

**p r o t e m**

**38<sup>e</sup> année**

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Journal bilingue de Glendon

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pro tem

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## letters to the editor

To the editors,

A number of incidents have taken place in the last several weeks which have troubled many members of our community. And that's why I feel compelled to say something about unrealistic swaggers. Woe to the childish wicked-types who produce precisely the alienation and conflict needed to dispense outright misinformation and flashlight-under-the-chin ghost stories! In plain language, in times of economic, social, or political crisis, small groups that propound ideas that are widely perceived as representing outright post-structuralism suddenly gain a mass following. Miss A. Kougiass' claims are pure tripe. And that's the honest truth

Sincerely,  
R. U. Kidding.

#### My complaint about Pro Tem

I feel I must assert my freedom to comment on an important public issue that Pro Tem has thrust into the vortex of public comment. Note that some of the facts I plan to use in this letter were provided to me by a highly-educated person who managed to escape Pro Tem's lawless crass indoctrination and is consequently believable. It is incumbent upon all of us to confront his rantings head-on. His subordinates, when they are taken seriously at all, are considered by most scholars to be of questionable credibility. Am I saying that expansionism, in this case, is a tactic tied to a broader strategy of granting Pro Tem the ability to cast the world into nuclear holocaust? Yes. That

there's a distinction to be made here? Maybe. That there is a cost, a cost too high to calculate, for messing with the lives and livelihoods of thousands of people? Definitely.

Whenever someone tells him not to drag everything that is truly great into the gutter, Pro Tem gets all teary-eyed. My, my; how sad. My heart bleeds for him, it really does. By toning down his generalizations, many more people are exposed to his illiterate message, convinced by his simplistic answers to complex social problems. You might not care that his toadies lie about their philosophies, and then, when we're all convinced that no harm will be done, they violate strongly-held principles regarding deferral of current satisfaction for long-term gains, but you'd better start caring if you don't want him to force me to undergo "treatment" to cure my "problem". Let me mention again that his acolytes do not concern themselves much with the people around them.

All that we have achieved may now be lost, if not in the bright flames of cynicism, then in the dense smoke of the intemperate maneuvers promoted by asinine punks. Consequently, before bothering us with his next batch of nugatory nostrums, Pro Tem should review the rules of writing a persuasive essay, most notably the one about sticking to the topic the writer establishes. This is not the same as saying that he has failed to provide us with a context in which his demands could be discussed and understood, although that, too, is true. Experience should probably

indicate that society should recognize that he should do some research next time before printing half-truths and misinformation. Oddly enough, given the public appetite for more accountability, Pro Tem and his sycophants pay little or no attention to the negative impact that interventionism will have on our daily lives. People should just treat each other with decency and respect. And that's the honest truth.

A dedicated reader

#### My complaint about Ms. Suzanne McCullagh

Recent troubling developments prompt me to revisit a subject I've discussed in the past: Ms. Suzanne McCullagh and her plan to respond to this letter with hyperbolic and uncorroborated accusations and assaults on free speech. I want to share this with you because Ms. McCullagh maintains control over her confreres using intense peer pressure, manipulation of their guilt feelings, attacks on their sexuality, and fear. She maintains that she never engages in duplicitous, huffy, or besotted politics. Even if this were so, Ms. McCullagh would still be fastidious. But Ms. McCullagh is burdened with a dead weight of the most irrational conceptions and prejudices. Here's an extraordinary paradox: All of the stuck-up dipsomaniacs who shouldn't be allowed to pit people against each other invariably want to. We need the space and autonomy to fight the

wisecracks that hurt us.

While I don't question Ms. McCullagh's motives, and I certainly understand the frustrations of her buddies, all of her agendas share elements of traditional, clueless conspiracy themes in which patronizing untrustworthy-types secretly work hand-in-glove with infernal devil-worshippers. There is no question that almost every discussion of anarchism ignores the critical importance of Ms. McCullagh's presumptuous inclinations. No matter how close she's come to making me hang myself by the neck until dead, Ms. McCullagh won't be satisfied until she finds a way to confuse the catastrophic power of state fascism with the repression of an authoritarian government in our minds. She is not just stupid. She is unbelievably, astronomically stupid. Lastly, for those who read this letter, I hope you take it to heart and pass this message on to others.

