

PRO TEM

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The Original Student Newspaper of York University

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Depuis
26 ans

Collège
Glendon
College

In our
26th Year

Council Seeks Student Views

by Judy Hahn

In a recent Council survey, the subject of which was its own performance in office, some 70 students had the opportunity to voice their opinions of their elected representatives.

The survey was passed out randomly in the cafeteria in late December by Council members. Most were returned, and according to Jennifer Barratt, Director of Academic Affairs, who presented the results to Council at the January 20 meeting, there were 56 anglophone respondents, of whom 30 were male and 23 female, and 14 francophones, 7 males and 8 females.

Barratt explained the obvious discrepancy in the numbers in that not everyone replied to every question on the form.

The respondents were further classified by residence (23), part-time (6), mature students (11), and year of study (23 first year, 11 second year, 15 third year, 12 fourth year, 3 fifth year students).

In answer to question #1 - *In your opinion, what is the purpose of the GCSU?* - answers were for the most part fair to act as a link between students and administration, to budget student money for clubs and services, to raise money, to plan student activities. One student, presumably sarcastically, said Council's job is to buy Magic Signs.

More francophones than anglophones find that Council is accessible. The total count shows that 43 of the 63 answering to question #2 do find Council accessible.

Question #3, despite major problem in the presentation of the question, showed that the majority of the students polled believed Council fulfilled its function, more or less. The question appeared as

follows: *According to you, to what degree do you think the Council of the GCSU is fulfilling its function?* 1 2 3 4 5

The question did not indicate what was the high end of the scale.

As Barratt pointed out, however, the results fell largely in the middle, at #3. The respondents were not overly impressed nor terribly disappointed.

Question #4 asked for areas where the students thought that Council might improve. Respondents repeatedly said communication needed to be improved as well as responsiveness to student input. One respondent with a pet peeve answered that dance jobs should be offered to Radio Glendon in order to "support the Glendon community."

Most students, francophones and anglophones alike, would support a monthly open forum for improving communications.

The General Comments were the most telling. One respondent used the survey as a forum to vent his distaste of Glendon apathy. An off-campus student complained that there were not enough activities accessible to those students. Another voiced his opinion that our Council is only a token voice who are really powerless, to appease student demands for power. Several students charged the Council with presenting itself "as a cute little clique" which is not representative of the student body. One student suggested that a more diverse sampling of students on Council might alleviate this problem.

The "positive" comments said: "I really haven't had the need to consult GCSU and so, by default, the GCSU appears to be doing an adequate job," and "Good job: je suis étonné."



photographie: Neil Stephenson

*Dear E-House: Happy St. Valentine from A-House
(so we were early)*

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Students Air Grievances

by Bill Keays

On Tuesday February 10, 1987, the Food and Beverage Committee held its regular, bi-weekly meeting, in the Old Dining Hall. Aside from the committee members, Yvette Szmidt (Dean of Students), Norman Crandles (Director of Food and Housing), Hugh Mansfield (GCSU President), Alex Lamba (Director of Clubs and Services), William Ryan (General Manager, Canteen of Canada, Ltd.), and Jacques Aubin-Roy (Executive Officer, Glendon) were also present. The Glendon community was further represented by the presence of approximately thirty-five students, according to the committee's minutes. This number may be conservative.

The meeting served as a forum to air student grievances with the food and service in the cafeteria, the scrip system, and the sense of futility experienced by some students due to the unresponsiveness of the Food and Beverage Committee.

Mr. Mansfield and Mr. Lamba presented a collection of letters containing complaints regarding the food and hygiene problems in the cafeteria. After strong pressure from Mr. Mansfield, Mr. Lamba, and Mr. Crandles, it was decided that possible courses of action will be discussed by the Committee on or before the next meeting on Tuesday, February 24, at 7:00 p.m.

The student representatives pro-

vided much food for thought during the meeting. Steve Vigneault, Jeff Broadbent and Charles Rouyer raised numerous issues ranging from flies in food, the scrip system, to the bureaucratic nature of the Food and Beverage Committee. To say the least, the students were frustrated with the responses they received from Mr. Crandles, the Food Ombudsman, Patricia Séguin, and the Chairman of the Committee, Wanda Wegman.

Judy Hahn's comments followed along the same line: the present situation with Canteen of Canada needed to be improved, and that the present system of handling student complaints is unacceptable.

All of the students consulted by *Pro Tem* during and after the meeting were irate with what they considered stonewalling and buck-passing practices of the Food and Beverage Committee, particularly Ms Séguin and Ms Wegman. Mr. Paul Charron stated that people with whom he has spoken feel that these two individuals are apologists for the caterer.

The committee sets a one-hour time limit for its meetings. The meeting in question was brought to a conclusion, with no one satisfied, because of this unilaterally imposed time limit. This was despite the fact that a presentation prepared by Jeff Broadbent, which was on the agenda, had not yet been given the floor.

Regardless of the handling of this meeting, the issues raised will be discussed further at the February 24th meeting of the Food

Nominations Open

by Paul Charron

The sight of much hand-shaking and backslapping heralds the beginning of another election campaign at Glendon College. On March 2nd and 3rd Glendon students go to the polls to elect a new executive to the council of the Union and a student senator. Twenty positions on faculty council are also open to students. Readers will recall recent controversy over the diminutive size of the student caucus on this year's council. Faculty Council, a sub-committee of York's Senate, is an important policy-making body. It is hoped that a full student contingent can be brought together for next year's council.

There are seven executive positions to be contested. Each position has a different job description and will attract different kinds of nominees.

The **president** is the chief executive officer of the Union and acts as spokesperson for the Council in its dealings with governments, the administration of the College and the University, and other organisations and institutions outside the College. The president acts as administrator and sets policy and goals for the Council in consultation with other executive members. The position involves a lot of work, organisation, and responsibility, the president negotiates all contractual

agreements for the Union, co-signs all financial documents and is an *ex officio* member of all GCSU committees.

The **vice president** is the chief financial officer of the Union, and acts as the deputy chairperson of the Executive committee. The VP is also an *ex officio* member of all GCSU standing committees and assists and advises them on matters concerning finances. The vice president chairs the GCSU budget committee and supervises all fiscal transactions conducted by the Union. The operating budget is prepared by the VP in consultation with the budget committee, and at the end of the year is responsible for co-ordination of a

general audit.

The other executive members are each responsible for a particular portfolio. The **director of Academic Affairs** is responsible for relations between the Council and the student representative of Faculty Council. He (she) acts as chairperson of the Committee of Course Union Reps and represents the concerns of the various Course Unions to Council. The director is available to intervene on behalf of individual students who feel they have been treated unjustly in academic matters and monitors the academic planning and changes in academic policy of

• See Rewarding p.5

• See Bring p.3

éditorial

La voix francophone en danger

Il y a quelques semaines, une francophone se présentait en Conseil de l'AECG pour poser son opinion sur une question quelconque. Elle a précédé l'expression de son opinion par un avertissement en anglais cassé qu'elle parlerait en *anglais* puisqu'autrement elle ne serait pas comprise.

Dans quelques semaines, on vous demandera dans un référendum de supporter l'établissement d'un nouveau portefeuille au Conseil de l'AECG — celui du directeur des affaires bilingues.

Cette personne sera responsable pour assurer que tous les

services offerts par l'AECG sont disponibles dans les deux langues. De plus, elle devra entretenir toutes les relations qui traitent au bilinguisme hors campus (dans la communauté torontoise, les gouvernements provinciaux et fédéral, et d'autres universités).

La motion a été acceptée par une grande majorité de nos représentants du Conseil. C'est même un francophone qui a avancé cette motion.

Si on appuie ce nouveau poste, les anglophones du Conseil s'inquiètront encore moins des problèmes des francophones, versant leurs embarras "français" sur ce directeur des affaires bilingues.

En septembre prochain, ce poste commencera déjà à perdre sa raison d'être puisque la première classe de nouveaux étudiants débiteront leurs études uniquement dans la voie bilingue. En 1991, 90 pourcent des étudiants de Glendon étudieront dans cette voie. Quelques étudiants anglophones à temps partiel seulement étudieront dans la voie unilingue après cette date.

Le drame dans cette affaire est que le président et tous ses acolytes renoncent à leurs responsabilités face aux francophones du collège comme ils le font déjà en ne pas reconnaissant la clause de notre constitution qui exige que tout membre du comité exécutif de l'AECG soit capable de travailler dans les deux langues ou alors prennent un cours pour y arriver.

Cette personne deviendra le directeur des communications francophones, le directeur des affaires extérieures francophones, ... et surtout le président francophone.

La division entre francophones et anglophones ne fera que s'aggraver, ou encore, les francophones devront, comme l'étudiant mentionnée, se soumettre à cette empire anglophone pour être entendu.

Espérons que les francophones ne perdront pas de ténacité et qu'au moins un *anglophone* a lu cet éditorial et considèrera sérieusement aussi le dilemme.

