't go through with it then we have to pay for it", said President Fiedtkou. That sounds like this isn't quite pro bono. Finally, the question of why this entire situation could not be resolved without courts could not be answered, not even by President Fiedtkou.

The real tragedy in this situation is that it is so ridiculously simple. York wants financial documentation and the GCSU should make available that documentation; that is the crux of this entire state of affairs. It is unfortunate that a school with such a famed law school was not prudent enough to have measures in place so that a situation of this magnitude would not arise. Now we, the students of Glendon, have our money tied up in a lawsuit

against the very institution to which we pay our tuition fees. It doesn't even matter who is at fault or who wins the lawsuit anymore because in the end the people who are going to pay for this gargantuan fiasco are the students. That, ladies and gentleman, is the actual conflict of interest.

If you have any questions:

President Ron Fiedtkou:
prez@gcsu.ca
Cell # (416) 771-4321
Or visit him at his office at Glendon until 5:00 pm weekdays

Students for Good Governance(SFGG):
sfgg@gmail.com
www.sfgg.ca

Student Protests Continue at Keele

Original protest debacle spurs string of free speech rallies during the week



Robert Zanfir

On Thursday, January 27, there was a protest in Vari Hall in reaction to the events that took place only a week earlier. The

previous week on Thursday, there was a rally against the Bush inauguration that consisted of approximately forty loud, but peaceful protesters. York security called police after the group was asked to move to another location. The police came in and tried to force the students to leave, and when the students did not comply they began to beat and drag a number of students into a locked room.

These events were followed by a number of protests in the days that followed, culminating with the large rally on the 27th. There were a number of speakers at the rally, which took place from 1:00pm until about 3:00pm. One of the speakers was

Daniel Freeman-Maloy who was reinstated as a student at York by court order this past summer. He spoke about the need for students to exercise our right to free speech and how the administration cannot be allowed to stifle the voice of the students.

Another speaker, and probably the most prominent, was the incoming head of the Political Science department David McNally. He was so moved by the events of January the 20th that he ended his sabbatical to come and speak to students. McNally has written a number of books on Globalization and Capitalism.

The message from all of the speakers was clear. We, as students and citizens of the world, should stand up for our rights. However, the rally also continued on the topic of Bush, capitalism and the exploitation of workers domestically and world-wide.



One of many free speech rallies in Vari Hall last week.

WE ASKED YOU:

A: Do you think the GCSU benefits the students? Why or why not?



A: I personally haven't received any benefits yet. I haven't noticed anything.

B: I find it ridiculous and a waste of effort. The GCSU should be more focused on what goes on the paper.



A: I haven't been here long enough to decide. It does, but not enough. They do stuff, but they should probably do more.

B: I don't know anything about it, but it sounds kind of ridiculous. But they might have valid reasons.



A: I guess it depends on who's running it. On principle, it hasn't been, the last few months. I don't know anything more than what I read in the paper.

B: I think it is regrettable, but whether or not there is any merit to the suit, I don't know.



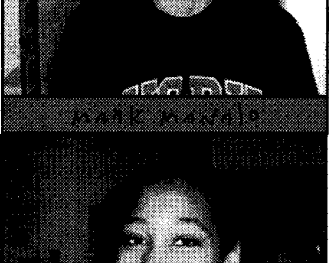
A: Yes. They give us access to facilities like the pub and they give us the chance to rent IT equipment and we get funding for our clubs. Free money!

B: If they're sure. I don't want my tuition to soar through the roof next year. I think if one is handling money it should be natural for their integrity to be questioned and as long as they can prove it, fine.



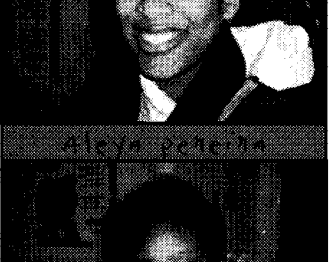
A: No, because I haven't heard anything from the GCSU since I've been here. I've been here for two years.

B: I think it's ridiculous that the GCSU is suing York U. I think that a lot of claims that they've made are false and I don't understand why the GCSU won't provide documentation on how money is spent.



A: I think that they do. I don't really know what the problem is. I really like going to pub on Thursdays. To be honest, I don't know what else they do for me. In theory it's a good idea, but I'm not really sure how it benefits us in practice.

B: I think it takes balls. If they believe it's for a good cause, they should stand by it.



A: No. They're supposed to be doing things for us, but I don't see them doing anything.

B: I don't know the whole legal thing that's going on. I don't think that they should sue. They should settle it peacefully.



A: No. Other than Frosh week, nothing that they've done has personally benefited me. There is nothing to tell me that they do anything because I've never seen them do anything except read comics and eat.

B: I find it unnecessary. That seems so personal. What are they doing to benefit the students?



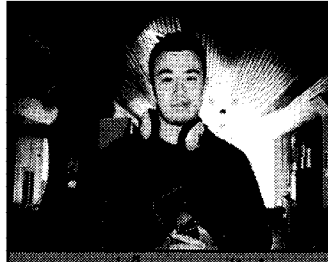
A: Not really. They haven't done anything to warrant appreciation from the students.

B: I don't really know enough about it to answer, but I found it surprising that the GCSU was suing our University. There should have been more information for us because they're supposed to be representing the students.



A: Yes. You need a student body to make sure that everything is running smoothly and have our say.

B: I don't know anything about it.



A: I do. It organizes everything on campus. They know where to spend the money and where not to spend the money.

B: I don't really know too much about it. If the University did something illegal then I'm behind the GCSU, because they had no right to look through their stuff.



A: Sure, when they fund our clubs. Besides that, I really don't know.

B: I think it's a little extreme and everybody seems to be suffering from it, but they have a good reason, so I don't know.



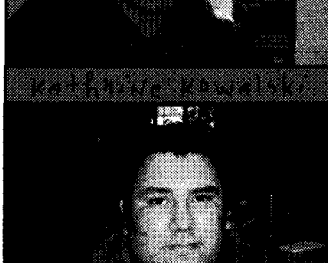
A: I think that they do benefit the students, but not a lot. When the University locked down their offices not much changed.

B: I think it's pretty funny. It seems kind of pointless.



A: Not really, no. I don't see them doing anything for the students, other than wasting money for no reason.

B: I think it's inappropriate and they should have resolved it a long time ago. It shouldn't have gotten this far.



A: I've never had to deal with the GCSU. I see them in there, but I don't know what they're doing.

B: I don't know enough about it to comment.



A: I have not seen anything that causes me to believe that they do, but I can't really say that they don't.

B: I'm not taking sides because I don't know the whole story.



A: No. I don't see them at work. I hear more about their corruption than anything.

B: I think it's ridiculous. There's no place for that here. We pay to come here, they're suing for our tuition money. Is it coming back into our school?



A: Yes, because they organize fun activities and work on behalf of the students.

B: I've never heard about that.



A: No. I don't think they're doing anything. I think they use the lounge for their own wasting time. I don't think they do anything productive.

B: I don't really know. What the administration did to the GCSU was wrong. I'm sure they have their reasons for suing.



A: At times. The clubs and services are good but need more advertising and communication with the students.

B: I think it's ridiculous.

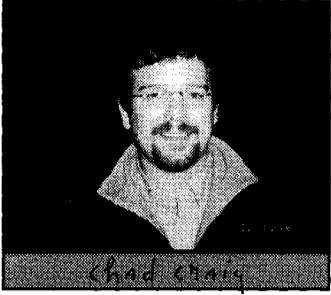


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WE ASKED YOU:

B: How do you feel about the GCSU suing the university?

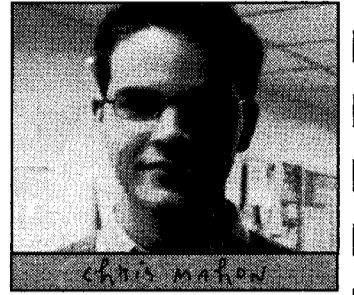
A: I think we need a union, but both the setup of the constitution with the current union and the current council are not a benefit to the student body. If you look through historical record of Glendon, including Pro Tem articles, you find that until recent years Glendon students have always been very politically active in relation to our campus. I personally think that the constitution needs to be rewritten to benefit the current students. The council should let us know how to get involved in Glendon. Most students don't know that the faculty council exists. They need to be the middle body between the administration and the students.



B: I've read the claim. The claim essentially says that the University overstepped its bounds by investigating the council and says that the University didn't do enough to make sure that the council was running properly and that funds were not being properly distributed. I think it's frivolous. I think that there should have been a town hall meeting to discuss this. There should have been more input than that of the council. They required 1/10th of our union's budget to retain the attorney. One of the big things people are missing is it's not just a Glendon issue. Roughly 2 years ago, the ex-president of Founders College was indicted for embezzlement. Atkinson College council, because they refused

to hold election and there were accusations of election fraud by the students, had the administration appoint a CRO. McLaughlin College council in either November or December gave themselves a raise of 375%. The last YFS council cut the incoming director's salaries by 44% and threw a \$19 000 party.

A: Not really. The current council hasn't been doing much lately. They claim that they haven't been receiving the appropriate funds from the University, but I think there's something fishy going on when they won't be forthright with the appropriate financial documents that have been requested by multiple members of council and by the administration.



B: I don't like it. I certainly don't want a part in it, and quite frankly I think the administration was right to take the action it did and to demand the financial accountability that it did on behalf of the Glendon students because we haven't been able to get it to our elected representatives. We've had four or five members of our council either have their voting rights removed or been forced or pressured to resign.

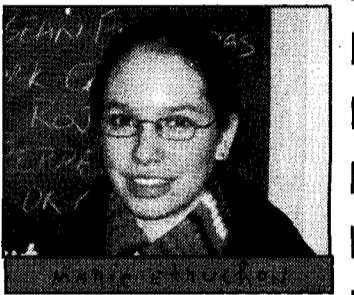
A: It has to! Because we're giving it money. It has the obligation to, but is it really? I don't know the particulars but what has the GCSU done for us recently? Seven people showed up for res wars, and they haven't shown us anything since. The best thing they've organized was Frosh week and that was one person. Now, with Pro Tem, they get a lot of money, but they only release one newspaper every, like, 2 months. If they have the money, they should use it.



B: I don't know enough about it yet. From what I've heard, the administration has been making decisions, like the money going to Pro Tem, without the GCSU being able to decide. The GCSU is the voice of the students and we're giving them money. If we're giving them all this money, why is the administration making

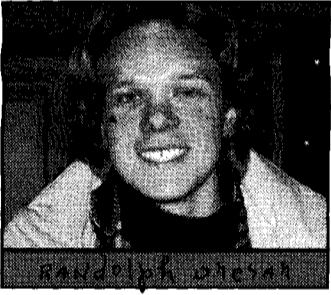
the decisions? What happened to democracy? What happened to student government? If this information is completely wrong, I've been told the wrong thing by GCSU members. I'm sorry if this is bull.

A: I don't think the GCSU benefits the students. I haven't heard of any activities that have been worthwhile, I haven't even heard of anything the GCSU has been organizing. And since there's a lawsuit going on I think that's definitely not a benefit for the students. No, I don't think the GCSU has benefited the students, ever, as far as I know; in first year, but this year I haven't seen it happen.



B: I think that's absolutely ridiculous because one, it's my money, and I wasn't aware, and two, there's no major reason. If they were asked to give their records then they should have, that makes me wonder why they didn't want to give their records, which makes it worse. I've been hearing that there's corruption in the GCSU and I find that fact makes it even more unbelievable that they're suing our own University. We get our funding from York U., we're part of York U., and I haven't heard of a valid reason why we should be suing them at all.

A: I've never heard of them before, but from what I gather I think they're a good party, a good organization helping the students of Glendon. I see that they're very active in the hallway, and their door's always open, so I think they do benefit Glendon students a lot.



B: Wow, that's a hot topic! How much are they suing for?...Oh my goodness! I don't know the whole situation, but let them go for it, I guess. The University's got so much money, why not? If it's for a good cause, yeah. If the University did

something bad to them, I guess definitely go for it.

A: Well technically it should, but I feel that currently the GCSU is not benefiting our students. There's a lot of apathy on campus. There is very little activity on campus.



B: I completely disagree with the lawsuit, and I wish that they would drop the legal claim and I also feel that the students should have been advised of this because they are suing on behalf of the union that most students are a part of, if they are taking at least six credits. So I feel that not only should they not be suing, but that we should have been advised that they were doing so in the first place.

A: In many ways I am not quite sure what they do. To be honest, there's not a lot of heads up about what goes on and what they do. So all I know is that they're supposed to represent us, but I don't know how they're doing that, I don't know what they are doing. Basically, all I know is that they're the ones that are supposed to give out the money to clubs and things.



B: I don't know very much about it. I don't know why they're doing it...it just seems like it's a huge mess.

A: I think in general they do, but recently with all of the troubles they've been having with the main campus...it's been hard to get in contact with them.



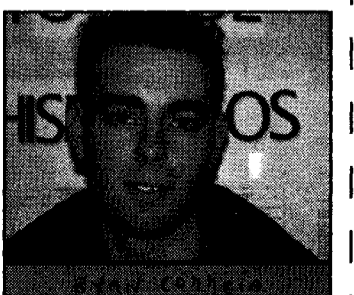
B: I don't know enough details about it to go into it, but I think it's fair enough because they've been having all kinds of trouble contacting main campus and they can't get proper funding...so the clubs are suffering here.

A: I think it does because I went there once and they have a lot of information about past exams... that is very useful for students, and hopefully they get out of these problems that they have.



B: Honestly, I haven't thought about it, but it's difficult for them...going through this situation.

A: I don't think they benefit the students, because I don't really know what they do, and I don't think many people do.



B: I think there should be another way of resolving things. I know that they have a history of being quick to go to a third party.

Got Hydration?