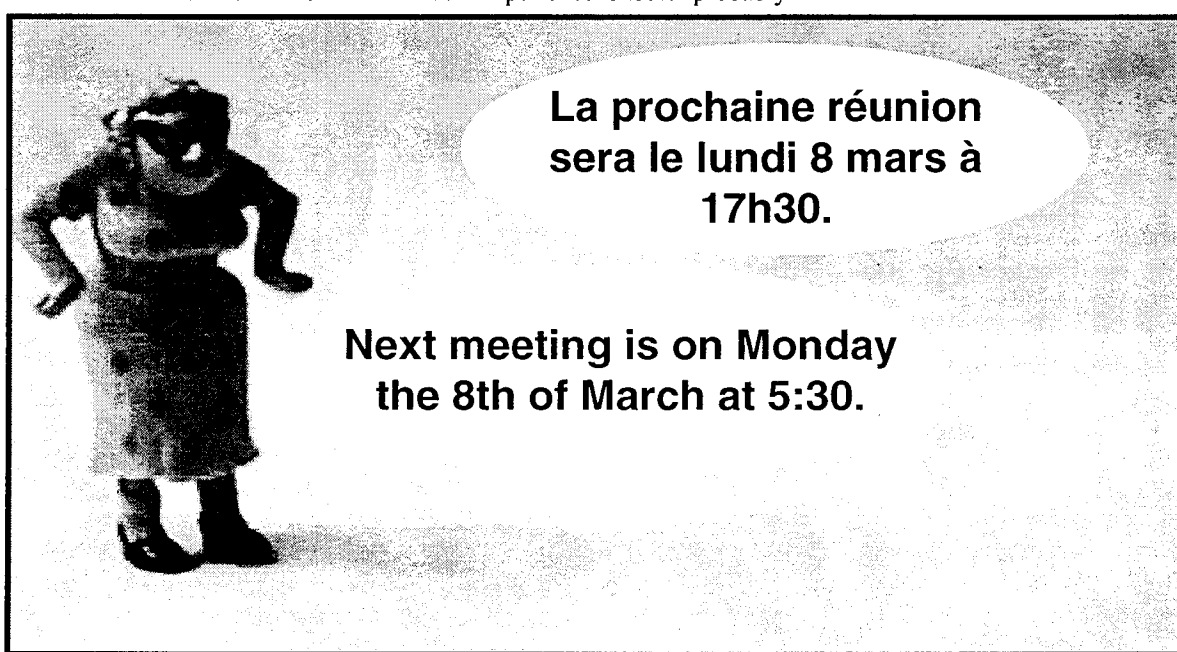
DEAR C.G.W.,

I don't care what you look like. You have the right to dress and act as you like; so do I. Everyone is different. I'm in shape and concerned with feeling good about myself and leading a healthy lifestyle - that's my choice. I attempt to dress in clothes that make me feel good - so can you. I have no act - I am just as real as you claim to be. Our physical appearances do not make us opposites; if you weren't so bitter you could see that we have a lot in common. I look at you the same way as I look at everyone else.

I do not consider you a waste of life. The fact that this thought ever crossed your mind just accentuates your own insecurities. I don't expect you to want to be like me and I don't want to be like you. You know very little about me. Yes, guys may gawk over me and I may get a lot of attention, but I'm not naive enough to take such things seriously. It's not the only kind of attention I get. I enjo@s xuality, but it is a minor part of my life. If someone is treating me as a sex object, I am intelligent enough to recognize it and not put up with it. I don't allow guys to treat me in any way that I shouldn't be treated; your attitude shows that perhaps you perpetuate some of your own negative, shitty stereotypes.