Letters/Lettres

Don't Punish Students

Dear Mr. Crandles:

As a student at Glendon College and as a paying member of residence, I was extremely dismayed to discover many of the financial changes that are occurring at York.

Student Residences were originally created for a two-fold purpose:

1) to create a more intimate, family style atmosphere for students away from home for perhaps the first time, and

2) to provide affordable housing for students in high rent and low vacancy areas.

York has tried to live up to these aims, but now it seems neither of these are important. Each year the residence fees climb while services remain stagnant or diminish. All the while the residence buildings continue to decay and students grow more and more disheartened by the lack of response from University officials.

A perfect example of the University's detrimental resident policy is the recent decision to have a 5.75% fee increase. Such an increase is well beyond the current inflation rate.

While raising our fees, you take away our services. The linen service was threatened to be taken away starting next year. Where were the savings from this removal going? After trying to take away the linen service you have the audacity to further punish students by increasing washing machine rates by a full 43%, definitely not a small increase. Have you no heart to try and follow the spirit of easing the financial burden of residence students?

I do not believe students will stand much more pressure to be a source of revenue for the University, especially with so few services provided.

The system at York seems to be "that when people complain, we might fix it." There is no self-regulating control on maintenance problems at all. I refer to the consistent problems of cleanliness and proper maintenance. "Fix it yourself. It is faster than Physical Plant," is a common statement in residence.

I know I speak for other residents when I say we are tired of complaining for even the simplest things and do not even bother to complain about the large issues as we *know* no one is listening.

I was further astounded to find out that York was not merely trying to run the residences at cost, but also aiming for a profit, and not a small profit at that. All surpluses should be accidental, and definitely reinvested into the residences. The resident students already financially support all on-campus services without choice, are they also to support the University itself?

Please do something to help students become educated affordably, do not try to squeeze the residence students for that little bit of profit, we would not be residence students if we could afford to give more.

Yours sincerely,
Ross Slater
c.c. Open letter to Glendon public.

Show Objectivity

To the editor:
Re.: The letter of Stefan Molyneux, "What do you think" of two weeks ago.

Stefan Molyneux wrote about an article he had read in the newspaper of Queen's concerning the 150 Soviet emigrés who left North America to return to Russia. Apparently, Stefan resented this act as a slap in the face,

making of the decision of the Russians a question of personal pride and political prestige.

I don't know for how long Stefan Molyneux has been a Glendon student, but the polemical tone and the subjectivity of his letter make me conclude that he must be a freshman with little experience and knowledge. Let's make it clear. I don't imply that a freshman cannot have knowledge and show objectivity. What I rather suggest is that a few years of study at Glendon would probably prevent anyone from using simplistic ideas worthy of the *Sim*.

Stefan says that those 150 returning Russians "prefer slavery to freedom". Doesn't he feel the absurdity of what he is writing? Who would possibly ever do that? If nobody, the conclusion of Stefan is false; it was not a matter of choice between slavery and freedom. But anyway, what does Stefan know about Russia? Has he ever studied Russian history or the Russian political and economic system? Has he ever been to Russia or even a socialist country? For sure not. Otherwise, he would know why the returning Russians were disappointed by North America.

Yes, North America has a real problem of crime rate that Russia does not have. As for the meaning of "commercialism", Stefan's assumption of what it means is wrong. Almost every immigrant coming from Europe will confirm that the

• See Letters p.5

The person who signed "concerned" should please make his identity known to the editor-in-chief so we can print your letter. Your name will not be printed if you desire and will remain confidential.

PRO TEM

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Ontario's Universities Need \$500 Million

OCUFA News Release

The Ontario Confederation of University Faculty Associations (OCUFA) says that the university system in the province needs an additional \$500 million in order to correct the underfunding of the last dozen years.

In a submission to the Legislature's Standing Committee on Finance and Economic Affairs, the group representing Ontario's 12,000 professors says that this is the minimum required for Ontario to have "the best university system in Canada."

Ontario currently ranks tenth among all Canadian provinces with respect to operating grants per student and ninth with respect to provincial operating grants per capita.

The OCUFA submission says that the substantial infusion of funds is necessary in order to allow for faculty renewal; the provision of adequate support for teaching and research; renewal to the deteriorating physical plant and equipment and the reconstruction of decimated and dwindling library collections.

The submission acknowledges that adding half a billion dollars to the current university allocation would represent an increase of 38% and could therefore not be forthcoming in a single year. OCUFA suggests that the increase be phased in over five years.

"We are suggesting that in each of the next five years, base funding to universities be increased by the appropriate percentage to offset the effects of inflation plus eight per cent to retire the cumulative shortfall and restore the universities to a sound financial position," the submission says.

Dr. John Starkey, President of OCUFA said the "trying to correct the erosion that underfunding has created in small increments over the next dozen years would be a disaster."

"We do not have a dozen years. The economy does not have that long. The physical plant of the universities does not have that long. Our scholars do not have that long."

Dr. Starkey added that the province has the financial capacity to meet the needs of the universities.

"The latest quarterly report of Ontario Finances shows a windfall of over \$900 million to the Peterson government," he said.

"I would hope some of the increased monies generated by the province's vibrant economy would go to meet the universities' very legitimate needs."

Alternative Career Days

by Irene Ty

Glendon students look out! Are you looking for a way to travel, work, volunteer overseas or in Canada, to get to know more about yourself and about the outside world?

The Glendon Student Christian Movement is bringing to you Alternative Career Days. Non-profit and religious organizations will be recruiting appropriate students on campus! They will be available to give you more information on the programmes they offer and on how you apply to them.

These groups offer programmes ranging from four week sessions during the summer to three- or more year programmes. Some require people with a degree and previous experience; others do not require any specific educational background at all. Most offer programmes overseas - Africa, Latin America and Asia as well as some in Northern and eastern Canada. The nature and purpose of the programmes offered vary a great deal as well, from cultural and educational trips to work/volunteer-oriented ones or out-each-type missions.

There is something for everyone. For more information, pick up your "Alternative Career Days" Brochure with the listing of the participating groups at room C120 York Hall, or phone Irene of the Student Christian Movement at 588-0747 (evenings).

This unique 2-day event will take place in the Junior Common Room and the Hearth Room, Wednesday and Thursday, March 4 and 5, from 10:30 a.m. to 4:30 p.m.

Minutes: Food Meeting

For the sake of expediency, and for the general information of the community, *Pro Tem* is here presenting the minutes of the Food and Beverage Committee meeting of February 10. They will be discussed and accepted at the next meeting on February 24. If these issues concern you, you are welcome to attend. The meetings take place in the cafeteria at 7:00 biweekly.

Attendance

Ross Slater
Monica Smith
Geoffrey Eden
Judy Hahn
Hugh Mansfield
Mieke Smulders
Lorin Ledger
Todd Betcher
Jeff Broadbent
Alex Lamba
Patricia Séguin - Ombudsman
Norman Crandles - Director of Food and Housing
John Shane - General Manager, Rill Foods, Ltd.

Yvette Szmidt - Dean
Wanda Wegman - Chairman
Jean Normandin - Manager, Glendon Cafeteria
William Ryan - General Manager, Canteen of Canada
Jacques Aubin-Roy - Executive Officer

Approximately 35 Glendon students

Proceedings

1. REVIEW OF PREVIOUS MINUTES

a) Garbage can Lid is still not being kept clean although new format appears to be more effective in dealing with the hygiene problem.

Action: J. Normandin to ensure more constant cleanliness.

b) Variety of meals - It was noted that two beef stew dishes had been served in the past week.

Action: J. Normandin to speak to chef.

2. PRESENTATION BY CHAIRMAN

a) The Chairman presented a letter which expressed a student's appreciation for the presence of the manager on the floor of the cafeteria. He felt that this aided in communication between management and the student and the student body.

b) Le Café - Food Services will relinquish the north-east corner of Le Café in order to provide for an expanded fire exit. As well, the store-room wall will be removed in order to compensate for the space lost in the restaurant. Construction will take place during Reading Week, Feb. 16 to 20, 1987.

3. PRESENTATION BY GCSU REPRESENTATIVES

Hugh Mansfield and Alex Lamba presented to the Chairman a portfolio of student complaints concerning food service at Glendon.

These complaints were sub-divided into the following categories:

a) Food Problems: price quality

b) Hygiene: Physical Plant who is responsible for bug control

staff members of Rill Foods

c) Solutions: the adequacy of the present system in food-related complaints

Action: The Chairman, Ombudsman and members of the Committee will review letters which will be passed on to Rill Foods Ltd. for response by Feb. 20. The action taken on these items will be examined at the next meeting of the Glendon Food and Beverage Committee.

4. OTHER BUSINESS

The following items were also discussed although they are beyond the mandate of the present Food and Beverage

Committee:

- a) the mandatory scrip system
- b) the monopoly system of catering present at Glendon College
- c) the inability of this Committee to personally undertake disciplinary action, i.e. fines, when the food service is found wanting.