The virtues of a lubricated diet

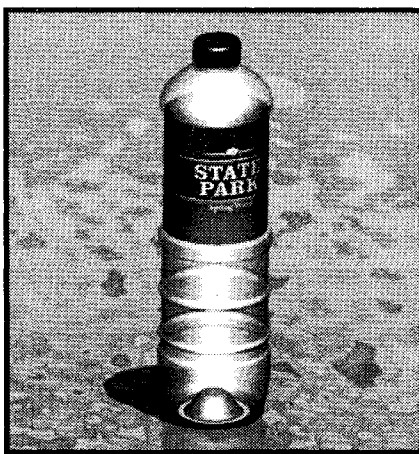


Virginia Torrie

Everyone knows that the human body is "mostly water"; in fact it's over 70% water. We keep this knowledge securely tucked in the back of our minds, but why is it that most people aren't using it to their advantage?

most people are slightly dehydrated without even realizing it

Like food, the body needs water to function properly. Actually, water is needed more: a person will die of dehydration far more quickly than starvation and the functionality of the nervous and circulatory systems in the



Refreshment is only a dollar and change away

body rapidly declines when there isn't enough water.

Water is something which one can get from fruits, tea and other juicy foods, but it's important to realize that pop, most juices and soup along with other very salty or sweet foods will actually deplete, not build up your body's water stores. This can be compared to drinking sea water, the salt (or sugar) requires more of your body's water to digest it than it provides, in essence, it is dehydrating you.

Interestingly enough, most people are slightly dehydrated without even realizing it! In many people thirst is mistaken for hunger, sounds unbelievable but it's true! When a person is very thirsty they can feel like they're actually hungry instead, which, needless to say, doesn't help their water intake.

When the body doesn't have enough water, even slightly, it rapidly begins working against us. As little as a 5% drop in body fluids in an average person

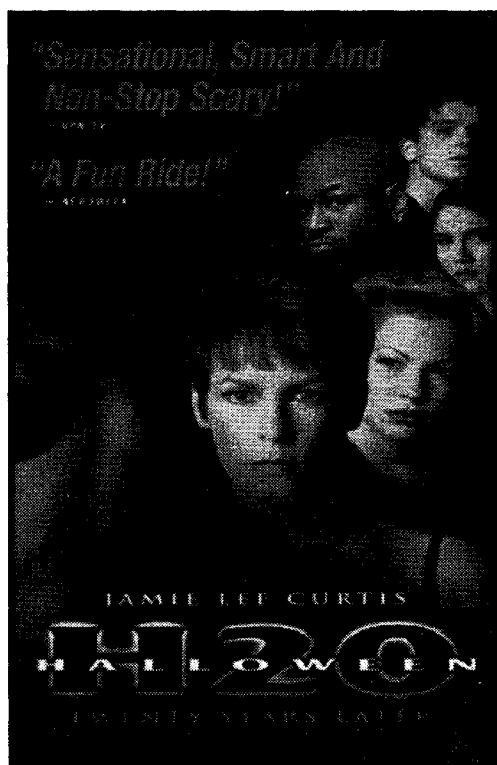
causes a 25-30% loss of energy. If that sounds a bit drastic, consider that a 15% drop in body fluids results in death. Water's no joke.

Aside from all the "serious" reasons to drink enough water though, there are also many pleasantly surprising benefits. For instance, water helps to metabolize stored fat, which gives us both energy and gets rid of the unwanted fat. Similarly, since hunger and thirst signals often get confused in the body, drinking enough water will help ensure that hunger really is hunger, and one is likely to eat less. Water also "moisturizes" the skin from the inside, making it healthier and softer.

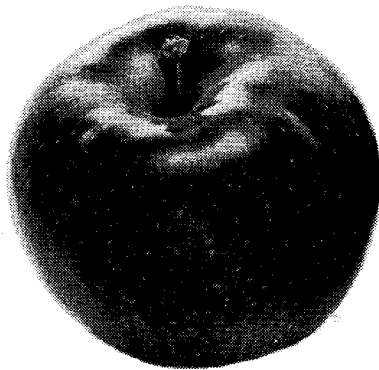
Even with all the facts, a lot of people have difficulty drinking water because it is tasteless or they just neglect it in their daily routine, but there are simple ways to overcome both issues. In terms of forgetting, just keep a bottle of water with you all the time, on the bus, in class, at the computer and as soon as you're thirsty, drink! Also, carrying the bottle around with you will help you remember to drink enough, even when you don't necessarily feel thirsty that day. To give water zest, add 1 part juice to every 2 parts water, you'll still get enough water, and you can work it down slowly to less juice over time.

The bottom-line to all of this, though, is habit. Everyone gets into habits regarding what they drink, but these can always be changed for the better. "I only used to drink Coke," stated Leslie Martin*, "but now I drink water almost exclusively, and I'm healthier for it!"

-Virginia Torre



Sadly, Hollywood has frequently distorted the truth about water



Vs



Two Cheers for the Ontario Government



Michelle Rasanu

Government two thumbs up for their commending performance regarding the removal of junk food vending machines in elementary schools. The Education Minister, Gerard Kennedy, stated on October 20th, 2004, that the McGuinty government is taking the initiative and is planning to make schools a healthier place for children. This is definitely a step forward in educating our youth on health and well-being. Obesity is a rapidly growing epidemic. Hopefully with this health incentive from the government, it will trigger a percentage drop of obesity among our youth.

Ebert and Roeper would give the Ontario

According to the Canadian Medical Association Journal, the prevalence of obesity among youth has sky rocketed by more than 50%. This horrifying figure makes the Ontario Government's action a revolutionary one. It appears that this could be the beginning of a drastic change in health among youth across Ontario and eventually will stretch across our diverse nation.

According to the Dieticians of Canada, the removal of junk food vending machines from all elementary schools is extremely crucial as one-third of a child's daily food intake occurs when they are at school. Good nutrition is extremely important for a child's development in and outside of school. Research cited by the Dieticians of Canada has emphasized the importance of a healthy diet because it increases a child's ability to learn,

promotes motivation and attentiveness. Did you know that the average child can spend approximately 38 hours per week using an electronic device, anywhere from watching television to video games and Internet usage. All these activities are non-physical and contribute immensely to unhealthy habits.

The McGuinty government is planning to replace these unhealthy vending machines with healthy snacks and will start up the process of educating our youth on healthy eating. It is extremely important to educate our young ones on living a healthy lifestyle. Obesity is a serious factor not only in Canada but in North America as a whole. Lets hope this government run initiative will contribute towards ending this curable epidemic.

-Michelle Rasanu

Water Privatization a war for the 21st century

VICTORIA (CUP) – Considering 70 per cent of the Earth is covered in water, you'd think there would be water for each and every one of us.

However, the reality isn't quite so crystal clear. Only 2.4 per cent is fresh water. Factor in pollution, legal issues, lack of appropriate technology and privatization, and that figure is further reduced.

Richard (Bricks) Mokolo spoke at Camosun College about the situation in the community of Orange Farm, South Africa. The community's water was privatized without its consent through Johannesburg Water, owned by the French company Suez. This change has come at the people's detriment.

"Privatization is the new apartheid," said Mokolo. "Apartheid separated whites from blacks. Privatization separates the rich from the poor." The South African community was told that privatization would help them

to conserve water and gain employment.

However, Orange Farm inhabitants were forced to pre-pay through water meters while economically stable communities didn't have to face these same conditions, despite their excessive water usage. The inability of the Orange Farm people to afford and hence to access such a vital resource motivated Mokolo to form the Orange Farm Water Crisis Committee and push free water as a priority for the government agenda.

The situation at Orange Farm isn't isolated. The story is the same throughout the developing world. People end up resorting to theft and long distance travel to get water from unsafe sources. For South Africa, the latter has led to fatal incidents of cholera outbreaks in provinces such as KwaZulu-Natal.

This globally recurring dilemma has caused people to ask why are governments

allowing privatization when their own people can't afford it.

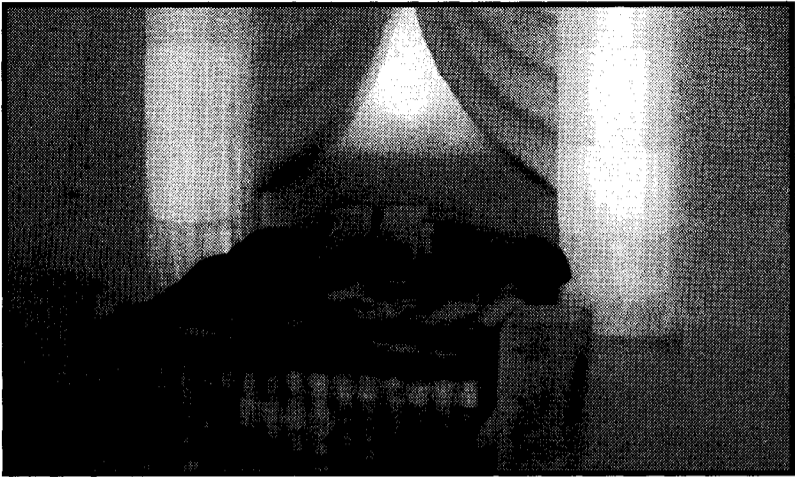
The reasons aren't so simple. Kelly Busch, a University of Victoria graduate holding a master of arts degree in interdisciplinary studies and a member of the Council of Canadians, says multinational companies have the resources to invest in infrastructure that governments may not have.

Also, "multilateral institutions such as the World Bank and other regional banks often make loans that are conditional to the markets of developing countries being opened up to competition," he said. This means that privatization is a requirement for loans.

The results are that in poor, rural areas, people are forced to choose between paying for water or other necessities such as education, medical care and food. This is neither desirable nor economically sustainable.

Ice-Hôtel-Glace

The chic Canadian hotel



Cold as Ice, we know. Yes, we know.

Winter's approaching in Canada, and for most people that means staying cozy and warm inside their heated homes. It doesn't have to though; there are many fun outdoor winter activities which will help speed along the return of spring: skiing, snowboarding, skating and snowmobiling for instance. But sports aren't the only thing that's happening in the snow, and although all Canadians may not live in igloos, they may just be tempted to try a night at the "Ice Hotel".

Only thirty minutes from Quebec City, the five-year-old Ice Hotel is a 3,000 m² marvel, constructed entirely from ice and snow each year. Nearby are all sorts of winter activities which match the hotel in their unique Canadian feel, like dog sledding and snowshoeing.

There's plenty to do outside, but also no lack of excitement inside. The Ice Hotel has thematic suites, complete with sleeping bags on a bed of deer pelts, newly designed

each year by local artists; the Absolut Ice Bar, which uses glasses made of ice; the N'ice Club with DJ nights, live band performances, and theme nights; hot tubs & saunas; and for the nuptially inclined, it's very own Ice Chapel.

The Hotel holds its opening ceremony in January and melts away in April, during which time the temperature can reach a freezing -28 *C! Not to worry though, as the thick ice walls keep the internal temperature nicely between -2 and -5*C - though you'll still need your long john's. The exceptions are the washroom and luggage areas, which are heated rooms attached to the hotel.

Though the prices are not student-friendly, and range upwards from \$500, visiting for the day is always an option if you happen to be on your way to Quebec City. The sight alone will be well worth the detour.

-Virginia Torre

Water Privatization Continued

Multinational corporations, in their quest for short-term profit, are rethinking "the wisdom of privatizing water within developing countries," he said.

"Perhaps the best known example is the Bechtel Corp. in Bolivia which was forced to withdraw in spite of the fact they had the support of the national government," said Busch.

The consumers that can't afford the water and the fierce public opposition, such as that organized by Bricks, spells a loss of profit - forcing companies to turn elsewhere.

As these trends in developed countries increase, Canadians must ask how they will be affected.

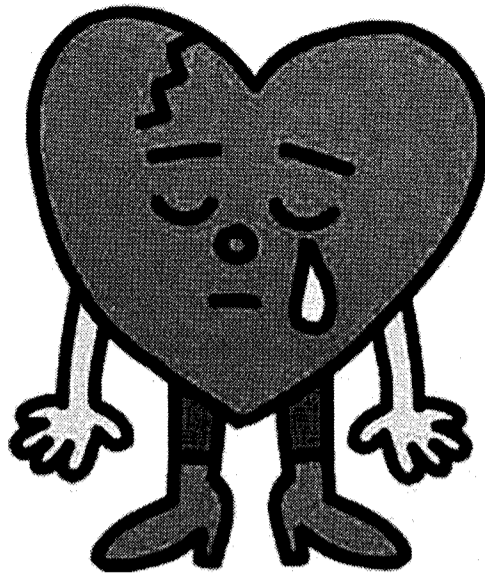
According to Busch, the benefits of privatization are that multinationals can "make large cash infusions to upgrade infrastructure that

governments are unwilling to make." This could present the potential for efforts around environmental sustainability. However, these concerns take a back seat to profit, meaning water resources might be jeopardized.

Busch also points out disadvantages include a loss of sovereign control over the resource and increased costs in the long term.

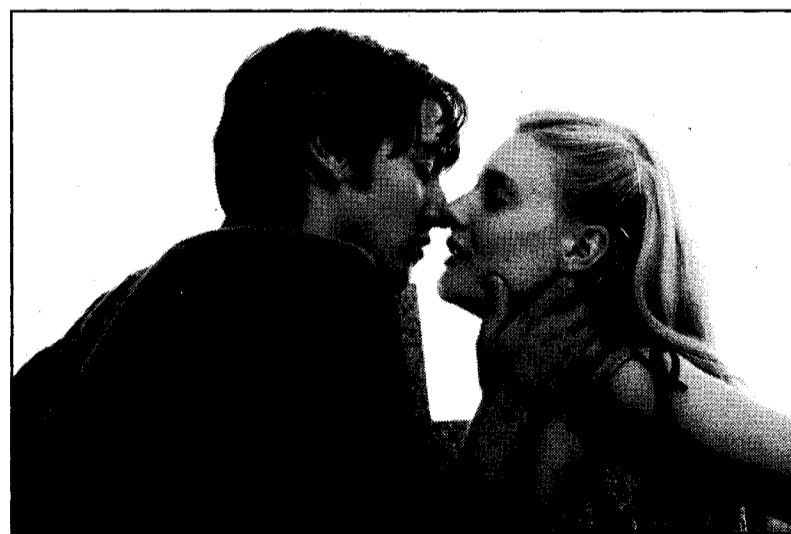
Once water is privatized, it becomes a tradable good. In Canada, agreements such as the North American Free Trade Agreement encourage this and allow for companies to demand compensation should government limit water extraction and trade. This means that a company in Canada has the freedom to trade off as much water as it wants, often to other countries.