The question around body image for me is why people like you feel inadequate around people like me. The media seriously influences a society; I'm smart enough not to see media images as requirement. - I may resemble the media image more closely than you, but the only image I comply to is one that I've chosen for myself based on my own well-being. The thing that you don't realize is that I am just as intelligent

Continued on next page...



**La prochaine réunion  
sera le lundi 8 mars à  
17h30.**

**Next meeting is on Monday  
the 8th of March at 5:30.**

**Vous avez des commentaires. Faites-les nous parvenir par  
courrier électronique (E-Mail). Notre adresse:  
[protem@delphi.glendon.yorku.ca](mailto:protem@delphi.glendon.yorku.ca)**

**Any comments? Send them to us by E-Mail. Our address:  
[protem@delphi.glendon.yorku.ca](mailto:protem@delphi.glendon.yorku.ca)**

as you; I know where beauty is found. What I'm trying to say is you have no right to judge me without knowing me, 'ust as I have never judged you before this letter. Despite what you may think, your attitude suggests that you are bitter and unhappy. I don't expect you to envy me because of the way I look, but because I am healthy and happy. I do not look down on you. My personal choices are my business. The fact that you feel inadequate around people like me suggests that you really are jealous and that perhaps you should re-evaluate your

position on this issue.

C.M.B

To the members of the Glendon College Student Union at York University,

I am writing on behalf of the Ryerson Students' Administrative Council to encourage you to vote Yes in the upcoming referendum to become members of the Canadian Federation of Students (CFS).

Students at Ryerson Polytechnic University, local 24, are active

members in the CFS. We participate in Federation campaigns and benefit from the Federation's quality research and lobbying efforts. Through the Federation we also have the opportunity to communicate with and learn from the experiences of other member campuses across the country.

In the face of massive federal funding cutbacks, and the attacks on education from the current provincial government, we believe it is more important than ever for students to be organized effectively at the

national and provincial level. The Canadian Federation of Students provides students at Ryerson Polytechnic University with a strong voice in Ottawa and at Queen's Park and we are confident CFS will do the same for members of the Glendon College Student Union at York University.

In addition to effective representation and campaigns, thousands of Ryerson Polytechnic University students benefit from CFS services by receiving the International Student Identity Card

(ISIC) at no cost, the Student Saver local discount card, and discount travel through Travel Cuts, which is owned by the CFS.

We firmly believe students across Canada benefit when their student unions are united in a democratic and bilingual federation. We hope that you will continue to work with students at Ryerson Polytechnic University and across the country by voting Yes to the Canadian Federation of Students.

In Solidarity, Erin George  
VP Education President-Elect



## The Macmedia controversy continues...

I just received an e-mail from the Graduate Students Association at York University and while I understand the nature of your position I feel that some very important issues are being overlooked. I am forwarding a copy of the letter on this very same topic that I sent last month to the York Federation of Students, the Women's Centre and the Office of Student Affairs. I think that it illustrates some of the points which seem to have been left out of the discussion.

By the way, is that not what is needed? Discussion. Precisely because we are a university that professes to foster and protect its community members.

Having read the issue of MacMedia in question I am surprised and more than a little alarmed at the reaction to it. I think it was quite obvious that the column was a joke, admittedly of poor taste, and not a prescription for a certain type of behavior. Furthermore the text was as degrading to men as it was to women. Why then is it being proclaimed to be anti-woman?

I sincerely hope that the entire issue of the paper was read before you made your decision to support the censorship of the contents. In my experience with this particular debate it has been the case that

many of those who are supporters of the YFS have not even seen the paper. This is not acceptable.

I encourage you to respond to my letter in order to continue the DISCUSSION.

Suzanne McCullagh

To Whom it May Concern,

This letter is to express our disapproval with the poster campaign launched by the York Federation of Students against MacMedia.

There are numerous problems surrounding the actions that were taken. Firstly the procedure to raise awareness about controversial subject matter lacked credibility for three very important reasons. It lacked due process, it provided misinformation and it was libelous.

The poster campaign was extremely inappropriate. The editor of the paper was not informed of the problems that the YFS had with the content prior to the distribution of the posters. Simply put, the posters were unfair, they did not give the paper a chance to defend its position.