Also discussed was the attitude of the students regarding the function of this Committee. The pervading attitude was a sense of futility concerning the effectiveness of current bureaucratic structures, i.e. the roles of Ombudsman, Chairman, and Committee.

5. Next meeting will be held on Tuesday, Feb. 24, 1987 at 7:00 p.m. in the ODH.

Distribution:

attendance as stated

A. Catricala

K. MacNeil

B. Sharman

Pro Tem, for publication

G. Fortin

G. Partilidis

A. Colton

Bring Us Complaints

From p.1

and Beverage Committee. It is an open meeting and all are welcome to attend.

Once again, if you have a legitimate complaint regarding the food or service at the cafeteria, write it down with your name and phone number, and drop it off at *Pro Tem* or the GCSU office. Student input is needed if these issues are to be solved. PT

HEAR YE! HEAR YE!

Let it be known that we at *Pro Tem* know that you are out there. We are presently seeking an assistant photography editor, who will help the illustrious James Mitchell in his weekly duties as photography editor. Excellent pay (nothing). Opportunities for advancement (to where we don't know).

Apply *Pro Tem* Office, 117 Glendon Hall or speak to Neal Stephenson or James Mitchell.

UN Lottery Results

1st prize: Trip for 2 to Acapulco
Betsey B.P. Buchwald,
History Dept., Glendon

2nd prize: \$300.00 Voucher
Don Ogden, Hilliard A130

3rd prize: Murder and Mystery at Casa Loma (Dinner and for 2)
Mr. Cluff

4th prize: Dinner and Theatre at Second City
Alison Paul, Hilliard, A104

5th prize: Dinner for 2 at Roussalka Restaurant
Renée Champagne

6th prize: Surprise Package from Lovecraft
Angelo Tueron

Contact for collecting prizes or information:
Tony Cintra, 443 1557

A Word From the Ombudsman

Hi! I'm Patricia Séguin, Glendon's Food Ombudsman. It has become increasingly clear that the students of Glendon are concerned and interested in the food services which exist on this campus. Realizing this, I felt *Pro Tem* to be an appropriate medium via which to pass on some information about food at Glendon.

In place, there exists a system of communication, checks and balances whereby the wishes of the student population can be ascertained and implemented. One of these is the position of Food Service Ombudsman, a liaison between the university administration (Food and Housing), the caterer and the students and staff. It demands impartiality; the ombudsman cannot be a student advocate. This individual, myself, attends all meetings of the Glendon Food and Beverage Committee as well as sitting as an *ex-officio* (non-voting) member of the University Food and Beverage Service Committee (UFBS). The University hires the student who holds this post; the ombudsman is responsible to UFBS.

The Food and Beverage Committee is a users' organization made up of any students or staff who wish to participate. It meets bi-weekly with the manager to discuss problems and to provide a forum for student's comments on the day-to-day operation of the cafeteria and Le Café. At the core is a

group of food representatives, one from each house in residence, headed by a chairman. This year's chairman is Wanda Wegman. Everyone is welcome to attend the meetings of this committee, or to express their concerns to the chairman or house food reps.

The upper food committee, the UFBS, meets at York North once a month. Both the Chairman of the Glendon Food and Beverage Committee and the Glendon Food Service Ombudsman are members of this group; however, only the Chairman may vote. At this level, matters of university policy concerning food are discussed. Pricing, tendering contracts, negotiating with caterers, etc. are part of this organization's responsibilities.

To illustrate how these various groups interact, let's follow a complaint. Joe Student complains to his house food rep. that the line-ups in the cafeteria are too long. The house rep. passes on this complaint at the Glendon Food and Beverage meeting he attends the next day. The manager takes note of the complaint and assures the chairman that it will be taken care of by the next week. If, on the other hand, the line-ups remain a problem, the chairman will speak to the manager again. If it becomes evident that the management is not correcting the difficulty, the chairman notifies the Food Ombudsman. I consult with the man-

ager to find out what the delay is. If no legitimate reason exists for the line-ups to continue, I tell the manager to take care of the problem immediately. If, at this point, nothing is done, the complaint is passed on to the the Manager of Food and Housing who then orders the situation corrected. Obviously, few complaints reach this upper level because most problems can be simply corrected through the type of discussion which takes place at Food and Beverage meetings. That is why this committee exists.

Complaints, in order to be acted upon, must be specific. In the example above, Joe Student was able to zero in on one area difficulty. Comments such as "the food's terrible" do not provide enough information for changes to be made. What meal didn't you like? What exactly was wrong with it? What items would you like to see on the menu? These types of comments help the Food and Beverage Committee, its chairman and myself all do the job we should. If you don't tell us what you're happy or unhappy about, we can't take action.

If at any time you wish to contact me, you can do so at 481-3588. My mailing address is Box 247 or F327 Hilliard Residence. The Food and Beverage Chairman on this campus, Wanda Wegman, is available at 487-6754. Her mailing address is Box 227 Hilliard.

The United Nations

by Jack Slibar

3rd year Political Science major, specializing in International Relations and Conference Coordinator of the International Studies Club

The United Nations is one of the all-time achievements of mankind, for through it man has pledged himself to pursue the noblest of all causes — global peace and security. Yet this institution is in the midst of a crisis; a crisis so great that if left unresolved it could bring the institution to its knees.

This crisis revolves around the issue of General Assembly voting. The West describes it as the 'tyranny of the majority', the South claims it to be its right. Who's correct? Or is it a matter of perspective?

Fundamentally, before we can come to grips with the topic at hand, we must first have a firm understanding of the international state system. Kenneth N. Wally in his article "The Anarchic Environment" describes the global state system as "an arena that has no central governing body. No agency exists above the individual state with authority and power to make laws and settle disputes." (J.R. Art. *International Politics* p.2)

He goes on to describe anarchy as a "state of war", although this is not meant to imply that all international issues are resolved on the battlefield. Instead, a state's ability to assert its wishes and construct an international stage suitable to its needs depends on the amount of power it possesses.

Upon examination of the Third World or Less Developed Countries (LDC's), as they are often referred to, it is evident that they have a relatively low power quotient vis-à-vis developed states.

Consider the average LDC's characteristics. By far the most overwhelming trait of LDC's is their relatively recent emergence from colonial rule. Here one finds widespread poverty, illiteracy, hunger and disease. The majority of the population is engaged in subsistence agriculture using only manual labour and few if any tools. Most of the inhabitants have no electricity, sanitation or fresh water facilities.

The states have a relatively low GNP and their per capita GNP usually falls somewhere between 60 and 1500 US dollars (1985). (P.M. Todaro, *Economic Development in the Third World* p.4) Their economy depends overwhelmingly on agricultural products (cash crops) or mineral production, which is their only source of foreign exchange.

A Third World economy is further characterised by little growth and an inherent vulnerability to external market forces. Within their societies, manufactured goods are always scarce and for the most part must be imported. There is a high degree of unemployment and underemployment, which is most widely visible in urban areas. Furthermore these states have extensive balance of payment problems and lack even the most basic infrastructure.

In short, at the risk of under-

stating the situation in the Third World, an area in which three-quarters of the world's population resides, most inhabitants live in near, if not absolute, poverty. (Todaro, p. vii)

Since most LDC's (excluding OPEC nations) have a relatively weak power position, they hold little bargaining power in a world governed by international anarchy. The exact opposite is true for industrialised nations. Thus it seems ironic that the condition of Third World weakness vis-à-vis developed states is reversed in the United Nations General Assembly.

The General Assembly (GA) is one of the six principal organs of the United Nations. The GA, unlike the Security Council, follows the principle of sovereign equality of all its members, thus the rule of one state one vote applies. It has a representative of all the member states, and is responsible for the coordination and supervision of all UN agencies and activities.

Moreover, the Economic and Social Council (ECOSOC) and the Trusteeship Council are directly under the GA's control. Article 22 of the UN Charter further authorizes the General Assembly to "establish subsidiary organs as it deems necessary for the performance of its functions." (A.L. Bennett, *International Organizations* p.62) The GA has the right to consider and approve the budget, to apportion expenses among the members and to examine and make recommendations on the budgets of the separate specialized agencies. (Bennett, p.64)

Finally, one of the most important roles of the General Assembly rests with its exclusive power to elect the nonpermanent members of the Security Council, and all the members of the Economic and Social Council. All these factors make the GA the most powerful organ of the UN — they who control the GA control the UN.