-Catarina Costa



Been dumped recently? Found out that your significant other was cheating on you? Confessed your feelings for someone, only to be shot down and given the line, "You're a good friend, I don't want to ruin things"? If you've answered "yes" to one or maybe even all of these questions, you're not alone. I've recently been through it, and I'm quite sure everyone else has gone through it. People for thousands of years have written songs, poetry and stories about heartbreak. Being rejected, left alone or betrayed will take a heavy toll on our self-esteem, and in the lamest terms, make us feel like hell.

So you've cried yourself dry, used up two boxes of tissue paper, thrown everything at arm's reach and ate everything edible in your fridge. The hurt is still not going away. One thing we all need to remember is that no matter how small a crush it was or how idiotic your ex-significant other is acting, the pain will not go away in a day. We can all pretend that



Be sure to rue the happiness of others.

it doesn't bother us, but deep down inside, we know better than that. If you're recovering from a broken heart, here are things that you can do to lessen the pain:

1) Admit that it hurts. Take a deep breath and close your eyes. Denying your feelings and pretending that nothing is wrong is not the right way of dealing with heartbreak. Feeling is not a crime, so acknowledge the situation and don't be afraid to express your emotions.

Healing The Broken Heart

2) Face the problem head on. Analyze it, be angry with it, then dispose of it. If the situation can be fixed, and if there's a possibility that it would help with the healing process if you tried to solve it, then by all means, go for it. Don't let feelings hang in the air, especially yours. Talk to the person that the problem deals with, and you never know - things might work out in the end.

3) Talk with your good friends about it. It doesn't mean telling everyone in the entire world that the person you fell for was a jerk or that things just didn't work out. It means opening up to those closest to you, and to those people who are ready and willing to help you. Just remember that there are people that care, even if your "significant other" doesn't.

4) Do anything that will get your mind off of things. Play your guitar, mosh at a rock show, work out, and engage in various other activities that will help keep your spirits up and regain your self-confidence. Again, friends and family are the best people to be around at this time. A

there and try different things! Don't chain yourself down to things you have always been doing, but experience new things and see different places. It's a great chance for you to meet new people and to realize that there are other fish in the sea.

7) Quit the negativity. It's understandable to look at your reflection and ask "Why?" and to question if you're ever going to be good enough for another person, i.e., pretty enough, smart enough, funny enough - but you know what? Just because things didn't work out, it doesn't make you less of a person, and it doesn't change the way you are. Don't blame yourself, because it may not even be your fault. It's probably not the time or the right person, so don't lower your standards or just settle for anyone. You know you're better than that, and you deserve the best. Just keep your eyes open, keep your options open, and stay true to yourself.

8) Things always happen for a reason. It's cliché, but it's true. Maybe the person sitting beside you in class was just waiting for the opportune moment to make their move, and maybe you'll see a friend in a different light, realizing that they were perfect for you all along and that you were blind the whole time. It's hard for people to admit, but sometimes, falling for someone indeed controls the things they do, often in unhealthy fashion. Maybe things happened for the better, and you never know if that person beside you in class is the one for you.

It happened, and it's done. Don't dwell on it, because unless you're some superhero or something (which would be sort of cool), you can't change the past. Rather, think about the possibilities and the opportunities that await you in the future. Move on, because that's the only thing you can do. When a door closes, another one opens, and if it seems as if another one doesn't open, just kick the damn door down! You'll be glad you did it.

-Lourdes Villamor

broken heart can be stressful and will take stabs at you emotionally, mentally and physically - so take care of yourself. (Sleeping rocks!)

5) Stick to your schedule. Do what you have always been doing, and keep your routine. Sure, you might still be hurting, but the faster you return to your schedule, the faster you will become used to it, and ultimately, the faster you will heal.

6) Then again, you can go out

Interviewer: Ashley Beaulac

Attendance: Chad Craig, Jessica Duarte, Yoani Kuiper, Geneviève Bowers, Adam King

Students for Good Governance (SFGG) is a group formed by concerned Glendon students seeking to keep the GCSU accountable and revitalize our apathetic student community. On October 29th the SFGG submitted a petition to the administration requesting an investigation into the affairs of the Council. The Council has failed to recognize the petition and initially failed to fully cooperate with the administration. Now the SFGG proposes the impeachment of the President and the Vice-President through a General Meeting or Referendum. They also request the appointment of a partial speaker. Read on to get a further understanding of this group and their battle for justice.

QUESTION # 1: Who is the SFGG and how did you get started?

Adam: "We are a completely open membership group of students. We are concerned about the things that have been happening with the GCSU for the last year."

Yoani: "We heard a lot of different stories going around regarding the GCSU, rumors really, then we read Chad's resignation letter and the President's response letter to the Director of Cultural Affairs. All these things started piling up and a few of us got together to get to the bottom of what was happening. We created a petition with everything that was questionable. We gave the petition to the administration requesting an investigation. Now because of what's happened with the GCSU suing York U, the legal fees and how they've reacted we decided that we needed to take things further and that is how the SFGG was formed."

Chad: "It started with a discussion about re-writing the constitution."

Geneviève: "There was discussion in the summer about re-writing the constitution."

QUESTION #2: What is the SFGG's goals?

Jessica: "Our goals are to have an accountable government and an active student life. We think that to do that we need to modify the current structure of government, through our constitution, so that it better represents the needs of Glendon students, is conducive to a more active life and so that it maintains the highest standards of accountability."

QUESTION #3: What is the purpose of the first petition you sent out?

Jessica: "We wanted to make an inquiry into the financial accountability of the GCSU, the validity of their constitution, their compliance with the constitution, and the conflict of interest within the council."

Adam: "We wanted to ask the administration to investigate and find out the truth about what had been going on in the GCSU because there had been a lot of allegations of improper conduct, violations of the constitution and there were allegations of money not being used properly."

QUESTION #4: How do you feel in regards to the GCSU questioning the authenticity of this petition?

Adam: "It's ridiculous because the GCSU said that they had called the first town hall meeting because they knew the petition was being signed and wanted to address this. For them to say that it was fabricated is frustrating."

Jess: "It's disappointing because they are democratically elected representatives and they claim to be the voice of the students."

speaking to him about these documents and still fails to publish them as the Council is required to. We see the administration to be the only reliable source of information and therefore the solution was obvious, we had to go to them. It should also be understood that we went to them for information. Any action that we decided to take based on that information (ie. Impeachment) would be done as the constitution provides through the union."

QUESTION # 5: Do you feel like this petition fulfilled its purpose?

politics will be attacked whether its right or wrong. The beauty of a democracy is that we are allowed to do that. We personally have never made statements that have not been verified by eye witness accounts GCSU documents. Members of council have made accusations about things that they believe we have done, said or written that we clearly have not. They have never bothered to ask us if we had. As I personally told the Director of Academic Affairs, the only thing personal is that we love Glendon and we are personally bothered by the fact that not enough students care about what's going



However as soon as we voiced what our concerns actually are they dismissed them and assumed it was a conspiracy!"

Chad: "I am offended that the President would assume that Geneviève and I would have collaborated with the administration and not with other students to begin with. He would assume that we cannot think for ourselves. This is an issue that came out of many students' concerns."

Jess: "There is a lot of outside opposition towards students going to the administration for help. Some people believe that by going to the administration we are the ones that sacrifice the constitution and our democratic system. Unfortunately when your student government is corrupt to begin with, and fails to collaborate no other option remains. On several occasions students had asked the President for financial documents. He continues even to this day to ask that students make appointments to

Chad: "Yes it got students interested in what's going on."

Geneviève: "Ultimately, a forensic audit is being conducted."

Adam: "Really we don't know, the administration only decided to investigate the financial matter. The other things that we asked for in the petition were not covered in the administrative investigation. So we have yet to see the full purpose it will serve."

QUESTION #6: Two of your members were previously members of the GCSU. Did this petition start because of personal issues and resentment towards the GCSU?

Chad: "For us this was never a personal issue. For us every accusation that has been made has been about a professional issue. Anyone who is in, or wants to be in politics must understand that politics cannot be personal and it cannot be taken personally. Any action you take in

on with our government and our student life, and it is Council's responsibility to foster student life."

QUESTION #7: Do you believe that all members of the GCSU are acting in a direct disregard towards the Glendon student community?

Geneviève: "We do not believe that all members are acting in self interest. There is evidence that members have been fulfilling their duties. There are four examples that come to mind at this time."

Geneviève then reads from the GCSU record of Minutes for their meeting Sat. Dec. 4th 2004.

1) Jenni-Lee Mun our part time student Representative has proposed and organized a leadership camp that either will not happen or will be postponed due to the recent events. (I saw the title page of a proposal in

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Getting to Know the Students for

Good Governance

SFGG Interview

Monday January 24, 2005 @3:00pm

the office and questioned Miss. Mun about this event. I don't know if it is in the minutes).

2) Another example is Dan Wolf who keeps on mentioning through the Dec 4th meeting about the translation of both French and English documents, all meetings must be held in French and English. Dan does fight for the francophones and tries to encourage council to publish and participate in both languages. Councilor Dan Wolfe encourages bilingualism several times throughout the Council meeting held on December 4th 2004, as seen in the Council minutes. For example, after having heard Director of Clubs and Services Carlos Finch read a motion regarding the use of legal action in the case between the GCSU, Pro Tem and the university administration, Mr. Wolfe states that he "would like for a translation in French". He continues to pursue bilingualism twice more during the same meeting; once requesting that a letter proposed by Councilor Greg Junop be also available in French and second, he reminds Council that meetings should be held in French and English. He later makes half of his Councilor report in French.

3) Recorded in the same meeting minutes, Councilor Greg Junop encouraged Council to put together a letter informing students of what is currently going on in Council. He proposed the following:

*Greg: "I would like a motion put forward that a letter be drawn for the public" and he continues to say that all members should have copies and it should be available to all students so that they are aware of what is happening. This is clear evidence that some members are making efforts to communicate with the students.

*Greg: "I would like motion put forward that a letter be drawn for the public, each member has a copy of it and can hand it out so the students know what is happening. Lack of false info."

*Dan: "In French also..."

later on down the meeting minutes :

*Dan: "All meetings must be held in French and English."

***Take note to the GCSU meeting agenda notes Sat Dec. 4 in the Senate Chamber**

4) Councilor Mahreen Nabi suggested that the student body be informed before making a decision regarding legal action. She was recorded in the Council meeting minutes for December 4 2004 saying "would it not be smarter to ensure that the entire student body be behind us after a town hall meeting."

The response to her suggestion came from our President, who said:

"It is too late for that, the matter arises now and we need to deal with

it now. Many students are too busy with exams to come to a town hall meeting... There will be a town hall meeting in January as necessitated by exams. This is not new and has been going on since February of last year."

QUESTION #8: How did this new petition begin?

Jess: "Everything shifted after the administration suspended the GCSU and closed down their office. When we came back in January the GCSU informed Adam and I that they had gone to court and the court ordered their offices to be re-opened. This really shifted the whole situation away from the investigation. On January 4th Adam and I spoke to the GCSU President where Adam told him that it was a group of students that had written the petition and he accepted and acknowledged that and said that it made him feel better "to know". Then he told us that he was going to launch a lawsuit and he was leaving for a press conference. The next day we were upset and shocked to read in the Toronto Star article not only that we were suing the University for \$2.7 M but also that he was quoted saying "he's never seen the petition and doesn't know the precise nature of the allegations". The next day Hossein said on Radio-Canada that they requested it 3 times and they didn't receive it which leads him to believe that the administration had made it up. As a result of that a lot of students got upset about this and started joining the SFGG. Now the time has come to take action. On a side note: Recently the President explained that he only said that because his definition of petition includes signatures and because there were no signatures shown to him, he had not in fact seen the "petition." Even so, the dictionary that he claimed he was quoting makes no reference to signatures and defines petition as a request."

Adam: "We wanted to run a campaign to show that we were opposed to this lawsuit."

Yoani: "Ultimately it was our responsibility as students to start this petition."

Jess: "We felt that at this moment that it just appeared that the GCSU was hiding behind this lawsuit so they do not have to deal with the allegations. Now it is time for the students to take action and hold them accountable."

QUESTION #9: What are the basic demands of this new petition?

Yoani: "The petition demands are basically: 1) Withdraw the lawsuit 2) That there be an impartial speaker appointed by the university with the GCSU in agreement 3) We are proposing the impeachment of the President and Vice-President from the council and we want them to call a general meeting to ratify this (1/ 20th of the student body must be present to vote) and 4) That all members of council comply with the investigation

conducted by the university and they comply with the administrations results into the investigation."

QUESTION #10: How many Glendon students have to sign this petition in order for it to become active?

Jess: "We want atleast 25% of our student body to sign this petition, at least 500 students but only 10% is needed, according to the Consitution."

QUESTION #11: Why are you appointing a new speaker?

Jess: "The reason that we are asking Council and the administration to appoint a new speaker is that our current speaker, Mr. Samaiian is biased. The point of the speaker is to impartially interpret the constitution. When the speaker of the union goes on national Radio Canada and accuses the university of conspiracy he is clearly expressing an opinion and therefore taking a side that he should not be taking as speaker."

QUESTION #12: Can you explain the 'bias' comment?

Chad: "The President Ron Fiedtkou was Hossein Samaiian's employee in his role as pub manager. The speaker two years ago was appointed the Director of Clubs and Services and last year was elected as Vice President and held signing authority on the cheque book, three weeks into September 2004. This is one of the main points in the investigation. He has a very clear opinion and supports the lawsuit. Any one of these things makes him biased."