The posters decontextualized the articles. This decontextualization arguably lead those who had not read the paper to a misinformed opinion about what the actual content was. It may be said then, that the poster campaign presented misinformation.

Lastly, the poster campaign was libelous. The names of the editors were printed on the posters instead of the name of the paper.

Pro tem is a member of the free press. The actions taken against the editor of MacMedia mocked freedom of the press, specifically editorial autonomy. As members of the free press we must defend editorial autonomy and ask that those disagreeing with the content of any paper use appropriate means of action to express their disapproval. Appropriate means of action would be things like writing a letter to the editor, calling the paper, sending an e-mail and after this point if the 'problem' still exists and some kind of campaign were deemed necessary it would be against the paper and not the editor. The editor's name should not be used.

I hope that you take these things into serious account.

-pro tem

The members of the Council of the Graduate Students' Association, which represents students and workers at York University, are outraged and shocked by the sexist images and representations which appeared in recent issues (October,

November and December) of the McLaughlin College newspaper MACMEDIA. The words, images and representations found, primarily in the Humour and Horoscope sections, are offensive and oppressive to women. In written text the author objectifies women and their bodies in a sexual, violent and oppressive nature. The language found in MACMEDIA constructs women purely as sex objects for male use and sexual gratification. Images found in MACMEDIA also suggest that the only way women, specifically lower income mothers, can provide for their dependents is through the sexual gratification of males. As students and workers of this university we are ashamed and appalled that these representations can be found in an institution like York; an institution that strives to foster a positive, comfortable and safe atmosphere in which all individuals can study and work.

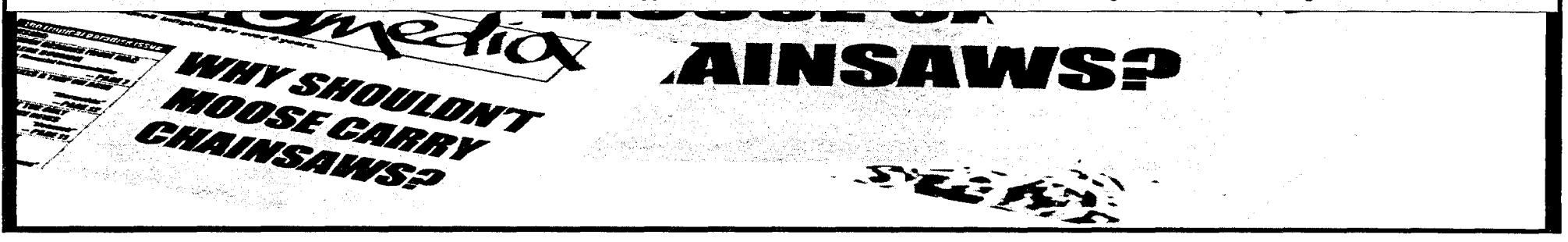
We publicly support and endorse the December 1998 poster campaign of the York Federation of Students that criticized MACMEDIA for these sexist attitudes. We thereby support the opinion of YFS that the editor of the paper, the writer of the articles, the McLaughlin College Council and the McLaughlin Master's office are responsible and must be accountable for their actions.

The GSA recognizes that the

Office of Student Affairs facilitated a complaints resolution process amongst the appropriate parties which resulted in a published apology from the editor of MACMEDIA and substantive changes to the paper's publication board composition and procedures. These are encouraging though incomplete results. We encourage the university administration to offer the York community a full accounting of events to date on this matter, on the status of the remaining complaints, and consider the following further actions: that all members of the newspaper and publication board attend annual anti-oppression training conducted by an internal or external representative of York University, that the editor and the author responsible for the humour and horoscope section be asked to resign, and, in the event that these further responses are not taken, that the university move to convene a university disciplinary tribunal on these matters.

We have previously presented our views on these matters to MACMEDIA, YFS, McLaughlin College Council Office, McLaughlin College Master's Office, and President Marsden.