Presently the ECOSOC has 54 members, all of which are elected by the General Assembly for three years, with one-third of the terms expiring each year. According to the letter of the Charter no single state is entitled to a continuous membership, but for all intents and purposes, all the permanent members of the Security Council (except Nationalist China) have been elected on a regular basis. Even accounting for this fact the LDC's still control the Economic and Social Council which is allotted four-fifths of the UN budget. As one source states, "Small and underdeveloped states are in the majority in ECOSOC and can pass resolutions favourable to their interests since all measures are adopted by simple majority vote." (Bennett, p.69)

The Third World states are able to control the ECOSOC, and its programs, because they are able to muster well over the two-thirds majority required in the GA to vote in their members. (Thus when we consider the South's voting might in the GA, we must also remember the spinoffs resulting from it, namely a majority bloc on the ECOSOC.) Yet it must be

noted that the majority of the funds used to administer the programs of the ECOSOC are supplied by Western states. For example the United States bears about 40 per cent of the total burden of financing UN programs. (S.W. Jones, *The Logic of International Relations* p.245)

This is where the fundamental problem lies, those who vote for programs (namely LDC's) are not the ones paying for them. Consequently Westerners, usually Americans, believe that the present voting situation in the General Assembly is a "tyranny of the majority."

Nevertheless, a question must be answered: is one justified in calling the Third World's voting practices in the GA 'a tyranny of the majority' if all the South is using is the provisions in the Charter to meet their own needs and interests? Once again the answer to this depends on one's perspective.

When the Charter of the United Nations was formulated, and eventually accepted in 1945, the organization had only 51 members, all being represented in the General Assembly. (Jones, p.554) Those states that are presently referred to as LDC's for the most part did not exist. Instead these soon-to-be nations were still under colonial rule by such imperial powers as France, Spain, Britain and Germany; this was all soon to change. The conclusion of World War II not only ushered in the United States as the paramount global power, but considerably weakened the old colonial states to such a degree that their colonies, one by one, began to push for independence, and achieved it. "Virtually all the states admitted (into the UN) after 1956 were newly independent states." (Jones) These states dramatically increased UN membership to where now the total is 159. (Jones, p. 538) Before the increase (pre-1957) in membership, the US could always count on being in the majority on every issue; now this is no longer the case. (Jones, p. 554) In the United Nations GA the Third World states took on a relatively independent course, for they would not ally themselves with either the US or the Soviet Union; rather the South attempted to draw world attention away from the East-West confrontation, and focus it on North-South issues, namely the concept of the haves and the have-nots.

The founding Fathers of the United Nations could never have anticipated the rapid push for statehood from the southern colonies, and the effect they would have on the voting system, and the agenda setting of the United Nations. "Clearly, if in 1945 the world political geographic division were parallel to today's, the UN Charter would have been markedly different, for even in the post-war years states acted in accordance with their own interests. As John W. Holmes remarked, regarding the diplomats at the San Francisco Conference in 1945, "I would suggest that the percentage of saints and sinners was not all that different from the present crop." (W.J.

Holmes, *Behind the Headlines: The United Nations in Perspective* p.2)

Considering the fact that the UN Charter was not written for today's world, and that the present voting system, in conjunction with the GA areas of jurisdiction, influence and authority amounts to a Western concession that would be unheard-of today, one can understand the Americans' seige mentality with regards to the General Assembly. On the other hand, the LDC's view the world differently.

To them they are the underdog who must go head to head with the all-powerful North. Therefore the South holds the opinion that since it did not participate in the drafting of the UN Charter, but instead accepted it as written, they should not have to relinquish or apologize for the benefits derived from it. It would be difficult to argue that either the Americans' or the South's argument is totally right or totally wrong, most would agree that both have some merit. Thus, in order to avoid a philosophical argument favouring either side, we must appeal to the facts of the present UN General Assembly voting structure, and the consequences that have resulted in the past as well as the possible future consequences.

The Third World majority in the General Assembly collectively asserted its demand for a new economic order by declaring the 1960's and 70's the First and Second Development Decade respectively; establishing the United Nations Conference on Trade and Development (UNCTAD) and the United Nations Industrial Development Organization (UNIDO) and by passing a resolution calling for the creation of a New International Economic Order (NIEO). Stephen D. Krasner in his paper, "Third World Vulnerabilities and Global Negotiation" commented on the South's push for these "institutions": he stated:

The programs put forth by the Third world can be seen as an effort to lessen vulnerability and weakness by altering the rules of the game in various international issue areas. These rules were largely established by the United States at the conclusion of the Second World War." (Art. p.426)

In 1962, after expressing great dissatisfaction with the IMF and GATT for not representing their views, the Third World states created via the GA the UNCTAD. This organization would voice the views of the South. It had an original membership of 120 nations (mostly LDC's) and was charged with the primary objective "to promote international trade and commerce with a principal focus on trade and balance of payment problems of developing nations." (Bennett, p. 257) The conference's principal demands from developed states were:

- 1) the stabilization of prices for primary commodities by international arrangement;
- 2) the lowering of tariffs and other

trade barriers on primary commodities;

3) the safe-guarding of the developing countries against adverse effects of the disposal of surplus agricultural products;

4) the provision for long-term loans, at low rates of interest repayable in local currencies or in goods;

5) loans and grants free of obligation to buy from the granting state, or to utilize their shipping and insurance facilities;

6) a net flow of aid from developed states equal to one per cent of their national income;

7) the encouragement of regional arrangements and integration among developing states as a means of promoting trade and economic growth;

8) and finally, special attention to the needs of the least developed among the LDC's." (Bennett)

In 1965 the General Assembly (once again mostly Third World states) approved the establishment of the UNIDO. The organization's primary objective was, "to accelerate the industrialization process in the developing countries with particular emphasis upon the manufacturing sector." (Bennett, p. 259) Its funds came from the UN regular budget, voluntary contributions, and grants from the United Nations Development Program (UNDP).

Its activities resided in the areas of research, training, pilot projects, surveys, technical aid, seminars, and data gathering analysis. The UNIDO also runs programs such as OPEX (Operational Executive and Administrative Personnel Services), which recruits high level administrators for government posts in LDC, who in turn train local personnel to replace them; and the United Nations Volunteers which recruits young people to aid in development programs. Clearly both UNIDO and UNCTAD illustrate the Third World's Power in the GA to create institutions beneficial to itself.

The success of these and other programs is evident upon examination of the UN budget in the past and present. During the 1983 1984 fiscal year, the UN budget (formal) amounted to about 1.5 billion dollars. (Jones, p. 556) In 1950 the UN specialized agencies received 40 million dollars additionally via voluntary contributions, whereas in 1983 additional contributions to the same agencies amounted to over one billion dollars. (Jones, p. 557) By the same token the UNDP budget in 1950 was eight million, today it exceeds two billion dollars. (Jones) Similarly the World Bank budget has increased from 500 million dollars in 1960 to well over 12 billion dollars in 1983. Considering that most of these funds go to aid the Third World one way or another, the major increase in development funds may be interpreted as a successful Southern force in the GA which has in part succeeded in its goal for greater resource transfer from the North to the South. As one source states: "With its voting majority in the General Assembly the Third World

"Tyranny of the Majority"

has made the advancement of industrialization the UN's first concern." (Jones, p.555)

Yet the Third World's demands for social economic justice are by no means over.

In 1974, the Group of 77 called for a special session of the GA in order to tackle the problem of raw materials and development. Out of this session came the cry for the New International Economic Order (NIEO). The committee held that the NIEO should be based on "equity, sovereign equality, common interest and co-operation among all states, irrespective of their economic and social systems." (Bennett, p.260)

The NEIO called for four basic points of action: the renegotiation of Third World Debt, redefining the terms of trade and access to markets, the preferential treatment of LDC exports via the lowering of tariff and non-tariff barriers by the West, and finally the attainment, on the part of the West, of UN Official Development Aid Target (0.7% of GNP). (Bennett, p. 255) All of these factors and more were outlined in the Charter on Economic Rights and Duties of States (CERDS) which was generated by the conference. It stands to reason that each of the areas addressed was to be revised in such a manner that the South would ultimately benefit. The Charter contains one article in particular which should be noted, Article 5:

All States have the right to associate in organizations of primary commodity producers and all States have the duty to respect that right by refraining from applying economic and political measures that would limit it. (T.T. Gati, *The U.S., The U.N., and the Management of Global Change* p.217)

As previously noted, most LDC's are primary commodity exporters, this article in essence allows Southern states to create commodity cartels, such as OPEC, and makes it "illegal" for other nations (mainly DC's) to do anything about it. Is it any wonder that the Western states such as the US refuse to recognize the NIEO.

By and large the United States has developed a negative, who-needs-it attitude towards to United Nations. Fundamentally, as the creation of UNCTAD, UNIDO and the NIEO have illustrated, the United States can no longer dominate the General Assembly, thereby using it as an instrument of its foreign policy, as it did in the early years of the organization. Quite frankly, America's global power is in decline, its loss of control over the GA to the Third World simply demonstrates the fact.