Adam: Also last year as Vice President he appointed himself as the Business Manager, however the Vice President is suppose to oversee the Business Manager. Hossein being both created a conflict of interest. How can someone who violated the constitution be our constitutional interpreter?"

QUESTION #13: If you could look past this lawsuit and hit the core of a problem, what would be the core of the GCSU's problem?

Chad: "Very few student governments are paid, and I think part of the reason we have so many problems is that we are paying people and they run because they can be paid and with very little accountability and even less university oversight. The worse our government becomes the more apathetic our student body becomes. It's a horrible cycle."

QUESTION #14: What do you think about the 2.7 million the GCSU is asking for?

Jess: "We were not only upset and disappointed that the President of the GCSU had denied the petition in the Toronto Star article but we were also shocked about the amount of money

they were suing for. We were also upset about the council suing in the students' representation with Glendon College Student Union as the plaintiff. This means that everyone of us is suing the administration."

QUESTION #15: So you are saying that I, along with every other Glendon student is suing our own University?

Chad: "The stated plaintiff in the statement of claim is the Glendon College Student Union. The union according to our constitution is comprised of all registered Glendon students, which means all Glendon students are plaintiffs and are entitled to contact their attorney, Xavier Navarette."

QUESTION #16: What would you like the students of Glendon to do?

Yoani: "We want students to actually come out and stand up to send a message to the York community saying we will not tolerate such low standards of performance by our council in a school created for diplomacy and politics."

QUESTION #17: Send a message to the Glendon Community.

Yoani: "I feel like students think this (SFGG) is an elite club, but it's important that they know that anyone can join."

Jess: "This is our big chance to make Glendon what it can be. We want to combine the principles it was founded on and what it can and should be. Students need to understand that when our student government fails to operate properly, they tarnish the reputation of our faculty and our university. And most importantly they embarrass the student body as their representatives. We need to stand up and say it's enough. Show that we care about our university, we want to make it better, we can make it better and we won't accept such failure. About half of Glendon students are enrolled in International Studies or Political Science. This means they spend a lot of their time in classes learning about good governance, about the failures of governments around the world, and about how we can make the world better. They are being given the tools to one day go out into this world and make a difference, as Escott Reid intended. How will we ever be able to do that for the world, if our own local example of government is flawed and we do nothing to improve it? Students need to look around their campus and envision their dream of what they want Glendon to be. Let's take that dream and make it a reality; together we can."

Contact: If you would like more information you can visit the SFGG's website www.sfgg.ca or email them at contact.sfgg@gmail.com

Campus life

Getting to Know Professor Taylor



Interview conducted by Ashley Beaulac

After Professor Taylor has her picture taken beside the phrase "Carpe Diem" to which she wrote on the chalkboard she was posing in front of (and to which I was asked the meaning of since we

just had a lecture on it in class) we head off to her office for the interview to take place. I choose to conduct the interview not only because she is one of my Professors for The Literary Tradition of English class, but

because of the positive responses I have observed in regards to her teaching. Professor Taylor is unique, her teaching style for students is what coffee is for early risers, absolutely needed. Students

leave class awake and energized, exhilarated with knowledge, and if they aren't rushing off to their next class class most stay behind to chat with this amiable Professor.

AB: Where are you originally from?

TT: Toronto. My family is originally from Jamaica, but most of them emigrated to Canada and the United States. I am especially fond of my 'winter getaway' relatives - like my cousin Denise in Miami!

AB: I bet! If you had not become an English Professor what career path would you have chosen?

TT: My family is typically West Indian: supportive and very pro-education. From early on, I was strongly encouraged to be a lawyer. The plan was for me to get a B.A. in English, write the LSAT and head off to law school. What **actually** happened was that I fell in love with literature! Looking back, the situation was pretty funny. You see, I was too chicken to confess that I didn't want to be lawyer, so I started leading a double life -- law school applicant by day, English scholar by night - like Superman or Wonderwoman...but much nerdier. Anyhow, after a few years of unnecessary anxiety and secrecy, I announced that I wanted to be a Professor and that I had been accepted into an M.A. programme in English. Of course, everything was just fine.

AB: How would you describe your teaching style?

TT: I would say that it is well informed and accessible: a blend of old and new teaching philosophies. I strongly believe in being as prepared as I can be so that I can persuade each and every student to be interested in the material that we are studying. It is very important to me that my students feel that they have learned something

new and interesting each class. Ultimately, the best compliment for me is when a student tells me that because of what they have learned in my class, they are getting better marks in all of their courses.

AB: What is your favourite television show?

TT: Newlyweds. Have you

and strong woman with an extremely weird sense of humour.

AB: What brought you to Glendon?

TT: The shuttle. Just kidding. It was opportunity. Before I began working here, I had only been to Glendon once to do an interview and I had no idea

from want. Essentially, I wish for all people to have the same opportunities I have had in life.

Self-Wish: I never want to be irrelevant or stagnant. I want to always to be learning and enjoying what life has to offer.

My Future Wish: To get a puppy. I never had a pet growing up and I have always yearned for one - I

AB: The blond hair, a stereotype for stupidity bothered me before. Then I got to thinking about the intelligence of the people that actually think hair colour affects how smart you are, made me laugh! What is the last concert you've been to?

TT: Sade and India Arie around two years ago.

AB: What did you do last Saturday?

TT: Last Saturday I went to the Royal Agricultural Winter Fair and took pictures of sheep for a lecture I'm doing on Pastoral. I ran into some students there, which was very cool.

AB: What are the benefits of teaching?

TT: The benefit for me is immeasurable. It still amazes me that reading poetry and literature, seeing plays, researching and discussing ideas - things that I truly love to do - are my job! Besides, being around so many diverse and interesting students prevents me from becoming boring and dull. Just last week, for example, I got a fashion update on "Uggs" - fabulous!

AB: What are some of the other jobs you've had?

TT: I have been in retail sales at a clothing boutique, a shooter girl at O'Toole's, a medical secretary, an ophthalmic assistant...just to name a few. But, the worst job I have ever had was when I worked as a receptionist for a Laser Hair Removal Clinic. For some strange reason, the clients didn't think that it was sufficient to tell me about the excessive hair that they wanted to remove - they had to show me. When I started having nightmares about women with beards and men with hairy ears, I knew it was time to quit!



seen the new US Magazine, apparently Nick is cheating on Jessica with a stripper. Do you think he would do that?

AB: Actually yeah I have seen that. I don't think Nick would, he's too dependent on Jessica, and she's the one bringing in the money. Favourite movie?

TT: Silence of the Lambs.

AB: Favourite book?

TT: I really like detective novels/ thrillers and I just recently read *The Da Vinci Code*.

AB: Do you have a role model?

TT: My mother. She is a competent, intelligent

where the lower parking lot was. Then, when I found it, I couldn't figure out how to get back to York Hall. It was like going through a wormhole. Now that I am here, I absolutely love it - coming to Glendon was a very fortunate accident for me.

AB: Where did you study?

TT: I received my B.A. and M.A. at the University of Toronto and I am just finishing my Ph. D. at York.

AB: If I could grant you 3 wishes, one for the world, one for yourself and one for your future specifically what would they be?

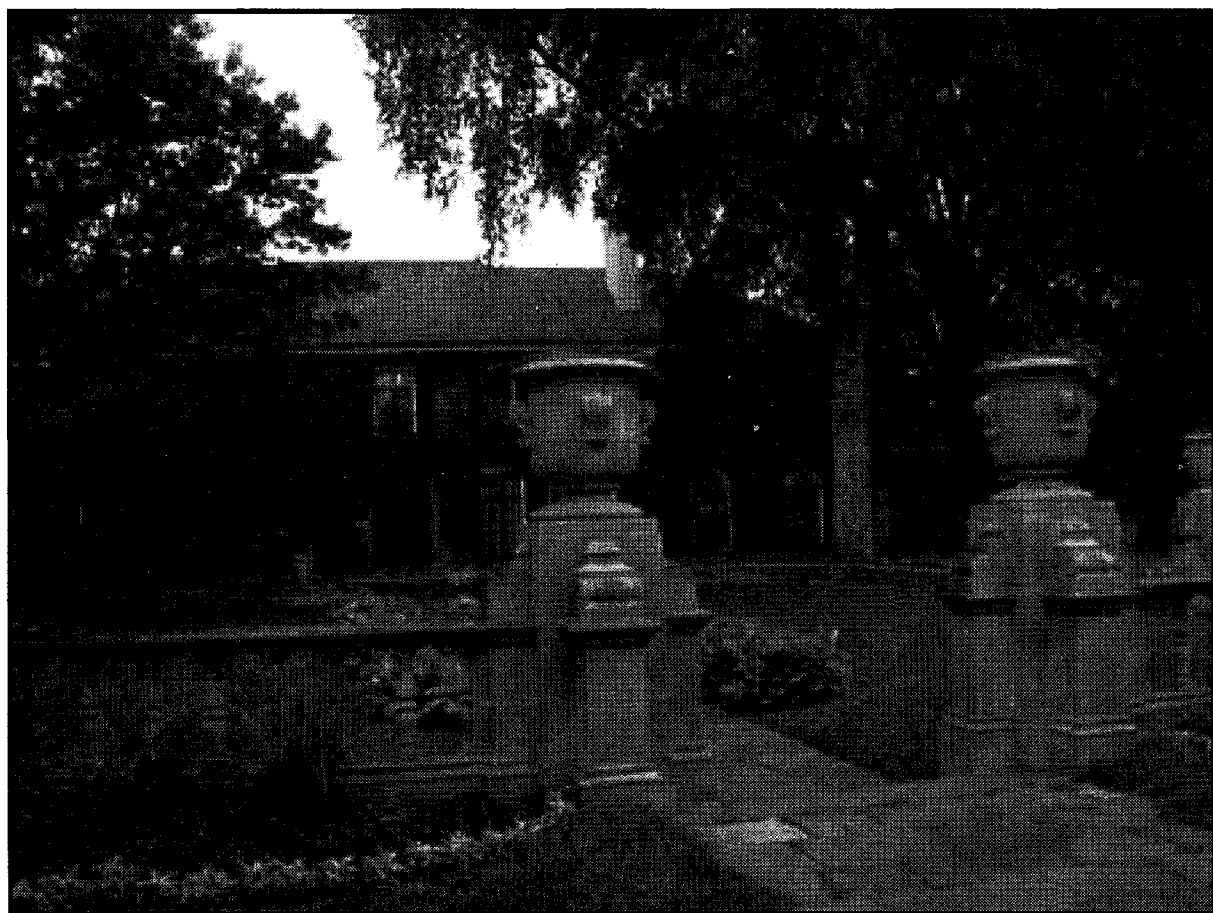
TT: *World Wish:* That everyone would have freedom, peace and live free

would love a Pug or Bull Terrier.

AB: Do you have any pet peeves?

TT: My minor pet peeve is rude, mannerless people. They make me become rude, in turn, to them - it's sort of a paradox isn't it? But, my major pet peeve are people that approach you with stereotypes. One of the most important things that I have learned is how limiting and potentially offensive it can be to make assumptions about others. Without exception, everyone deserves to be acknowledged and respected as an individual. You're a blonde, pretty girl, you must have had stereotypes applied to you?

What Professor/Staff Member of Glendon would you like to see interviewed in the next issue of Pro Blem?



Renover pour en finir avec le Manoir Glendon

L'architecture du manoir Glendon témoigne peut-être de ce mauvais goût de la riche haute-bourgeoisie canadienne qui, au début de ce siècle, s'entourait des produits culturels devenus déjà stériles par leur standardisation. Styles pastichés, évoquant cette Europe que nous n'étions guère, et que nous ne serons jamais. Un vilain pastiche d'approbation ou de désapprobation artistique. L'Europe pastichée comme standard de ce qui est de bon goût pour tous ces Nord-américains qui en avaient point. Car le manoir Glendon n'est pas beau. L'affirmer serait de se laisser prendre au jeu de l'apparence. Et l'apologie qui voudrait le sauver en le comparant à la monotonie glauque de ce milieu qui l'entoure, relève sans doute de l'observation de l'inessentiel: puisque là ne sont point son essence particulière, ni sa particularité. Lui contraster la hideur du campus qui le cerne, ne fait que confirmer que la certitude sensible suffit à satisfaire celui qui aura choisit de vivre sa vie dans la nuit où toutes les vaches sont noires. L'importance de ce que nous avons perdu, en perdant le manoir Glendon, n'est pas là. À la manière du compositeur Schubert, le manoir, de face, est petit, médiocrement charpenté, laid et timide. Mais à nouveau, là n'est pas l'essence.

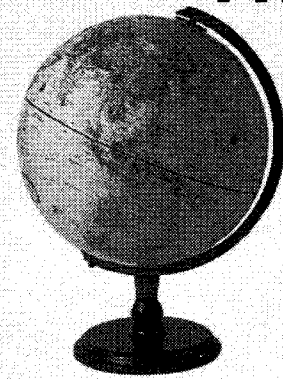
En conséquence, prenons, saisissons Schubert de profil, et à travers lui, ce que nous perdons dans le manoir Glendon. "Schubert au piano" (1899). Tableau connu et aimé des admirateurs de Klimt. Notre compositeur est assis de profil, les mains exercées au clavier, entouré majoritairement de femmes qui sont plus belles les unes que les autres, aux allures délicates, ornées de visages

transposant cette douceur qui caractérise d'ordinaire les tableaux d'icônes. La scène est faiblement éclairée à l'aide de bougies, insuffisantes. Si l'artiste ici joue, son jeu ne peut être que par le suivi de ces regards qui le tiennent. Oeuvre d'art, convoquant l'art lui-même. Mais il y a plus.