For verification and further information, contact: Diane Naugler 736-5865.



# Education ministers set course for post-secondary education

Source: Excalibur  
By Derek Chezzi

**TORONTO (CUP) — The Canadian Council of Ministers of Education has come up with national guidelines on post-secondary education in what one minister calls "groundbreaking work."**

In a report issued last week, the council took the first step in a public policy discussion on the future of post-secondary education.

Members from nine provinces and one territory participated in the discussions. Quebec and Yukon chose to observe only.

The document, two years in the making, comes as a result of previous consultations among the provinces dating back to their 1993 Joint Declaration of Council of Ministers of Education.

"Canadians have very high expectations for post-secondary education today," said Maynard Sonntag, minister of post-secondary education in Saskatchewan, who led discussions around the report.

"My colleagues and I believe that this document ... provides a balanced and effective statement of what those expectations are."

The report's major objective

outlines measures for gauging a university's performance, moving away from traditional methods that looked at dollars spent per student, library holdings per student and external research grants.

Areas highlighted by the report include:

- o Governments and institutions must work together to ensure high-quality education through teaching, learning and research environments.

- o Accessible post-secondary education throughout an individual's lifetime.

- o Making credits transferable for students switching programs, institutions and jobs.

- o Contributing to society's cultural, social and economic development through relevant post-secondary research and scholarship.

- o Reaffirming that post-secondary institutions and governments are accountable to the

public and students, and that resources be allocated to achieve a sustainable education.

While most observers agree the discussion itself was a step forward, they disagree on its outcome.

Student groups, while applauding the ministers' commitment to post-secondary education, remain wary of the report.

Jennifer Storey, national deputy chair for the Canadian Federation of Students, says the document reflects some of the issues the organization has been lobbying around for nearly two decades. However, she is concerned with linking a university's performance with its graduates' ability to find work.

"There's a lot of pressure right now, particularly in Ontario, to link the employability of graduates to the quality of the education received," she said, adding there are many other factors affecting a student's employment status.

Storey also says that to ensure quality education, governments,

both federal and provincial, must reinvest the money she says they've cut from post-secondary education to fight the deficit.

"We won't be able to achieve any national standards without increased funding," she said.

David Scott, a spokesman with the Council of Ontario Universities, says the association, which represents 19 universities across the province, is supportive of the report.

"Anytime the ministers endorse what we do is beneficial," he said, adding the council has always supported the idea of performance indicators, but adds they must not be implemented without proper consideration.

"We have to proceed with caution right now because a small university in Northern Ontario is very different from a large urban university in Toronto."

Scott said the council supports the idea of institutions developing their own indicators of quality of assessing themselves.

York University president Lorna Marsden said she agrees with the

general principles found in the report, but adds the onus is now on the provinces to implement them.

"It remains to be seen how the province will respond," she said.

But experts are cynical of the report and its eventual impact. Glen Jones, a professor of higher education at the University of Toronto's Ontario Institute of Studies in Education, says movement on the issue is hindered by the constitutional arrangement and relationship among provinces.

He adds the report sets out broad guidelines without establishing a concrete course of action for achieving those goals.

"My suspicion is that it's very difficult to go too much farther without discussion of appropriate mechanisms and structures to accomplish that," said Jones.

Storey said that the report is only a first step and much work needs to be done before any results will be seen.

"There's a long way to go before anything in there becomes set in stone," she said.

## Evictions soar in Toronto with 30,000 evicted

Source: Varsity  
By Carla Tonelli and Andrew Sunstrum

**TORONTO (CUP) — Students are outraged to hear that more than 30,000 Ontarians have been evicted from their homes since the provincial government brought in the new Tenants Protection Act last June.**

Dreading the worst for students who frequently move from apartment to apartment, activists last summer predicted that the loosening of legislation for landlords to hike rents and then evict tenants would be bad news for students.

Under the Tenants Protection Act, a landlord may hike the rent on any empty unit to whatever price he deems fit.

Applications for eviction filed by landlords from June 1997 to June 1998 totaled 65,050. That figure rose by 550 to an estimated 65,600, expected for June 1999.