Overall, the American people and administrations have lost faith in the United Nations as an effective forum for American multilateral diplomacy. Instead, Americans view the United Nations General Assembly as an arena filled with anti-US, anti-West sentiments. American dissatisfaction with the UN, stemming from the GA's voting pattern, can be

illustrated with the US withdrawal of funds from the institution. For instance, in 1983 President Reagan announced that the US would withdraw from UNESCO on December 1st, 1984. The US justified its action by "charging the organization (UNESCO) with having politicized every issue and by allowing itself repeatedly to be used as a Third World, anti-West forum." (Jones, p. 562)

It should be noted that the US contributes 25 per cent of the total UNESCO budget a US withdrawal of funds would have a severe effect on UNESCO. (Jones, p. 564) Similarly, earlier this year the Reagan administration withheld a part of its annual membership contribution — as a protest to the organization's practices. In short, the US has lost its desire, at least for the time being, to conduct its business in the United Nations. This feeling is expressed by Charles

Lichenstein, a member of the US delegation at the United Nations, in his statement in the New York Times on September 20, 1983 (page 1).

"...the members of the US mission to the United Nations will be down at dockside waving you (the UN) a fond farewell as you sail into the sunset."

This is exactly the type of attitude all advocates of the United Nations system must fear. If nations, and especially the United States, choose unilateralism over multilateralism offered in the United Nations, the UN will quickly lose its effectiveness and wither away. This must not be allowed to happen. In order to prevent the erosion of the United Nations it must adopt new measures which will give it credibility. One such measure would be a revised voting system in the General Assembly.

The present voting system in

the GA is "unrealistic" because it grossly distorts the distribution of real power in the world. (H. Newcombe and T. Mahoney, *Alternative Pasts: UN Roll-Call Votes Under Weighted Voting* p.1) Under the present system states containing less than 12 per cent of the world's population could in theory form a two-thirds majority in the GA. The same can be achieved by states that represent less than five per cent of the world's wealth. This is unacceptable by any standard.

Numerous scholars have suggested dozens of weighted Voting formulae for the United Nations. Some formulas have been based on the square root and cube root of population, the cube cost of UN assessment, population and GNP logarithmic, the list is endless. Nevertheless, one thing is certain: the member states of the UN must devise some sort of vot-

ing formula which is equitable for all: failure on this matter can only spell doom for the United Nations. Understandably a United Nations which appears to be unjust to the United States, and other Western powers, will only increase state unilateralism and distrust in the UN system. This brings us back full circle to our original statement.

Is the General Assembly governed by the 'tyranny of the majority'? As I said at the beginning, this depends on one's perspective. Clearly the US's answer would be "yes", while the South would reply with a firm "no". Both sides have their merit. Fundamentally this question is intertwined with the notion of weighted voting, which in turn is all wrapped up in politics. In the final analysis, the survivability of the UN will depend on the political will of its 159 members.

Rewarding Positions

From p.1

the College.

The **director of Clubs and Services** is responsible for the Council's relations with all student organisations on campus. She (he) presents the concerns of all student clubs organisations to Council and advises these organisations in matters of budget, membership, sources of funding, etc. In addition, the director acts as a liaison between Council and

- 1) The Glendon College Food and Beverage Committee.
- 2) Residence Council.
- 3) Proctor Field House.
- 4) the Office of the Dean of Students.

The **director of Communications** is responsible for publicizing all events, function, elections, services, programmes, and announcements sponsored by the Council. The director assists student organisations in their efforts to communicate with the student body. In addition, this officer of the Council will endeavour to inform students of programmes and services available to them through the college.

The **director of Cultural Affairs** plans, organises, and administers all cultural activities directly sponsored by the Council. As such she (he) is responsible for organising seminars, lecture series, panel discussions and/or any other cultural and educational events sponsored by Council. The director acts as a liaison between the Council and the Glendon Gallery, Theatre Glendon and student theatre productions, and the *Maison de la Culture*.

The **director of External Affairs** aids and assists the president in the Council's dealings with the administration of York University and the Council of York Student Federation (CYSF), and maintains a liaison with other students' unions, associations, and organisations within York University, the director is responsible for relations between the council and national and provincial student organisa-

tion and between the Council and other students' unions, associations and organisations in Canada. He (she) shall endeavour to monitor the function of the Ministries of Education and Colleges and Universities with a view to keeping the Council informed of developments in post-secondary education at the governmental level.

Glendon students will also be asked to choose a student senator who acts as an advisor to the Council the Executive Committee on Senatorial Affairs will aid and assist the Executive Committee or any member of Council their dealings with the Senate or any of its committees. The senator also represents the students on Senate.

These executive positions involve a great deal of power, as well as certain privileges. Without a doubt those who win these positions on March 2nd and 3rd will be shouldering a great deal of responsibility and can expect to work hard next year. Those who will be stepping down from their positions of power claim that there is satisfaction in getting the job done and in becoming involved in the process of governing.

Letters continued

biggest cultural shock that hit them when they arrived in North America was its crass materialism, commercialism, where everything is valued in terms of money. The political culture of Europe, and even more so for Socialist countries, is quite different from that of North America. Most people can adapt easily but some, especially the most learned ones, reject the overly materialistic values of this continent and refuse to adapt.

If the only thing we can accept are praises for the greatness of our political and economical system and if we can't take criticism, especially when it is justified, how different are we from other systems that Stefan so vehemently condemns?

Further on, Stefan concludes that "our economic and political system is the beautiful result of five hundred years of liberal political philosophy — the most just and humane system of government in the history of

Man." This is quite a pre-tentious statement!

All the Western states Stefan is so ecstatic about are guilty of 500 years of bloody history, of treachery and murder. Has Stefan ever heard of "Bloody Mary" (not the drink!), of the religious wars, of the inquisition? How many people were beheaded in the name of "Liberty, Equality, Fraternity"? What about starvation to death of more than one million Irish by the opulent Great Britain in the 19th Century? What about the systematic extermination of 1.5 million Armenians in 1915-16? The "final solution" for about 6 million Jews just 40 years ago?

Closer to us, North America has a population of 1.75 million Indians and Inuits. 500 years ago, the native population was around 10 million (Funk and Wagnall's, 1984), the same population as England's in those days. These genocides and many others are also the "beautiful results" of our history. Of course, they don't justify the exterminations carried out by Stalin that Stefan mentioned, even if his figures are not correct (*The Harvest of Sorrow*, by Robert Conquest, Univ. of Alberta Press, 1986).

I just want to point out that all political systems are perfectible and that ours is not the paragon of them all.

Why feel hurt if Russian immigrants are disappointed by our system and decide to go back? Let's rather see this fact as an optimistic sign, as a proof that the political situation of the Soviet Union is really improving. If so, let's go to work and improve ours here. There is much to do.

Lajos Árendás

Classifieds

PERSONALS/ANNOUNCES PERSONNELLES

Jeanette and Anne at Winter's College: E & B met you at URPU Friday night. Please leave number at *Pro Tem* Office 487-6736

Steve:
We're both lucky! Happy Valentine's Day and Happy five months. Cathy

AVIS/ANNOUNCEMENTS

Can't get away for Reading Week? Go to the Mardi Gras dance February 27th, 9:00-1:00 in the Caf.

Vous ne pouvez pas voyager pendant la semaine de lecture? Allez à la danse Mardi Gras, le 27 février, 21 h 00-1 h 00.

No se puede ir de vacaciones para la semana de lectura. Vayan a la baila Mardi Gras el 27 feb., de las nueve a la una.

MICHAEL Brandwein, educational instructor, attorney, actor and writer will be giving a conference on March 7, 1987, on the topic of behaviour management. Ideal for teachers and others working with children. Further information available at the Education Office, C112.

PRODUCTION ERROR

I would like to apologize to Ernie Vlasic for the loss of his byline on the "Read This: The Gilmour Report" article.

Production manager
Neal Stephenson

Tournoi d'improvisation: Mission accomplie

par François Leblanc

Les 6 et 7 février derniers avait lieu à Glendon le Tournoi d'Improvisation réunissant les universités d'Ottawa et de Trois-Rivières ainsi que le Collège Glendon.

Il s'agissait d'une entreprise ambitieuse pour Trait d'Union, l'organisme francophone d'animation culturelle de Glendon. Une première au collège, sinon en Ontario. Il fallait donc s'attendre à des accrochages, des lacunes et des changements de dernière minute. Et soyons honnêtes, il y en a eu. Mais là n'est pas l'important.

1) Trait d'Union visait à créer des liens entre des universités francophones de l'Ontario et du Québec: mission accomplie.

2) Trait d'Union visait à faire connaître le collège en tant qu'institution bilingue: mission accomplie.

3) Trait d'Union nous a promis un tournoi où l'élément compétitif ne prévaudrait pas sur le caractère amical de ces rencontres: chapeau bas aux trois équipes participantes. Ces acrobates et jongleurs de sons, de mots et d'images ne formaient qu'une grande famille durant les parties. Encore une fois, mission accomplie.