La peinture qui représente ce qui est joué jaillit de la terre et donne expression au monde de Schubert et de ses auditeurs. Un monde où l'ineffable musical fait l'objet d'une sollicitude et de suites. Comme il est fragile ce monde de l'intérieur! Création et réception. La nuit, non pas noire, mais proposée au rassemblement, à la délicatesse, au raffinement, et à travers la jouissance des sens et de l'intellect, une certaine prise de distance d'avec le monde qui règne à l'extérieur. Ce monde qui encercle le tableau de ses besoins et de ses exigences. Ce monde dans lequel l'important est de compter. La véritable beauté de ces femmes -beauté qui embellit jusqu'à Schubert-est leur présence méditative. Elles incarnent une pensée méditante. Le regard qu'elles posent est joueur. Grâce à elles (le monde où l'art est convoqué par le sort que lui accorde la communauté) nous prenons conscience de ce qui est primordial pour nous tous: les oeuvres d'art ne peuvent exister sans créateurs. Mais à ce premier postulat, nous devons également en ajouter un second. Les oeuvres d'art nécessitent, à chaque moment de leur existence, la présence de leurs créateurs. D'où l'importance d'autant plus grande de tous ceux qui les font perdurer. Ceux-là mêmes, les membres de la communauté, qui sont les agents de la transmission et le véritable lieu de toute révélation de l'essentiel artistique.

Et j'ose estimer que c'est cela que nous avons perdu en perdant le manoir Glendon. La photo en couverture d'un numéro de Pro Tem de l'année dernière (Vol. 43, # 7) suffit pour nous en convaincre. Dossiers, documents, mémoires de recherche, autant de manifestations de la pensée méditante vouées au recyclage, voire l'inexistence. On pourrait dire de cette photo qu'elle est une véritable monade de ce qui est arrivé à la pensée méditante dans une société qui lui accorde de moins en moins de place (et de locaux!). Aux futurs étudiants du campus Glendon, cette photo, paradoxalement, doit rendre compte de la perte de la mémoire dont elle est si tristement le témoin. Désormais, ce sera l'administration qui s'y installera. La plomberie! Et avec elle, une certaine régularité efficace. Notre pauvre petit manoir, laid et bossu, deviendra en partie une cathédrale de la gestion. Sans doute le "bon fonctionnement" de l'université y gagnera-t-il quelque chose. Mais déjà nous voyons dans ce déménagement forcé un déracinement multiforme, un trait caractéristique de notre époque. Le lecteur avisé n'aura qu'à songer à la disparition des anciennes solidarités, des nuits de salons et de recueillement artistique, de réflexions, ainsi qu'aux continuités d'hier. C'est ce lieu, plus que physique, qui vient de disparaître, et autour de lui la communauté qui le constituait. Avec la disparition, nous touchons à la perte d'un milieu où l'expérience pouvait encore se dire puisque les liens d'une solidarité méditante facilitaient sa présence.

-Normand Raymond



The Diary of a Glendon Exchange Student



Jozina Vander Klok

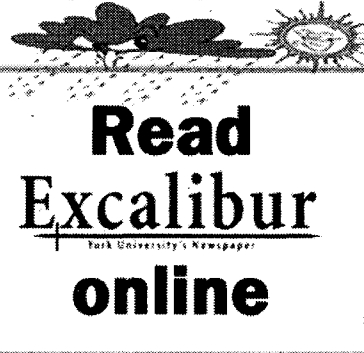
La bouffe. Mon cousin m'a demandé de lui envoyer une spécialité française pour Noël, mais je ne pouvais penser à rien d'autre qu'à la nourriture. Apparemment, c'est les Français qui parlent la plus de la gastronomie, surtout en mangeant. Ceci a été mis en évidence durant mon séjour chez la famille de ma coloc Delphine pour Noël, et je vous confirme que cette théorie est vraie. Je vais débiter par le plus grand repas de l'année: celui de Noël. Commençons avec l'entrée froide, on a mangé du foie gras avec de la confiture d'oignons et du pain frais, et une petite salade à côté. L'entrée chaude a consisté en une quenelle de brochet (du poisson), avec des noix de pétoncle, des crevettes et des champignons tous dans une sauce rose de fruits de mer-veilleuse! On continue par le plat principal composé d'une dinde et de cardons dans une sauce de crème et du fromage. Les cardons sont un légume régional qui ressemble au céleri, mais il est plus grand, jaune et sec. Après cet étape, le fromage vient—de la tomme, de bleu, du mont d'or, du reblochon—je n'ai jamais vu du fromage en si grande 'abondance'! Pour le dessert, les spécialités régionales des rissoles et des papillotes ont complété la bûche traditionnelle. Les rissoles, une pâtisserie frite avec de la confiture de prune dedans, ont un goût de paradis et il est absolument nécessaire de goûter plusieurs papillotes car chaque petit chocolat est emballé dans un papier sur lequel il est écrit une citation française à chaque

fois différente. N'oublions pas le vin blanc, sucré et rouge durant trois entières de cet énorme repas, et je pense que j'ai bien pris des poids! A part dîner fantastique, j'ai de la chance, même dans la vie quotidienne, d'essayer la gastronomie française. Imaginez la maîtrise de soi qu'on apprend en passant devant la vitrine de la Pâtisserie-Boulangerie: les pains aux raisins, torsades au chocolat, chaussons aux pommes et tartes aux fruits vous attirent magnétiquement. Le pain frais chaque jour—soit une baguette, soit une boule de campagne—va tellement manquer quand je retournerai qu'Canada. Ici, je fais les courses presque tous les jours car les supermarchés sont extérieurs à la ville; en ville il n'y a que du petit commerces qui sont plus spécialisés. Les samedi et mardi matins, j'achète des fruits et des légumes au marché. C'est très cool de savoir que tu supportes les fermes locales.

De plus, chaque région en France a des plats uniques qu'il faut déguster. Dans le coin sud-est de Chambéry en Savoie, j'ai eu le plaisir de savourer les repas savoyards. La tartiflette, les pommes de terre, lardons et oignons mélangés dans une crème avec le reblochon au-dessus, est mon plat préféré. La raclette, par ailleurs, est superbe ainsi que la fondue. On fait la raclette avec de la charcuterie, des pommes de terre, des cornichons, de la salade et un grand morceau de raclette (fromage) fondue. On voit que les savoyards sont vachement fiers de leur fromage! hé hé...Bon appétit!

-Jozina Vander Klok

RAIN OR SHINE



What's wrong with the ugly duckling?



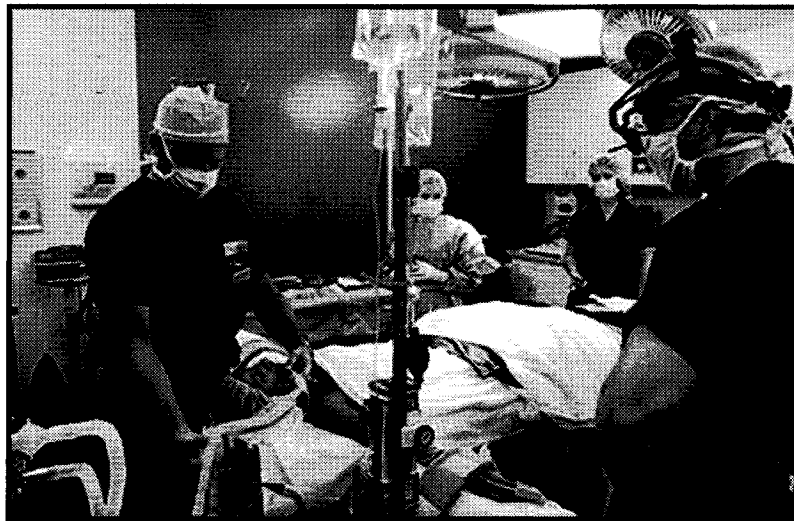
Elizabeth Sahadeo

What is your definition of beauty? For the most part, when people are asked such a question they tend to instinctively think of physical rather than inner beauty. Why is that? Isn't everyone beautiful in their own way? I'd liked to think so, but the media seems to disagree with me.

It seems there is a new fad in reality television - plastic surgery. Skimming through the channels one lovely Monday evening I came across a show that takes dull looking women and magically transforms them into beautiful fake women. Are they really beautiful if they are just fake? I would think not, seeing that they now only serve to be a shell on their prior selves. Who came up with such a ridiculous idea? Aren't women plagued enough with the stereotypical image of what beauty is deemed to

be in today's society? Why must media constantly concoct ways in which to raise the bar of what beauty is. Have they ever heard of the saying that beauty is in the eyes of the beholder?

The show that I'm raving about as you might have guessed is Fox's *The Swan* airing Mondays at 9 pm. There are other softer variations of this show, such as *Extreme Makeover*, which I am also against but at least it is not as outrageous as *The Swan*. First off, women who are considered "ugly" by societies' standards are chosen to go through a full body transformation to make them as beautiful as they can be. I personally think all of the women chosen are beautiful in their own way, but I'm just an ordinary woman so what do I know. You would think that after countless operations including such things as plastic surgery, teeth implants and so on the show's objective would be achieved. Nope, guess again. The women now having reached their beauty potential



A swan is born!

are then pinned against other women who've went through the same process to compete in a pageant to see who in fact is the most beautiful of them all. Sounds like a line from *Snow White*. Maybe the creator of *The Swan* is the Evil Queen from *Snow White* in disguise.

The women that are selected obviously possess low self esteem, which is why they first agreed to go on the show. So it only makes sense to make

them pretty, raise their self-esteem and then put them against other women and when they've lost, their self-esteem plummets once again, like a yo-yo; enforcing the fact that they can never be good enough, they can never be pretty enough, a goal that can never be achieved. All this for entertainment, how disgusting.

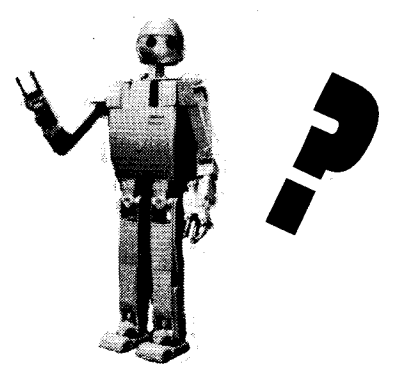
A coming episode of *The Swan* puts two sisters against each

other in the pageant. Why stop at transforming perfectly normal women, might as well break up a family while you're at it. There seems to be no limits to what the media is willingly to do to get those extra ratings. Society is constantly being manipulated by visions of beauty portrayed by the media. Did you know that the average model wears below size 0; I guess for some that sickly unhealthy look is appealing.

So when you're skimming through the channels one lovely evening and you come across a show like *The Swan* don't let it break your rhythm, keep on skimming because the more we pay attention the more these mindless images of perfection will plague us. And maybe one day when the media realizes we aren't caring anymore they will think of other ways of capturing us, maybe a way that will benefit society rather than crippling it.

-Elizabeth Sahadeo

The history of beauty:



I know i'm beautiful, tell me i'm smart

It's 5pm and I'm standing in a hallway crowded with girls; no two alike. Brunette, blonde, rehead, tall, not so tall, slender, curvaceous. Two things that we all have in common: each of us pretty in our own, unique way; each of us waiting for someone to tell us that we're beautiful. Welcome to the world of modelling. Believe me, it's as superficial and demeaning as you can imagine.

I stand around, having been assigned my number, clutching my portfolio, and size up the competition. All the while aware that someone else is dissecting how I look, what I'm wearing, how my hair's done, how I stand. I tell myself, and I believe it too, that I've nothing to be self-conscious about. Sure, I may not be the hottest thing on the block, but I'm no slouch either so, really, what's to worry

about? Nothing, except I'm still standing here, waiting, and soon someone else will look me up and down, mentally pick me apart, and decide, based on things I have no problem with, whether I'm good enough to be in the video, or the ad, or whatever. Sick.

What is it that makes us personally as females feel as though we're not good enough? Because modelling's an extreme, but it's the female situation. Everyday we are judged, we are told whether we measure up, regardless of whether we want it or not. And no matter how confident you feel when you leave the house, you can't help but feel the weight put on your shoulders to be taken at face value alone.

So I stand in this hallway, listening to these other girls talk about breast

implants, tummy tucks, microdermabrasion, and some of them are younger [much younger] than my 22 years.

Tummy tucks at 17.

Insanity.

Again an extreme, but these girls are like me; we're doing our thing: going to school, going to work, trying to have fun and live life before it's too late. So if they're your average girls, and this is what's on their minds, the question becomes: who has done this to us? The answer is, sadly, that we've done it to ourselves. Nevermind the media telling us what's beautiful. If we're paying attention, as I feel we are, then we know that media images of beauty are totally fake. The model who gets this job will be airbrushed to oblivion, to the point where

even she'll have a hard time recognizing herself in that picture.

It's us ladies.

We tell ourselves that if we're not 120lbs., if we don't have long silky hair, perfect complexions, "perfect" figures, that we're not good enough. Nonsense.

I think I'm good enough, and trust me, it wasn't easy. Societal pressures aside, I can clearly remember comparing myself to my girlfriends and feeling inadequate. Funny thing is, everyone of them has compared themselves to me at one point or another and come out feeling about the same way.