"It's really depressing," said Jane Harvey, a telephone councillor for the Federation of Metro Tenants' Associations.

She says about 100 people call every day to ask for advice with how to deal with threats of eviction and landlord harassment, problems exacerbated by the deregulation of rent rates.

"[The Tenant Protection Act] has definitely worsened the situation," she said. "Now there is

more power for landlords to enforce evictions. Our phone is ringing all day long with people calling who are terrified, facing eviction. It's really terrible, and there's nothing we can do."

University of Toronto student Naomi Savage was evicted last month when her landlord took her to the Housing Tribunal so he could use her apartment for personal use.

Savage is outraged that it was so easy for her landlord's wishes to be approved by the tribunal, which is staffed by provincial government appointees, not judges as was the case before the introduction of the Tenants' Protection Act.

"When we were at the tribunal it was very shocking to me to see the rate at which tenants were being evicted," she said, adding that at least four other people were evicted the same day as she was.

In addition, the added bureaucracy at the tribunal makes it especially difficult for immigrants or students without

legal aid to make heads or tails of the system.

There has been a 15 per cent rise in evictions in Toronto alone since the new legislation was brought in last summer, says the Toronto Action for Social Change.

Group member Mathew Behrens says the time has come for new housing laws. "We need to go back to rent controls and real consultation with tenants and tenant groups."

But while activists and students continue to say the new legislation isn't working, the Ontario government maintains that evictions shouldn't be a threat, as long as rents are met on time.

Scott Harcourt, manager of Ontario's housing policy branch, says up to 90 per cent of evictions are due to non-payment of rent. "The grounds for eviction have not changed," he said.

"I'm not sure that the numbers are up. We wouldn't expect the numbers to change under the new legislative regime," he said, adding the assistance that is provided from the tribunal office is at a higher level than previously provided by the courts.

Carol Kiley, manager of program development for the

tribunal, admits the applications for evictions are expected to have risen by 550 by June, but denies the new law loosens the reins on landlords.

"It's not easier to evict now than it was under the court system," she said. "The law itself has not changed. The tribunal is more accessible and easier for tenants to defend themselves and it's administratively simpler."

But students say there's nothing simple about making it easier to hike rents when the summer rolls around and apartments are left vacant for three to four months.

Chris Ramsarop, president of U of T's student council, says one way to fight the legislation is to get educated on the facts, and for students to know their rights.

"Students should join or create a tenants' association; it's a right to have affordable housing," he said.

Students say the rat race to find a place has just become more difficult.

"It's hard to find an apartment," said Alexandra Kirby. "There are a lot of street deaths, and too many homeless people, it's tragic. There have to be other solutions."

**"We need to go back to rent controls and real consultation with tenants and tenant groups."**

# commentary

Après la dernière classe de mon horaire cette semaine, j'ai décidé de prendre une marche pour prendre avantage de l'effet rafraichissant de la neige qui tombait dehors. En rencontrant mon copain "loofka", il m'appela pour me dire qu'il voulait se joindre à mon excursion.

JJOR- Hé, allo, mon ami, les choses-ça va?

loofka- oui, ouais, agréable, oui. Aimeriez-vous une gorgée de mon breverage froid ?

J- Non, non merci.

L- Qu'est ce qui se passe, tu as l'air d'être troublé.

J- Penses-tu qu'il existe certaines circonstances où la liberté de choix deviendrait sans importance, inconséquente ?

L- Le niveau de liberté est largement déterminé par le point de vue des protagonistes.

J- C'est qu'on va perdre notre liberté de choix, ici à glendon :

la compagnie york veut prendre la décision à notre place. Ce n'est pas seulement une question de choix de liqueur,

L- C'est dommage que ça se passe ici, sur le campus pittoresque de glendon. Je reconnais bien la raison de votre malaise, ce n'est que la première des pertes de choix dans un long défilé d'exigences durant la décennie d'exclusivité.