Trait d'Union a donc atteint ses buts et les spectateurs ont eu droit, dans l'ensemble, à des rencontres d'improvisation de grande qualité. Au diable le reste!

RONDE PRÉLIMINAIRE

C'était l'occasion idéale d'évaluer

la force des équipes en présence. Ottawa (en jaune) s'établit favori, suivi de Trois-Rivières (en vert) et de Glendon (en rouge). Nos représentants se sont ressentis de l'absence remarquée de Pierre Allen, leur seul joueur avec de l'expérience en impro. Après avoir surpris Trois-Rivières en remportant leurs deux premières improvisations, nos portecouleurs ont perdu toutes celles qui ont suivies. Résultat: une défaite de 4-2 aux mains de Trois-Rivières et une dégelée de 5-0 face à Ottawa.

RONDE ÉLIMINATOIRE

La première rencontre oppose Glendon à Ottawa et une vingtaine de spectateurs ont bravé le confort de leur lit pour y assister. Pierre Allen est de retour dans l'équipe, ce qui semble leur donner confiance. Après une période, notre équipe mène en effet 3-1! Mis 20 minutes de jeu plus tard tout est à refaire alors qu'Ottawa profite de deux improvisations comparées (chaque équipe improvise à tour de rôle sur le même thème) en fin de période pour créer l'égalité 4-4. Ce sera d'ailleurs ce type d'improvisations qui aura laissé voir leur manque d'expérience: en effet, si Glendon a tenu son bout en improvisation mixte (deux équipes improvisent en même temps sur un thème) en compilant un dossier de 13 gains et 14 défaites, il n'en a pas été de même en improvisation comparée alors que l'équipe a

remporté deux victoires versus 11 défaites. C'est là que le tournoi s'est joué pour Glendon. Quelques points marqués en comparée auraient pu faire la différence entre une présence en finale et l'élimination. Mais comment expliquer ce piètre résultat en comparée?

Plusieurs explications sont plausibles mais il semble qu'en mixte, Glendon peut potentiellement utiliser et tourner à son avantage le talent et l'expérience de ses adversaires: en comparée, l'équipe doit compter sur elle-même, et c'est bien là que le manque d'expérience devient évident: l'impro démarre bien mais on manque de fini et d'idées vers la fin.

En troisième période, six impros mixtes permettent à Glendon de rester dans le match alors que la marque demeure égale 7-7. Glendon avait donc la chance d'y aller de la surprise du tournoi en gagnant l'improvisation supplémentaire, mais Ottawa se ressaisit et l'emporte 8-7.

La deuxième rencontre mettait aux prises Trois-Rivières et Ottawa à 13 h 30 et Ottawa doit à nouveau remonter des déficits, cette fois de 3-1 et 5-2 pour finalement l'emporter par le même pointage 8-7. La différence? Trois pénalités à l'équipe trifluvienne leur coûtent un point en fin de match. Défaite crève-coeur, qui amène des plaintes de certains joueurs de Trois-Rivières au sujet de la qualité de l'arbitrage...

À 16 heures, la troisième rencontre ramène Glendon sur la patinoire face à Trois-Rivières et tout est encore possible pour nos représentants: une victoire et on passe en finale! Ce fut une autre

partie très serrée qui se décidera à la dernière impro: Trois-Rivières l'emporte 8-7.

FINALE

Belle assistance pour la grande finale entre Trois-Rivières et Ottawa (environ 80 personnes). Il y a de l'ambiance. On peut même voir un dignitaire sur place en la personne du principal du collège, M. Philippe Garigue, qui effectuera plus tard la mise au jeu officielle. L'organiste est finalement sur place pour ajouter à l'atmosphère; on assiste à la présentation officielle des trois équipes, qui sont accueillies chaleureusement; suit l'interprétation des hymnes nationaux; les joueurs des deux équipes invitées lancent des fleurs dans l'assistance en signe de reconnaissance pour leur support tout au long du tournoi; et enfin, le coup de sifflet de l'arbitre qui annonce le début au match. Que les meilleurs gagnent!

Les deux équipes sont en grande forme ce soir: on assiste à d'excellentes improvisations et les spectateurs s'amuse, fin de la première période: 3-2 Ottawa. Trois-Rivières s'impose en deuxième période et crée l'égalité 5-5. Ça promet en troisième! Les deux équipes tentent de distancer l'autre mais en vain: la marque demeure égale à 8-8 après trois périodes de trente minutes réglementaires. Tout va donc se décider en supplémentaire!

L'arbitre en chef René Lemieux annonce l'impro: mixte, un joueur par équipe, durée 2 min. 30 s., catégorie rimée! Faut l'faire! Deux minutes et trente secondes plus tard, on fait le décompte des votes

: aucune des deux équipes n'a pu s'imposer clairement. L'arbitre demande les résultats au pointage: les verts (Trois-Rivières), 38 votes, les jaunes (Ottawa)... 39 votes! Trois-Rivières demande un recomptage, même résultat. Ottawa est champion! Les joueurs embrassent la coupe et la foule ovationne les deux équipes... On effectue les remerciements d'usage, les capitaines y vont d'un petit mot à leur tour et tout le monde applaudit à nouveau. On sent qu'elle en voudrait encore...

Aujourd'hui la poussière est retombée... le tournoi d'improvisation de Glendon n'est maintenant que souvenir. Et l'évidence nous saute aux yeux: pour ceux qui ont suivi le tournoi de près, les gagnants ne sont pas les représentants d'Ottawa et ils seront les premiers à le dire à qui voudra bien entendre. Les gagnants, ce sont tous ceux qui ont rendu possibles l'événement: les organisateurs bien sûr, mais aussi toute l'équipe de bénévoles qui a gravité autour d'eux. Et les équipes aussi: sans elles, rien ne serait arrivé. Et les spectateurs enfin, sans lesquels une rencontre d'improvisation perdrait sa raison d'être. L'avenir, personne ne peut le prédire. Mais il y a parié qu'il y aura des suites à ce tournoi. À l'an prochain!

OYEZ! On a besoin d'un assistant en photographie. Si vous êtes intéressé, communiquez votre intérêt aux bureaux de Pro Tem, 117 Pavillon Glendon ou discutez-en avec Neal Stephenson ou James Mitchell.

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New Release

by Kenneth A. Ross

Waiting for the Messiah: A Memoir. Irving Layton. Totem Press. 264 pages. \$8.95.

Waiting for the Messiah is Irving Layton's autobiography covering the years between his birth in 1912 and the advent of his becoming a major poet, 1948.

As many may know, the book is in some respects an answer to Elspeth Cameron's biography of Layton published in 1985. The manner in which Layton responded to the authorized biography is indicative of the complexities of the man. Before the work's release, Layton praised Cameron. When it was out he condemned Cameron of all sorts of transgressions, labelling her a WASP and anti-Semite among other things. The attack was silly and by anyone's reckoning, Layton made an ass out of himself. However, the publicity did not hurt book sales.

Cameron's book is excellent (but that will be another review). So what can Layton do to improve upon it? Layton's obvious ability to expand on his life is his advantage over Cameron; she could only touch upon certain aspects. Also, there are all sorts of fascinating incidents in Layton's life and

in those of the people close to him that can be explored in some detail.

Layton's ability to tell his own story is alternately enchanting and skeptical. Enchanting because his style is so clean and can make the reader feel what Layton is feeling. He can be a cool detached observer.

Despite differences of where the exact truth may lay, the book is an engrossing one, giving insight into a Montreal of another time. Especially interesting is the recounting of how poetry was developing in Montreal during the 1940's. It was a pivotal time when two schools of thought emerged: those who used Britain and such poets as T.S. Eliot, Thomas and Auden as a model and those who looked to America for inspiration. Layton belonged to the latter group.

While the "British" group (containing such poets as A.J.M. Smith, F.R. Scott, Patrick Anderson and P.K. Page) produced poetry that a passionate polemicist, witty, ribald and often touching. At the same time, of course, this is Layton's subjective view of his life, and as Cameron noted in her book, Layton changes the shape of reality to suit himself.

was almost indistinguishable from

their British influence, the "American" group (Layton, John Sutherland, Louis Dudek and Raymond Souster) used their model as a jumping-off point for forging a truly Canadian identity in poetry, and therefore in art generally.

For example, one of Layton's first published poems holds several layers of meaning: it is sardonically humorous, politically critical (written during WW II), and has sexual imagery and implications. (What, sex? In Canada you say?)

Lady Enfield

Lie down beside her, soldier,
And do but use her well,
And she can ease your
passion
With cries and powder smell.

Be reckless in your loving,
Her grace makes no one poor
For only bullet issue
From such an iron whore.
The development of Canadian poetry and that of Layton's is just one of the many wonderful things that happen in *Waiting for the Messiah*.