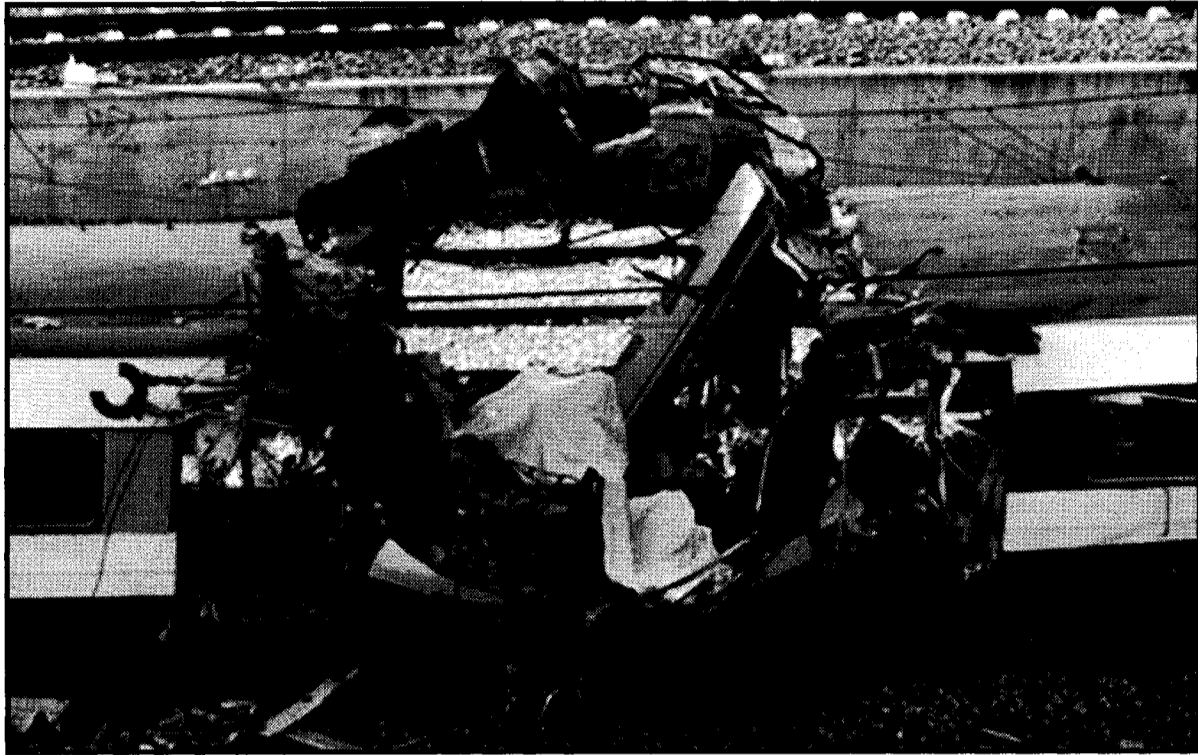
But I'm a little older now, and even if I find myself noting the teeny flatness of my best friend's tummy, I know that that's not all there is to a person. Or to myself.

It's not that we should never feel self-conscious, that's natural. Tyra Banks hates her hands; Cindy Crawford hates her mole. But it's important to know when to say: enough is enough. We are who we are and regardless of what anyone else thinks, we're the ones who have to live in our skins. So let's live in them and be happy with who we are. I didn't get that job, by the way, but all things considered, it's not even close to being the worst thing that could happen. Failing one of my midterms, that's another story.

-Carin McWilfred

The politics of fear

*"The dread of evil is a much more forcible principle of human actions than the prospect of good...
What worries you masters you." - John Locke*



The Madrid bombings



Ashley Jestin

Do you wake up fearful every morning? Are you afraid of riding the bus to campus? Do you look suspiciously at every person who boards, wondering if they have a bomb strapped to their back? Given the opportunity, would you refuse to go up the CN tower because a hijacked plane might strike it? Of course not. Terrorism doesn't frighten you, really. You figure that we live in a peace loving country where acts of terrorism don't happen. You figure that the chance of you or anyone you love getting hurt by an act of terrorism is slim to none. And so you are not afraid. 9/11 has heightened your concern slightly because it hit so close to home, but you continue on with your life because it will not happen to you.

But would you eat in front of a café in the heart of a busy market in Israel on any given day? Would you board the no.18 bus in Jerusalem that has been the target of two suicide bombs in the last ten years? Would you risk your life in known terrorist venues? Of course not, you say. You are not stupid. And yet, people who live in these countries do it every day. Are they stupid? Maybe they need to get to work or are going to visit a loved one. Maybe, you think, they have a valid reason. Perhaps an emergency. Or maybe they realize that the terrorists will have won if they become afraid of doing everyday actions. It is their country, after all.

Terrorism is not new. Our generation is not the first to suffer through this sinking feeling of dread that we will be the next innocent civilian to die. There has been terrorism

since the infamous Assassins group in Syria in the 1100's. It is still around because it works. It plays upon our psyches making us realize our own mortality. We are going to die, this we cannot help. Nor can we help the way we will die. It could be anywhere, anytime. Although, according to Ernest Becker, author of the controversial book Denial of Death, we are most afraid of spending the rest of eternity after death, in a state of nothingness. Becker says that because of this paralyzing fear we make ourselves stupid. We take comfort in the trivial, believing emotionally that we are immortal. We create a huge lie to block out our greatest fear. Terrorism destroys this lie as few other things can.

Today in Madrid, 28 weeks after four bombs exploded on the commuter train that transports people to the suburbs and into Madrid, people continue to ride the same route. Like the GO trains, they are packed during rush hours. Now, however, there are soldiers with assault rifles watching who and what goes on. This terrorist act was apparently mastered by Al-Qaeda because of Spain's involvement in the war in Iraq. And yet these commuters are not concerned about a second act of terrorism. They continue to ride the same route. But then again, Spain has pulled out of the war. In the Atocha station, where the train was closest when it blew up, are television screens where people can leave messages for loved ones. There used to be candles and teddy bears and flowers, but these have been removed because they prevented the Spanish from putting this tragedy behind them.

In Jerusalem and Israel there are now armed guards everywhere. People

are frisked before going into restaurants, buses, grocery stores etc. In restaurants now, there is an approximate 1\$ surcharge to meals. The salary of the guard posted at the door is where that 1\$ goes because he is willing to sacrifice his own life for the people inside the restaurant. Citizens are encouraged to carry weapons everywhere they go, because this will create a sort of civilian militia. Both Israelis and Jews accuse the other of terrorism. Both defend themselves by saying that these are acts of self-defense. In Jerusalem and Israel, there is approximately one terrorist act every two months.

Terrorism is a frightening, but distant thought to us. To others it is a reality. They are forced to face their mortality day in and day out. And still we are raised to think that people are good. It is scary to believe the alternative: that there could be evil behind every smile. But we still found it out on our own and so will our children. But fear is not the automatic response to terrorism. To most, it seems to be defiance. In Tel Aviv, in the exact location where two dozen young people were killed in a nightclub, there is an inscription saying, "We will not stop dancing". The Tel Aviv night scene is still very popular. Defiance.

Death is a certainty and we get through life by denying this to ourselves. But would we really want to be immortal in a world such as ours? By denying death, we are blissfully ignorant and that is what makes us human and what keeps us sane. Terrorism is what it is because it denies us this ignorance. That is why it works and will continue to work.

-Ashley Jestin

The worst natural disaster in recorded history



Michelle Rasanu

On August 6th and 8th, 1945 the world witnessed the first atomic bomb to be launched in warfare on the cities of Nagasaki and Hiroshima where approximately 103,000 innocent civilians lost their lives. Fifty-nine years later, on December 26th, 2004, the deadliest natural disaster known to humanity transpired. An earthquake shook the depths of the Indian Ocean, creating a Tsunami that swept over numerous countries, including Indonesia, Sri Lanka, South India, and Thailand. Between 165,000 to 234,000 have been reported dead and the number is still on the rise.

One of the major struggles that people in tsunami-stricken countries face is the need to re-build their lives from nothing. The need for aid from developed countries is a must and unfortunately the United States and Canada have not reacted promptly. Allen Pizzey, a CBS News reporter, claimed that residents of Sri Lanka are barely surviving on half a glass of milk a day as they wait for help. This is clearly unacceptable and the U.S. and Canada need to speed up the process by sending basic necessities that many inhabitants of developed countries take for granted. Necessities like food, water, clothing and building materials are needed to begin the process of rebuilding.

Another critical issue that arose in the wake of the tsunami disaster is the spread of disease. Sanitation facilities and clean drinking water are needed to decrease the proliferation of disease. Cholera, diphtheria, dysentery and typhoid are just some of the diseases that the residents of the Tsunami stricken countries can be faced with if Canada and the U.S. do not act now to facilitate the needs of these countries. I am not suggesting that Canada and the U.S. have not already contributed to the Tsunami disaster, but simply stating that their assistance with the matter

was unnecessarily delayed. To date Canada and the U.S. have donated approximately \$345 million to the cause. Countries like Australia have donated more than \$800 million to the tsunami relief fund.

Another factor that cannot be ignored is the delayed assistance to countries that continue to face disease and famine before and after the tsunami occurrence. Africa's HIV/AIDS crisis is still a huge problem and since last years Tsunami disaster, assistance from the first world has decreased substantially. Mercy Otim, a Kenyan HIV/AIDS advocate and fundraiser, told the Globe and Mail that 'despite international donors denying her requests for funding by saying that there is not enough money, the international response to the tsunami disaster proves that the money exists'. AIDS is an on-going epidemic, Otim states, and should not be placed on the back burner of international assistance. With the worldwide spread of funds to the countries affected by the Tsunami, other states should not be forgotten. Africa continues to be infected with disease and famine and this is an everyday reality. Money should continue to assist the African nations along with the countries damaged by the tsunami disaster. Not one disaster is less fatal than another and they should be treated with the same importance.

For anyone that is interested in donating to the Tsunami Relief fund or for any other international crises, please visit www.redcross.ca. This website not only allows you to donate but also to be a volunteer. TD Canada Trust has made it possible for people to make a donation that gets sent directly to the Red Cross. Tax receipts are provided by the Red Cross for any donation of \$20.00 or more.

This tsunami disaster will be marked in history books as the deadliest natural disaster suffered by human kind. It is a disaster that will get much worse without the international assistance that is so desperately needed.

-Michelle Rasanu



A family returns to complete devastation

Qui est Modigliani?

L'AGO dévoile l'homme derrière le mythe



1. *Jeanne Hébuterne, 1898-1920*

Une question assez difficile à répondre. Évidemment, c'est le fameux peintre et sculpteur d'origine italienne. Mais, qui est-il en réalité? C'est peut-être la même question qui s'est trouvée derrière le titre choisi par la Galerie d'Art de l'Ontario pour la toute première exposition de quelques-unes de

ses oeuvres au Canada - "Modigliani. Au-delà du mythe", qu'on a pu y admirer jusqu'au 23 janvier 2005.

Amedeo Modigliani est probablement un des artistes les plus controversés du siècle passé. Bien des mythes ont été véhiculés à son égard, sa vie tumultueuse et

bohème étant la source-même de ceux-ci.

L'artiste est né en 1884 à Livorno, près de Pisa. Durant sa jeunesse, il fut éduqué dans l'esprit des écoles artistiques réaliste et maniériste, recevant des connaissances précieuses pour son travail ultérieur. Connue notamment pour ses nombreux portraits, qu'il concevait assez rapidement surtout dans les cafés de Montparnasse, parfois en échange d'un plat chaud, il s'est également remarqué dans le domaine de la sculpture, sa véritable ambition. Un élément remarquable et en même temps fascinant de ses portraits est la prédisposition de l'artiste pour les orbites oculaires vides, influence de l'art africain. Quelques-uns de ses portraits présentent des personnes ayant seulement une orbite vide. Un de ses amis s'est même fâché contre lui de lui avoir représenté les yeux ainsi, mais sa réponse fut que l'un des yeux reste tourné vers l'intérieur; il y a là une manière tout à fait originale de suggérer l'idée d'introspection.

De toute façon, il semble que le plus fascinant "segment" de son oeuvre reste, à part ses gracieuses cariatides, la série de nus considérés à ce temps-là excessivement audacieux. Modigliani représen-

tait le corps féminin en tout détail anatomique ce qui à l'époque était jugé impudent et de mauvais goût. D'ailleurs, l'unique exposition organisée pendant sa vie, à Paris, avec le concours de la Galerie Berthe Weill, fut inaugurée et fermée le même jour, justement à cause du scandale provoqué par un de ces nus, qu'on avait placés à la fenêtre donnant sur la rue.

Modigliani avait un talent tout particulier de rendre avec exactitude les détails les plus sensuels du corps féminin, même quand l'attitude des modèles était loin d'inviter à la sensualité. Les lignes, les courbes et les couleurs se combinent dans une recette artistique complètement nouvelle - bien que le nu ne soit pas une innovation de l'artiste. Tout au contraire, des artistes européens tels Goya ou Manet (dont les oeuvres avaient inspiré Modigliani), avaient abordé ce sujet, mais jamais avec la même expressivité.

Si la plupart des artistes célèbres se sont impliqués dans des amourettes avec les modèles de leurs nus, Modigliani a réservé son affection pour d'autres personnes et n'a jamais peint ses amantes dénudées. Une figure représentative de la vie amoureuse de l'artiste fut Jeanne Hébuterne, étudiante en

Beaux Arts qu'on retrouve dans plusieurs tableaux du peintre (une collection de ses ouvrages, parmi lesquels des portraits de Modigliani, fut exposée au yeux du public dans les années 60). La femme, enceinte de leur deuxième enfant, s'est suicidée deux jours après la mort du peintre en 1920.