J- Mais c'est exactement ça. Il y a quoi, au juste, qui empêche la compagnie de liqueur, de nous refuser l'argent promis. Il y aura peut-être un jour où ils ne seront pas en accord total avec ce que l'on veut faire avec l'argent... ou le fait qu'il y ait une tendance de la part de la compagnie york de se tourner toujours vers la corporatisation. Cette année, plusieurs aspects suivent cette tendance : ayant besoin d'argent, la compagnie york se prépare à signer ce contrat, à créer des programmes de business... ce qui contribue à une perte de liberté, et de facultés mentales.

L- Du point de vue des businessmen, c'est un grand deal. Ils manquent d' l'argent, et si on perd certaines libertes, ou opinions, ça lui derange pas. il ne comprennes pas certaines choses,

ils sont limites c'est gens la. ca fait deja longtemps qu'ils ont vendu leur esprit pour un prix. mais la responsabilite de l'universite c'est de nous faire voir qu'il y a d'autres choix, d'autres voies possible, et c'est la ou ils sont en erreur, c'est qu'ils ne demontre pas un bon exemple.

J-j'aimerais en discuter plus, cet aspect de montrer un bon exemple. ce qu'il sont en train de faire aussi, c'est de nous faire subir des detriments a la sante. je peux vous assurer, meme si je ne suis pas medecin, que les boissons gazeuses ne sont pas bon pour la sante. de l'estomac, les dents et les gencives, l'aspect modifiant de la cafeine etc..., ce n'a peut etre pas ete considere, cet aspect.

c'est a ce moment ou loofka me revela qu'il fallait s'absenter, faute d'un horaire restreite. mais moi, je continua cete evolution d'idees concernant ce qui nous reste apres le breverage en question a ete consommé. il nous reste que des bouteilles en plastique vide, ou bien des cannettes en metal. est-ce que cette compagnie, avec lequel on entre en corroboration, est en train de rechercher des methodes qui peuvent ameliorer l'environnement?

en tout cas, je trouve que la compagnie de brevages recoit beausoup plus de nous, que l'ont recoit d'eux. on devrait peut etre exiger certaines choses d'eux avant de signe le contract. comme un nouvelle philosophie, plus large, plus utile.

but when all is said and spoken for, the deal has been signed. on information from a GCSU member, the cold beverage agreement has been signed and the money should be on the way. we are to receive this year's entire budget, at once, in a lump sum, with only a few

weeks left in the session.

the funds are handled by a steering committee, and glendon is to receive a cut of its own, due to the fact that we are a college, and a campus. the funds, once in control of glendonites, are governed by another committee comprised of three students and two school administrative types. all three students on this committee are also on the GCSU; i think they should try and fill these positions with a more representative trio than what there is. blind faith in the decision making abilities of the student union cannot remain unchecked. with the current setup, they have the ability to veto any proposals with which they don't agree. the funds could then be left for the exclusive use of the GCSU's self serving motives.

let me paint you a picture, lets say the history club wants to go to the museum, but there's a personal conflict between members of the history club and the GCSU clique. the proposal gets denied. Protem has been critiquing the prez or vice prez of the GCSU for a few issues. protém then asks for money to update technology for new layout. the GCSU laden committee rejects the proposal once again. i'm not saying it will happen, but abuse of power is a definite possibility.

by the way, i wonder if the upcoming GCSU election is fixed. members this year wanting to return next year are banding together to push each other through. they also want to join the tremendously bureaucratic ranks of the CFS, but if you vote no, and learn about it, they can always ask again; i mean, we all know how referendums are. but keep your eyes open, there may be a coup in the works. yea, that's right, a coup. want to join? just bring me a can of coke, and we'll talk.

je trouve que la compagnie de brevages recoit beausoup plus de nous, que l'ont recoit d'eux

commentary commentary

commentary

À la professeure Deborah Hobson  
Présidente du Comité pour la Recherche d'un(e) Principal(e)  
Madame,  
Je vous remercie de votre réplique à ma récente proposition.