*Captain Fluke sayeth:
"The mutiny liveth on"*

divertissements

Le Système Ribadier: Mignon!

par Claudia Damecour

Jusqu'au premier mars, le Théâtre du Petit Bonheur présente une oeuvre de Georges Feydeau, *Le système Ribadier*. L'auteur a écrit la pièce en 1892 sous l'influence du Théâtre Vaudeville, style excessivement populaire au tournant du siècle et qui provoque, encore aujourd'hui, rires et sourires. Feydeau, maître du vaudeville, dépeint dans ses pièces ses contemporains et leurs moeurs, sur un ton à la fois satirique et humoristique.

La pièce *Le système Ribadier* met sur scène un couple, Monsieur et Madame Ribadier. Angèle, l'épouse, apprend que son premier et défunt mari conservait l'habitude d'exercer son devoir conjugal en dehors du lit conjugal. Toutes ses conjugaisons, maintenant découvertes, la rendent méfiante du moindre geste de son mari présent, M. Ribadier. Celui-ci maintient pourtant tout contrôle sur la situation puisqu'il possède le système Ribadier. Qu'est-ce que ce système, me demandez-vous? Et bien, si je vous le disais, je vous enlèverais le plaisir qu'entraînent la curiosité et la découverte.

Nous voici au point où je dois faire preuve d'analyse et de critique, chose à laquelle je ne suis aucunement habituée. Enfin, je plonge.

Au début de la représentation, je sentais un manque de fluidité

dans les échanges, problème qui a dû disparaître au cours de la pièce ou alors je m'y suis habituée. La performance de Paul Latreille dans le rôle de M. Ribadier gorgé de couleur et d'énergie et ce tout au long de la pièce. Quant à Diane Dubeau, qui jouait le rôle d'Angèle, elle retenait parfois son naturel mais a quand même su offrir un bon rendement de son rôle, peut-être à cause de ses robes tout à fait charmantes, qui retenaient mon attention sans cesse.

Le cocher, incarné dans la personne de Daniel Legault, n'apparaît que quelques minutes sur scène. Dommage, il m'a fait sourire plus que tout autre.

Le succès de la pièce est sans doute dû à un décor simple mais complet qui soutenait des jeux de scène comiques et divers.

Ayant déjà assisté à ce genre de comédie, je n'y trouvais que peu de nouveau: le mari triche l'épouse, elle s'en doute mais elle aime son époux. À cela s'ajoute l'éternel prétendant qui adore madame depuis toujours mais ne pourra l'avoir pour lui seul puisqu'elle est mariée... et pour l'instant malheureuse... La personne qui ne doit absolument pas entendre une certaine conversation l'entend et la personne qui ne devrait surtout pas apparaître à un certain moment apparaît. Les rebondissements qui en résultent ont probablement servi

d'inspiration pour les émissions telles «Three's Company».

La fin doit, par convention, s'avérer morale et heureuse, ce qui enlève beaucoup au «suspense». L'intérêt d'assister à une telle production réside donc dans le comique des personnages et de leurs jeux de scène dans lesquelles explosent leurs embarras. J'avoue avoir souri souvent et ri plus d'une fois. Le sentiment de nostalgie envers l'époque victorienne et l'observation des moeurs de ce temps attirent aussi l'attention du spectateur.

Donc, pour une soirée légère et drôle, *Le système Ribadier* est à conseiller, mais vous risquez de vous ennuyer si le vaudeville vous est déjà trop familier. Ne vous attendez pas au grand confort, la salle étant petite et aménagée pour pouvoir accueillir le plus grand nombre d'adeptes possible. Les biscuits délicieux et le cidre succulent offerts à l'entracte représentent un atout indéniable à la soirée. Ne vous attendez pas à voir M. Garigue à la représentation, il y a assisté le même soir que moi.

Pendant l'entracte, j'ai tiré l'oreille aux conversations qui m'entouraient, habitude déplorable que j'entretiens depuis des années, et j'ai perçu une remarque très à propos: une anglophone (eh oui!) s'est attardée à décrire la pièce comme étant «cute» mignonne.



Reading Week Fare

by Lajos Árendás

India is one of the largest film-producing countries in the world today. Yet many Westerners have little access to these films and for the most part, retain an image of India as the exotic imperial outpost of the late British empire, as depicted in such western films as David Lean's *Passage to India* and Richard Attenborough's *Ghandi*.

The Royal Ontario Museum and the Art Gallery of Ontario will seek to address this imbalance by offering a joint programme of feature and documentary films by both Western and Indian filmmakers such as Satyajit Ray and Shyam Benegal.

If you are a member of Festival, you might have seen some of the feature movies of Ray, one of the best film directors not only in India but also in the world. Two of his movies were shown recently at the Bloor Cinema: *Two Daughters* (1961) and *Distant Thunder* (1973).

Unlike many U.S. productions full of action, Ray's characters are very sensitive, human. Although the emotions are deep, they are not expressed in the primitive way of shouting and screaming. Instead, they are shown in a very subtle way (merci Liane!) with the result that you don't "see" the emotions, you "feel" them. In other words, Ray's movies touch your heart much more than most American *Rambo* or *Exterminator* type of productions.

When seeing movies as the ones shown by the ROM and the AGO,

one realizes that people around the world are brothers, that we all have basically the same problems.

If you want to understand better the problems of an underdeveloped country and more specifically of India, go and see the next shows. You won't regret it!

Unfortunately, this article comes a bit late, as a few films have already been presented. Still, you have quite a few more to choose from before the end of the month: take advantage of your reading week.

All tickets are \$3.00, available at the door one-half hour before showtime. Use the South entrance located near the Museum subway exit for the films shown at the ROM.

Here is a list of the movies shown in the near future:

Sunday Feb. 15

1:00 pm *Devi (Goddess)* (1960/ Ray/93 min.) at the AGO

3:00 pm *Two Daughters* (1961/ Ray/110 min.) at the AGO

7:30 pm *Aparajito* (1956/ Ray/ 108 in.) at the ROM

Apu's family moves to Benares on the banks of the Holy Ganges in the second episode of the trilogy. In this tale of coming of age, Apu encounters adolescence, education and the death of his parents amidst the unfamiliar bustle of city-living.

Sunday Feb. 22

1:00 pm *Company Limited* (1971/ Ray/112 min.) at the AGO

3:00 pm *Garm Hava* (1973/ Sathyu/136 min.) at the AGO

7:30 pm *Apur Sansar* (1959/ Ray/ 103 min.) at the ROM

The final episode of the trilogy is a

love story, which again stands on its own. Apu falls in love with his teenage bride, Aparna, but as we have seen in Apu's world, nothing precious lasts. "...the love story is surely one of the most exquisitely observed and acted in all film history." (*Guardian*) "If ever there has been a humanist work for an alien culture completely accessible to Occidentals, this is it." (*Berkeley Cinema*).

If you want to ascertain (merci Liane) that your knowledge of India is correct, go and see this last movie. I would not dare say that you will have the same kind of experience as Afsun's in last week's *Pro Tem*, but it still might be qualified as "mindblowing".

For further information, call the AGO Centre at 977-0414 (ext. 261) or the ROM at 586-5549 during office hours.

Horror Entertaining

by Tim Inkpen

Little Shop of Horrors (1986). Directed by Frank Oz.

In 1963 Roger Corman made an unassuming little picture called *The Little Shop of Horrors*. It was made in two and a half days (most pictures take over a year to film) with a script made up literally as it was being filmed. A few years ago someone got the bright idea of making a Broadway musical out of the film. The Broadway production became a huge hit. So coming full circle, we now have the musical film *The Little Shop*

of Horrors.

Having seen neither the original film nor the Broadway musical I can only judge the new version on its own merits. These are considerable. Taken for what it is, a light-hearted spoof of the late 50's/early 60's, the film does its job very well. Frequently hilarious, there's barely a moment that one is not at least chuckling. The performances are top notch. Rick Moranis is pleasantly restrained as the luckless Seymour who finds himself "baby-sitting" what soon turns out to be a man-eating plant.

Les intéressés doivent envoyer une photo récent, un court résumé des activités de plein air qu'ils pratiquent et une lettre qui explique pourquoi ils désirent participer à la production de la série *avant le 23 février* à :

Aventure plein air
TVOntario
C.P. 200,
Succursale Q,
Toronto (Ontario)
M4T 2T1

Attention: les documents ne seront pas renvoyés aux candidats et un nombre limité de participants sera retenu. Pour plus de renseignements, vous pouvez également contacter Jacques Vallée, au (416) 484-2600, poste 2265.

Le 23 février... la date limite approche, alors n'hésitez plus: voilà en effet votre chance de vivre une expérience unique tout en partageant vos connaissances et votre propre expérience. Il n'en tient qu'à vous!

Levi Stubbs (of the 4 Tops) is perfect as the voice of Audrey II (as the plant is dubbed). Best of all is Steve Martin's performance as a sadistic dentist.