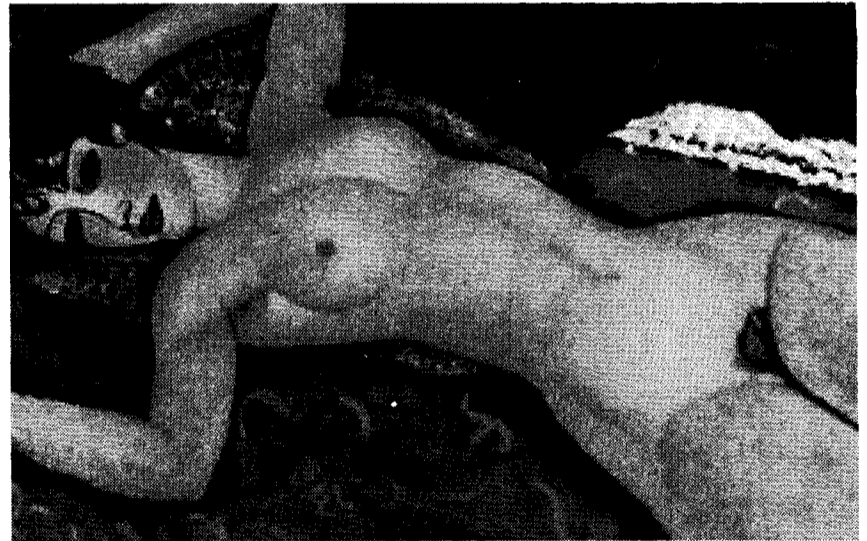
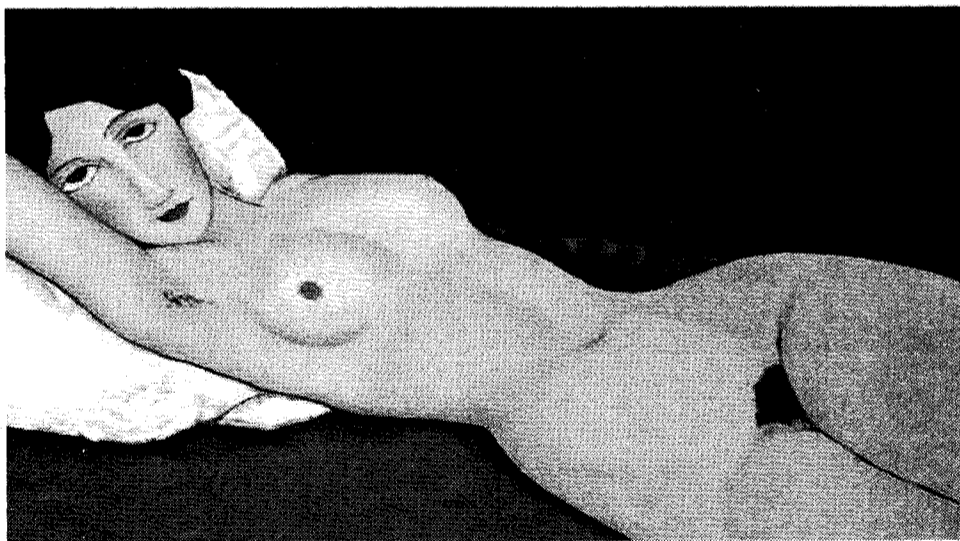
Le curieux est que, au fur et à mesure que sa santé devenait de plus en plus faible à cause d'abus d'alcool et de drogues, et, en général, de son style de vie, les peintures de l'artiste devenaient de plus en plus sereines et diaphanes (comme « *Lunia Czechowska* », 1919, oeuvre exécutée un an avant sa mort, un de ses tableaux les plus réussis; on remarque la différence entre celui-ci et, par exemple, le « *Portrait de Beatrice Hastings* », 1916). C'est peut-être ici que gît le paradoxe tout entier de ce peintre mal compris à cette époque-là et même aujourd'hui.

Plus curieux encore c'est que, même après une visite à la Galerie, ou à quelque autre exposition de l'artiste que l'on choisisse, on reste avec la question initiale: après tout, qui est, en fait, Modigliani?

-Paula Anastasiade

Oeuvres de Modigliani

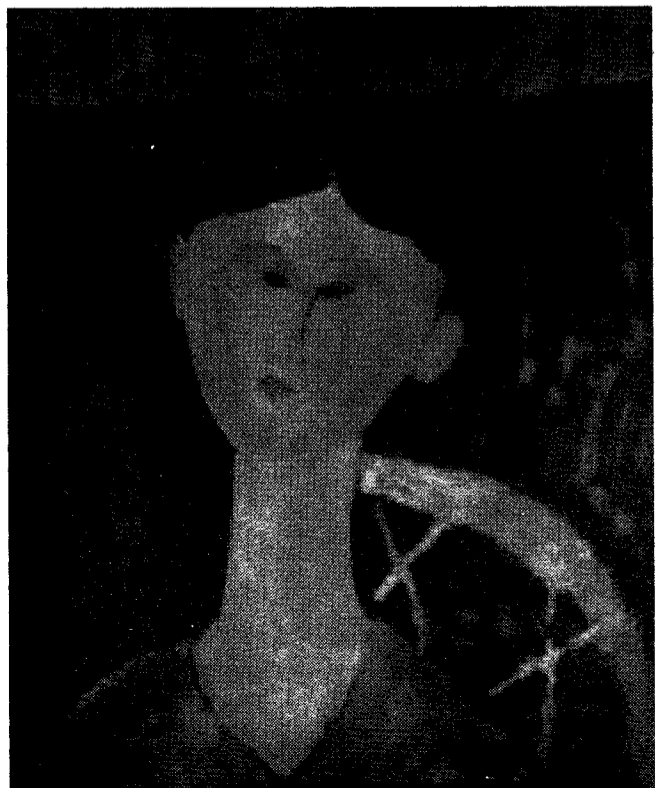
(toute oeuvre est prise sur le site internet www.inter-art.com/en/modigliani.htm)



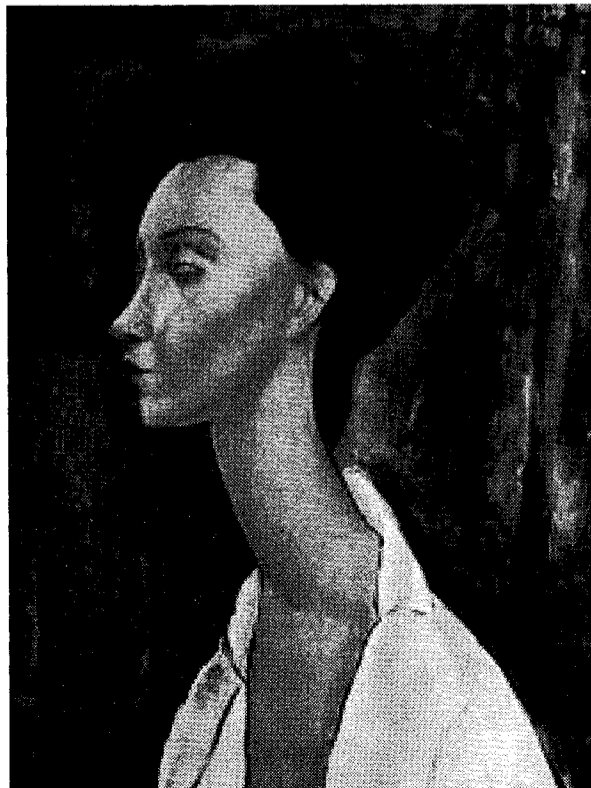
ses nus sensuels choquèrent le public:

2. *Nu avec coussin blanc*

3. *Nudo disteso*



4. *Portrait de Béatrice Hastings*



5. *Lunia Czechowska de profil*



6. La fameuse *Femme aux yeux bleu*

Out of the ordinary

Opera Atelier boldly puts a brave new spin on Mozart's classic "Don Giovanni".



For those who envision a night at the opera as being a rather dull experience, this modern twist on Mozart's Don Giovanni, which has been captivating audiences since 1787, will be the show that will leave you wanting more.

The story of Don Giovanni is a moral example of the inevitable fate that finds the wrongdoer. A chronic seducer, Giovanni finds himself the centre of a manhunt after his one-too-many exploits have acquired him numerous en-

emies. In a particularly damning incident, he accidentally murders the Commendatore in a battle following the failed conquest of the Commendatore's daughter, Donna Anna. Donna Anna and her fiancé, Don Ottavio, vow revenge against Giovanni for the Commendatore's death and are soon accompanied by other enemies of the villain. These enemies, to name the few, include Donna Elvira, a betrayed ex-lover that desperately loves Giovanni, but will kill him if he doesn't return her love. Finally, fate meets an unrepentant Don Giovanni, when the Commendatore returns to earth, himself, in the form of a statue, to personally escort Giovanni to the depths of hell.

Previous productions have frequently portrayed Don Giovanni as a man that hated women, hence his inability to achieve true intimacy despite his excessively numerous encounters. However, much of this perception of the famous opera stemmed from the puritanical movement of the 19th century, which was a backlash against the more liberal ideas of the 18th century. Opera Atelier attempts to break free of this puritan ideal and, instead, aims to realize this production in the context of the Italian Commedia dell'Arte style, which director Marshall Pynkoski regards as being the true roots of the original work.

This superb cast displays a cali-

ber of talent that borders on flawless, as well as being unusually gorgeous (thankfully, opera is no longer synonymous with obese).

The especially handsome Michael Chioldi offers us a bright and refreshing performance in the lead role of Don Giovanni. Chioldi skillfully portrays the villainous Giovanni with ease, and successfully bonds the comedic with the lecherous, all the while providing his character with a certain lustrous appeal. No easy feat for even the most seasoned actor! This production is brilliantly entertaining with its dramatic scenes, stage fights, and overall striking aesthetic.

While many prior productions have cast Giovanni as a dark and aging character, Opera Atelier instead portrays him as a boastful young man who shamelessly loves all women and stubbornly leads himself to damnation. In both the old and the modern version the outcome remains the same, although the contemporary production offers a more innovative and youthful outlook.

Don Giovanni was performed
Nov 11-21 2004
Elgin Theatre

-Tia Brazda

Collected Apologies

Myke Harrison might have many things to apologize about, but his music is not one of them

Myke Harrison is not only an incredibly amiable individual but also an equally gifted musician. Roughly four years ago, for a one year period, I had the great fortune of living with Myke. He was my next-door neighbour and our common love for loud music kick-started our friendship.

At that point in Myke's life he was already greatly involved with music. He was continuously playing his guitar and was a member of a band named Noisegate. The band did well for a while, but unfortunately slowly fell apart.

Despite the fact that Myke was now band-less, he continued to explore his creative abilities. His unrelenting desire to be a great musician is finally starting to pay off, recently releasing his debut solo project, *The Collected Apologies*.

I have always known Myke as a rocker who played music akin to bands such as *Finger Eleven* and *Nickelback*. Needless to say, it was amazing to discover how mellow his new album is. Of course, why should anyone have been surprised, Myke is a multifaceted musician?

The Collected Apologies includes nine warm and heartfelt tracks, all of which ought to leave the listener with a smile. Tracks such as *10 &*

Milverton and *Ballet Dancer* are especially melodious and send a pleasant chill down the spine. Alternately, songs such as *The Story* and *You've Never Looked so Good* are a tad more upbeat and very catchy. As a whole, the album displays Myke's abilities to cleverly manipulate his guitar as well as his equally impressive vocal skills. Myke's debut album is riveting and incredibly emotional.

Collected Apologies proves that Myke Harris is an extremely talented musician, for sure with a prosperous career ahead of him. As an avid music collector, I was awfully pleased with the album. I only hope that Myke receives all the successes that he deserves, for other than his musical gifts he is one of the nicest people that I have ever met.

-Chris Gonda

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RÉTROSPECTIVE CINÉMA

Hommage au grand maître du cinéma français

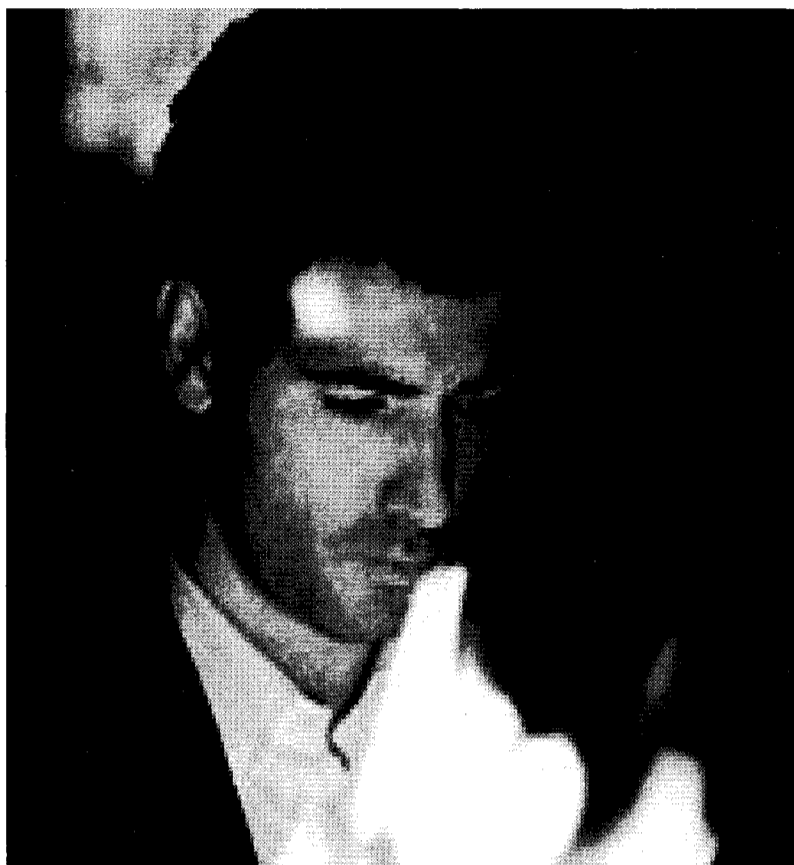
Cinémathèque Ontario présente: "Godard for ever and ever"

J'ai découvert récemment le premier film de Jean-Luc Godard, intitulé « À bout de souffle ». Manifeste de la Nouvelle Vague, ce film non conformiste marque le début d'un bouleversement dans le cinéma traditionnel.

Dès le premier instant, j'ai été plongé dans cet univers à la fois intimiste et troublant : paysages dépeints avec nostalgie, personnages énigmatiques admirablement interprétés dans ce film des années soixante par un certain Jean-Paul Belmondo et la très jeune et jolie Jean Seberg.

Les films de Godard se regardent et se regardent encore, comme une véritable oeuvre d'art. Et voici que la cinémathèque de Toronto propose « Godard for ever and ever » un signe du destin peut-être ? En tout cas, l'occasion rêvée de me replonger dans la pensée originale de ce réalisateur, à travers le film « L'Éloge de l'Amour », et de vous faire partager mes impressions.

« L'Éloge de l'Amour » est un film récent, réalisé en 2001. On pourrait dire qu'il s'agit d'une sorte de célébration du passé et de la Résistance française, mais ce serait choisir une vision un peu réductrice. Godard a peut-être voulu commémorer l'histoire du cinéma ? Mais, attention ! Pas n'importe quel cinéma ! Le cinéma européen.