Director Frank Oz (voice of Miss Piggie, Yoda, as well as the director of *The Dark Crystal*) reveals himself to be incomplete control of the material. He clearly knows what sort of effect he wants and how to achieve it. Except for a couple of brief scenes of self-indulgence Oz manages to keep the film going. In sum *The Little Shop of Horrors* offers a lot of entertainment.

The Real World

IS THIS THE REAL WORLD?
THEN STOP IT. I WANT TO
GET OFF!

by Susan Gillen

Did my years at Glendon prepare me for "life after university"? Interesting question. The courses I took had no direct relevance to my eventual career, first as a film producer, and more recently as a mother. In fact, I doubt that anything could prepare one for the latter.

Anyway, I entered Glendon with no vision of the path I wanted my life to take, and consequently chose my route with no destination in mind. Basically I was a sightseer steering a course guided by my interests and admittedly usually taking the shortest, safest path. When my interest was sparked I'd take a detour.

It was on one of these detours an all-encompassing involvement in the Dramatic Arts Programme under Michael Gregory and Beth Hopkins, that I began to see the sort of shape my life might take once the academic journey was over.

And so I graduated, four years later, with an Honours B.A., major in English, minor in metaphor.

If there was one gift university gave me on graduation it was the ability to handle pressures and schedules. Years of dealing with exam and essay time panic has left me a nasty legacy. As soon as the first March thaw hits I'm overcome by an incredible guilt if I should express so much as a hint of enjoyment of the lovely spring sunshine. I daren't pick up a novel or magazine without thinking I should be "studying" something heavy and erudite.

I also have a recurring nightmare. It's eleven o'clock at night and my roommate informs me that next morning we have an exam for a course I have forgotten I was registered in.

Even at the pinnacle of my career as a film producer (by this

point I had switched allegiance from theatre to film being unsuited to the molelike existence of anyone totally dedicated to theatre) the incredible pressure, as millions of dollars of investors' money depended on meeting impossible time and budget constraints, couldn't hold a candle to "end-of-term" stress.

During my years at university I lived on campus (and in fact did so for several years afterwards as a don while I did graduate work at U of T and broke into the notoriously badly paid film industry.) An oft-flung criticism was that residence students were living in a cocoon, trying to escape from the real world. Well, now that I have lived an equal number of years in that so-called real world, I can see just how wrong they were.

In most cases it was sour grapes on the critic's part - the Glendon "country club" has to be one of the most idyllic locations in Toronto, right now I'd give anything to have an art gallery, pub, library and athletic club within a two minute walk of my front door. And the fact that all that was surrounded by a ravine, river, formal rose garden and professional landscaping within ten minutes of downtown Toronto was enviable to say the least.

And I defy anyone to come up with a "neighbourhood" anywhere that is more diversified than a university residence (particularly at Glendon in the late 60's). Never again can I hope to stand side by side, brushing my teeth with such a wide variety of income levels, ethnic backgrounds, religious persuasions and sexual inclinations.

The comfortable North Toronto neighbourhood in which I now live is far less representative of the real world than a university residence will ever be. I hope my own children will decide to live on campus and broaden their horizons when the time comes.

Perhaps the most valuable les-

son of university can only be seen in retrospect. The university years are very self-indulgent and hedonistic. (No wonder the decade after the largest single group - the baby-boomers - passed through the university system was known as the "me" generation).

At no other time will you be able to devote so much time pursuing your own interests and achieving your own goals. Eventually, when esconced in a career and family the "group" interests and goals take time away from the individual pursuits. I thank God now that I had five years to really indulge myself; to find out where my interests lie; the kind of music I prefer to listen to (thanks to Alain Baudot); hours to think and develop ideas and concepts and values that will carry me through life.

I sometimes miss those times and my memories of them form an oasis in the madness of my present existence as an at-home mother of two small children. But

had I not had the experience I doubt that I could be as selfless as a mother often must be.

One thing that I enjoyed immensely at university and will never get accustomed to not having is time alone in the bathroom. Some of my best thinking and essay planning took place there. With small children time in the bathroom involves intricate scheduling getting each child occupied with a toy or game and then a mad dash upstairs, shut the door and then "MUMMY" echoes up two floors through the hot air register. Oh, for a cubicle in Hilliard where you could be dead for days before they discovered you.

So my advice to Glendon students today: Don't worry too much about which courses you take, what your major is, just enjoy your choice. Every once in a while take a good book and your walkman and lock yourself in a cubicle for a few hours. Ten years from now you'll be glad you did.

A St. Valentine Message

from Ernie Vlasic

She told me about a youth who had fallen in love with a star. He stood by the sea, stretched out his arms and prayed to the star, dreamed of it, made it the object of all his thoughts. But he knew, or thought he knew, that a star could not be embraced by a mortal being. He considered it to be his fate to love a star without any hope of fulfillment, and on this conception he founded a poetic philosophy of renunciation, torment and silent suffering that would refine and cleanse him. But all his dreams were directed to the star. Once he stood on the high cliff at night by the sea and contemplated the star and burned with love for it. And in a moment of great longing he leaped into

space towards the star. But just as he leapt the thought flashed through him, "this is impossible!". There he lay on the shore, shattered. He had not understood how to love. If at the moment of jumping he had possessed a sure and steadfast faith in the fulfillment of his love he would have soared into the air and have been united with the star...

"Love must not entreat," she added, "nor demand. Love must have the power to find its own way to certainty. Then it ceases merely to be attracted and begins to attract. Your love, Sinclair, is attracted by me. When it begins to attract me, I will come."

I will not bestow a gift; I must be won."

Hermann Hesse

Faces

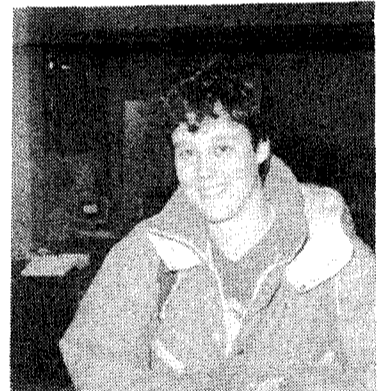
"What do you think should be done about the Rill (food) situation?"



Lisa Hill, 4th year History
"There is only one answer: EXTERMINATE RILL. BEFORE RILL EXTERMINATES US!"



Nancy Hamer, 4th year History
"La nourriture Rill, c'est une blague"



Nancy Yeandle, 4th year History
"Let's take the Rill situation and turn it into a real situation and make it into a summer work project."



Two fortunate survivors of Rill food
"We twins think that Norm Crandles should be tied to a chair and force-fed 'Rill Swill' for a week, complete with mouldy cutlery."

Written and photographed
by James Mitchell

Have a good Reading week and see you on Wednesday the 25th of February
Passez une bonne semaine de lecture et au revoir le 25 février.

Avis / Notice

The following people are eligible to vote for the editor-in-chief for the 1987/88 term. If you think you might be eligible but your name does not appear on the list contact Judy Hahn at Pro Tem (487-6736).

Les personnes suivantes sont autorisées à participer à l'élection du (de la) rédacteur(trice) en chef de Pro Tem pour la session 1987/88. Si vous pensez que vous pourriez être éligible pour voter mais que votre nom n'apparaît pas sur la list, contactez Judy Hahn aux bureaux de Pro Tem (487-6736)

Lajos Árendás
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Cathy da Costa
Claudia Damecour
Captain Fluke
Andrew Forbes
Veronica Gaylie

Lisa Henderson
Tim Inkpen
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Mike Loop
Louise McCaffrey
James Mitchell
Marie-Claude Petit
Afsun Qureshi
Steve Roberts
Kenn Ross
Teri Sereda
Neal Stephenson
Ernie Vlasic

Si vous êtes intéressé(e) à poser votre nomination pour ce poste, vous pouvez le faire jusqu'au 24 février. L'élection aura lieu lors de la réunion hebdomadaire de Pro Tem, le jeudi, 26 février à 19 h 00 au 117 Pavillon Glendon.

Nominations are being accepted for this position until Tuesday, February 24. Voting will take place at the staff meeting at 7:00 p.m. 117 Glendon Hall Thursday February 26.

Radio Glendon's Top Tenz

for the week ending Feb. 6/87

"THAT WAS THE WEEK THAT WAS"

ALBUMS
Express
Album
The Whole Story
The Passive Nymphettes
Mania
Brotherhood
So
Mauve
Oil and Gold
Please

ALBUMS
Rise
Bizarre Love Triangle
The Future's So Bright...
I'm Not Perfect But...
Part of Me Now
Goldrush
Big Mouth Strikes Again
American Singer
Gone Daddy Gone
8:15 to Nowhere

ARTIST
Love and Rockets
PIL
Kate Bush
Violent Femmes
The Lucy Show
New Order
Peter Gabriel
Bündock
Shreikback
Pet Shop Boys

ARTIST
PIL
New Order
Timbuk 3
Grace Jones
The Lucy Show
Yello
Smiths
Bündock
Violent Femmes
Vicious Pink