En effet, Godard insiste beaucoup sur l'idée que les Américains du Nord n'ont pas de passé et que les films d'Hollywood font partie de la machine de l'impérialisme américain. Par exemple, il dit : « Américain, ça ne veut rien dire. Les Mexicains ou les Brésiliens sont aussi des Américains. Et le Brésil, aussi, ce sont des États-Unis ; le

Canada également... Comme nous, ils cherchent l'origine, mais vu qu'ils n'ont pas une longue histoire, ils vont la chercher chez les autres : au Vietnam, à Sarajevo... »

Ce sujet de controverse fait sourire le public averti de la salle car il se réfère au sentiment de Godard vis-à-vis des États-Unis : un mélange de haine et d'admiration.

Mais, Godard a le mérite de proposer au spectateur de nombreux sujets de réflexion sur les diverses références littéraires et artistiques européennes (Picasso, Bataille, etc.). Ici, il s'agit de pensées philosophiques sur la Mémoire, l'Histoire, l'Amour, le Temps, en un mot, la Vie.

Finalement, « L'Éloge de l'Amour » se présente comme le commencement de « quelque chose », comme dit Godard. Il représente la vie dans toute son absurdité et toutes ses contradictions : le noir et blanc et la couleur, le passé et le présent, la paix et la guerre, la ville et la campagne. Comme dans son premier film, on retrouve ici deux personnages en quête de leur propre vie.

C'est l'histoire d'Edgar et d'une femme, vécue à l'intérieur de la grande Histoire, parce que « les choses prennent sens quand elles finissent ». Edgar ne sait pas trop où il va, ni quel est son véritable projet. Il cherche à construire une pièce d'opéra ou bien à écrire un livre à propos des quatre moments de l'amour, c'est-à-dire la rencontre, la passion physique, la séparation et les retrouvailles. Tout compte fait, ce n'est pas la forme du projet qui est le plus important, mais plutôt de pouvoir choisir son histoire et de la raconter.

En sortant du cinéma, un spec-

tateur court à ma rencontre et me demande : « ça vous a plus ? Mais je n'ai pas encore quitté l'univers intimiste de Godard. Je ne fais plus très bien la différence entre la vie et le cinéma. D'ailleurs, y en a-t-il vraiment ? Et puis, des paroles résonnent dans ma tête : « ce qui est intéressant, c'est de parler du film et non de la personne... Le public ne voit pas, il voit ce qu'on lui a dit de voir ». Au contraire, moi je veux voir vraiment... »

-Géraldine Marie

sur la photo: BRUNO PUTZU-LU dans le rôle d'Edgar

How much do you know about Godard?



1. What is the title of Godard's first full-length movie (1959)?

- A) Band of outsiders (La Bande à Part)
- B) Contempt (Le Mépris)
- C) Breathless (À Bout de Souffle)
- D) My Life to Live (Sa Vie à Vivre)

2. What Godard movie stars his first wife, Anna Karina, as a young woman turned prostitute in order to pay her rent?

- A) 2 or 3 Things I Know About Her (2 ou 3 Choses Que Je Sais d'Elle)
- B) First Name : Carmen (Prénom Carmen)
- C) Book of Mary (Je Vous Salue, Marie)
- D) Sa Vie à Vivre (My Life to Live)

3. What other name is Godard known under?

- A) Lucas Haas
- B) Hans Lucas
- C) Lucas Klaus
- D) Klaus Mann

4. Godard's body of work is usually divided into how many periods?

- A) One
- B) Three
- C) Four
- D) Six

5. In the mid-70's Godard retired to a small village of Grenoble where he only concentrated on video production. What movie marks his return to commercial (regular) cinema?

- A) Slow Motion (Sauve Qui Peut : La Vie)
- B) Detective
- C) Masculin/Feminin (Masculin/Féminin)
- D) Wind From the East (Vent de l'Est)

6. When did New Wave (Nouvelle Vague) flourish?

- A) Early '50s
- B) '60s
- C) Late 60's to early 80's
- D) 40's

7. What is the name of Godard's second period (1968-72)?

- A) New Wave
- B) Grenoble period
- C) Dziga Vertov stage
- D) SonImage period

8. During this period Godard's movie reflect this philosophy

- A) Maoism/Communism
- B) Realism
- C) Existentialism
- D) Anarchism

9. Who is a joint founder of Godard's SonImage company?

- A) Anne-Marie Miéville, his third wife
- B) François Truffaut, author of Breathless (the novel)
- C) Jean-Pierre Corin, Student movement leader during France May Revolution
- D) Anne Wiazemsky, his second wife



10. When he said "The children of Marx and Coca Cola is what this movie is all about.", what movie is Godard describing?

- A) The Chinese (La Chinoise)
- B) Everything's fine (Tout Va Bien)
- C) Alphaville
- D) Masculin/Feminin

11. Before getting into movies, what did Godard study at the Sorbonne university?

- A) Law
- B) History of visual art
- C) European literature
- D) Ethnology

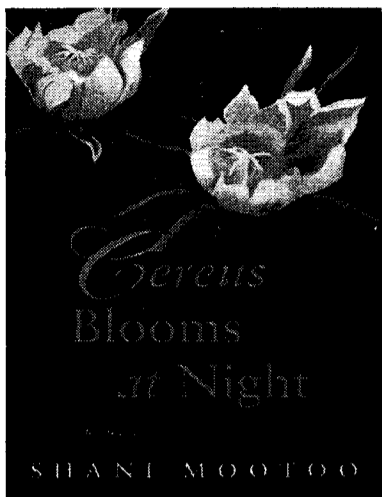
prepared by
Maria Repac



1) C; 2) D; 3) B; 4) A; 5) A; 6) B; 7) C; 8) A; 9) A; 10) D; 11) D

Shani Mootoo Blooms

From a visual artist and a filmmaker to Giller Book prize finalist



Ten years ago, Shani Mootoo never thought that she would become a writer. In fact she was living in Vancouver and earning a living as a visual artist and filmmaker.

However, her talents soon turned to writing and, much to her surprise, she has spent the last 7 years at the centre of international acclaim for her first fiction novel, *Cereus Blooms at Night*. Her impressive debut novel led her to become a finalist for the prestigious Giller Book Prize in 1997. Her previous work includes a collection of short stories titled *Out on Main Street, and Other Stories* and more recently she has published a book of poetry, *The Predicament of Or*.

Her success wasn't just beginner's luck. What sets Mootoo apart from other Canadian authors is her profound ability to present taboo issues with ease. Although this tale weaves together experiences of sexual abuse, mental illness,

the struggle of gay identity and homophobia, it is more observant than judgmental.

Set on the fictional island of Lantanacamara, the tropical paradise sharply contrasts the nightmarish existence of the novel's protagonist, Mala, who plays both the heroine and the victim. Mala's story is that of a young girl who experiences such horrific events that, becoming overwhelmed by her existence, she reverts into insanity as an escape. Related through the narration of Tyler, an effeminate male nurse who becomes Mala's caretaker in her old age, Mala and Nurse Tyler forge a unique bond that transcends her madness and ultimately leads them both to a more fulfilling existence.

Mootoo brings depth to her characters in this psychological drama through her explorations of emotion and society and creates strong visual scenes through her film-like use of imagery and attention to detail.

Throughout the novel, as the title alludes to, the cereus flower symbolizes the journey of the story's characters. This rare cactus blooms nocturnally, for only one night, withering before dawn. Its flowers, although seen only for a mere moment, are stunningly beautiful and emit what has been said to be "the smell of ecstasy". This is reflective of the self-reconciliation that Mootoo's characters ultimately achieve in this emotionally moving story.

Recently, Mootoo participated

in York's Canadian Authors in Person Series which included readings from her book of short stories as well as a preview reading of a not-yet-published fiction work that will incorporate the Canadian wilderness- a new step for this clearly adventurous author.

-Tia Brazda

To all the geniuses out there!
ProBlem needs you to submit
your articles, reviews,
opinions, etc.
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In a dilapidated hotel, men from all walks of life escape their fantasies while, outside, a revolution rages in a rebel-controlled city. In this stunning series of matches, *Seneca*, a celebrated French playwright, presents his own vision of society in which power is the currency of corruption.

February 22nd-26th, 2005, 8:00pm

The 15th Annual Fridge Festival

This pot-pourri of student-generated short plays and performances has excited and entertained the Glendon community for the past 15 years. To experience this effusion of creativity, talent and fun is to participate in an essential Theatre Glendon event.

April 6th-9th, 2005. (schedule to follow)

DRST 3645 6.0 presents

La Belle Saison

Prof. Guillaume Bernard

ELY INTRO: Ely comes to Pro Blem as a 4th year student from Keele Campus majoring in People Problematics. He grew up on a farm with his momma, whom he still lives with. Most of the advice given is from him, but take note that his mother is a great influence and may step in from time to time.

If you have a problem you'd like Ely to solve please email him at: protem@gl.yorku.ca attn: Dear Ely.

Question #1: : Dear Elliot I am a 27 year old student. I only take a couple of classes here but I cannot seem to get out of this campus, and frankly I don't really think I even want to. What is wrong with me? Sometimes I even lie about my age to the younger students so I can feel accepted and welcome in clubs, classes and the classification of myself as a student.

- Donnie D.

Answer #1:

Looks to me like you got yourself a Van Wilder complex. Mamma says that's why she never puts me in school cause I could of been subjected to such an evil virus like the Van Wilder! This complex looks directly at students who cannot seem to get the hells out of school. Symptoms of this? Well your arrogant, cannot make decisions (i.e.: your major), afraid of the future, don't love your classes but use them as an excuse to not get a job (i.e.: your still 'learning') and oh yeah you will often try to rule over clubs because of your age. Is this you Donnie? You have an issue with reality and I say, get a freakin' life. Oh Momma says that too.

Question #2: Dear Elliot I was once with a group of friends who told me never to talk when Im around them. I could sit with them, but I just couldn't talk. I could follow them and watch them, but I was never allowed to voice my opinion or have a say in what we would do. I feel trapped, what should I do?

-Quiet Sally, Wood

Answer #2:

Some friends yah got yourself there! What's the point stiffin' yourself the right to speak huh? Sounds like this particular group of people are dictators, pompous asses who allow you to be their friend but won't let you even speak to them, or if you try they won't listen to yah. Now my Momma has told me to shut the hell up more times then I can count my toes but I could always speak. Perhaps you should get away from them and find a better community of friends. Let your voice be heard ShhhhSally, scream!!!!!!



Dear Ely

horoscopes

By Lloyd Schumner Sr.
Retired Machinist and
A.A.P.B.-Certified Astrologer

Aries

(March 21—April 19)

You're not sure why, but you've never bought that one chicken's alleged reason for crossing the road.

Taurus

(April 20—May 20)

A trip to sunny Bermuda does not recharge your batteries due to the fact that your worker-robot casing isn't equipped for solar-energy uptake.

Gemini

(May 21—June 21)

Classical musicians worldwide will be out for your blood when you compose the brilliant but torturous-to-play *Punishment Symphony For Orchestral Dipshits*.

Cancer

(June 22—July 22)

You'll balloon up to triple your weight after several months spent following a diet-book typo that told you to eat 16,000 calories a day.

Leo

(July 23—Aug. 22)

You'll be held in contempt of court by several judges you haven't even met, which you have to admit is pretty good anticipation on their part.

Virgo

(Aug. 23—Sept. 22)

You'll be stripped, cleaned, oiled, and lovingly Briwaxed even though you insist that you are not a 1930s craft project.

Libra

(Sept. 23—Oct. 23)

They say make-up sex is the hottest, so it's probably not a good idea to resolve that long-standing feud with your parents.

Scorpio

(Oct. 24—Nov. 21)

Eventually, they'll figure out who it was that broke into the safe, but they'll just laugh at you for taking the money when you could've had the secret pie recipe.

Sagittarius

(Nov. 22—Dec. 21)

You'll finally learn to stop looking like you've put your makeup on with a trowel just as the hot new trend of trowel-applied makeup catches on.

Capricorn

(Dec. 22—Jan. 19)

It's true that the best-laid plans of mice and men go oft awry, but the mutant rodents in the sewers beneath your home have been planning your death for years.

Aquarius

(Jan. 20—Feb. 18)

You can remember a happier time when you were young and hopeful and Yaphet Kotto wasn't following you everywhere.

Pisces

(Feb. 19—March 20)

Executives at all the major networks will reject your idea for a fiction-based "non-reality show" as "too

WORDS FOR NEERDS

Test your word knowledge! Find the correct meaning to the word and feel smart for a day.

1. Bazaar

- a) a market place or shopping quarter
- b) Babar's brother
- c) a strange feeling associated with a surreal environment
- d) to unify a club

2. Chirk

- a) to smell
- b) to realize the meaning of a word
- c) to make a shrill, chirping noise
- d) to step forward and speak

3. Deleterious

- a) injurious to health
- b) a luxurious evening gown
- c) to exude extreme happiness
- d) the wandering of the mind

4. Gabby

- a) an Irish bar
- b) to lift up
- c) quiet
- d) talkative

5. Lignify

- a) to turn mud into water
- b) to become or cause to become wood or woody
- c) a silent offering of peace
- d) to light on fire

6. Olfaction

- a) to see
- b) the act of smelling
- c) to hear
- d) lost sense of smell

7. Perfecto

- a) an expression used when nothing could possibly be wrong
- b) the last name of a famous Italian
- c) a rather thick, medium sized cigar tapering towards both ends
- d) a large kitchen cabinet

8. Perfuse

- a) to overspread with moisture, colour, etc.
- b) the act of spraying perfume
- c) an immense enjoyment in perfumes
- d) to have the ultimate enjoyment

9. Supine

- a) a type of cutlery
- b) the act of lying
- c) to withhold information
- d) lying on the back

10. Wheedle

- a) an old term used for the modern word "needle"
- b) to lie
- c) to endeavour to influence by flattering or beguiling words or acts
- d) a great accomplishment

1 (a) 2 (c) 3 (a) 4 (d) 5 (b) 6 (b) 7 (a) 8 (a) 9 (d) 10 (c)

1 (a) 2 (c) 3 (a) 4 (d) 5 (b) 6 (b) 7 (a) 8 (a) 9 (d) 10 (c)

UNCLE HECTORS COMICS