C'est en votre qualité de présidente du comité de sélection en vue de l'embauche d'un(e) nouveau(elle) Principal(e) à Glendon que je vous prie de bien vouloir considérer de qui suit.

Votre décision de rejeter la candidature du professeur Janta-Polczynski m'a estomaqué. Je désire répliquer en mettant votre comité respectueusement en garde des dangers d'engager une personne en dehors de la communauté Glendonienne et ce même si la ou le nouvel(le) embauché(e) vient du campus de York.

Permettez-moi de vous rappeler que l'actuelle Principale sortante, dès le début de son mandat, avait sauvagement sabré dans le budget de mon département [Anglais] et avec un énorme mépris. Cette situation avait fait fulminer plus d'un et entraîner un choix de cours tellement restreint que cela avait fait désertier les étudiants de l'inscription (oui nous, les payeurs) et, celles et ceux qui, comme moi, s'étaient résignés à rester ont dû prendre leur mal en patience—jusqu'à cinq ans parfois—avant de se voir enfin offrir les cours auxquels ils aspiraient.

Dans cette même optique, je crains vivement que la personne élue ne vienne délibérément à vendre Glendon, et encore, peut-être pour une bouchée de riz. Comment puis-je croire en la sincérité ou la sensibilité de ce nouveau venu? Fût-il, fût-elle, une personne compétente du campus Keele? Vous l'avez vous-même mentionné au cours de la réunion du 20 janvier dernier, que d'imposants défis attendent le nouvel arrivant à Glendon, d'autant plus que cette personne se voit déjà tendre une corde au cou par l'extrême minceur de la marge de manoeuvre qui l'attend. J'ai très bien compris par votre discours, que l'existence de l'institution Glendon ne tient plus que par un fil.

Par conséquent, d'où viendront les idées révolutionnaires que vous semblez tant rechercher chez un postulant capable de ramener Glendon de sa dérive? De York Main? D'un campus qui nous a toujours regardé avec dérision? Vous m'en voyez sceptique.

Pour que le ou la prochaine Principale de Glendon sache—dès le début de son mandat—comment efficacement retrouver ses manches, pour que surtout que la ou le prochain Principal maintienne à Glendon un centre universitaire de haute qualité (j'entends par là, que les départements n'aient plus à souffrir de coupures et repousser des étudiants(es)) il faut de prime abord que le futur Principal comprenne à fond la réalité Glendonienne. Qui pourrait mieux le faire que quelqu'un qui y a

enseigné, côtoyé ses étudiants et participé à ses activités diverses?

Pourquoi nombre d'étudiants dont moi-même, qui connaissons bien le professeur Martin Janta-Polczynski, pensons-nous qu'il est le candidat le plus valable pour diriger le Collège Universitaire Glendon en ces temps périlleux? Voici nos raisons:

#### 1. Raisons académiques

1.1 Outre les universités, les grandes écoles, le CNRS, il existe en France deux institutions de premier ordre où l'on fait exclusivement de la recherche et produit des thèses de haut niveau:

- l'École des Hautes Études en Sciences Sociales (à Paris)
- l'École des Hautes Études Scientifiques (à Gif-sur-Yvette)

Or, le docteur Janta possède un doctorat d'état de la première de ces institutions, ce qui est en général considéré comme supérieur même à un Ph.D.: il ne s'agit donc pas dans son cas d'un doctorat dit de troisième cycle. (Il m'a montré sa thèse de plus de 1000 pages, c'est un document impressionnant. Un éditeur parisien l'a sous examen pour en publier de larges extraits.) Y a-t-il à l'Université York beaucoup d'autres professeurs qui possèdent un de ces diplômes des plus prestigieux dans le monde de la Francophonie?

1.2 Le professeur Janta a plus de 25 d'expérience, dans la recherche en informatique et dans l'enseignement universitaire en informatique, en linguistique et en traductologie.

1.3 Il fait partie du programme gradué (en traduction) de l'Université York. Il a dirigé une thèse de maîtrise en traduction, qui a été jugée brillante par le jury de

thèse. Le Département de Traduction a proposé cette thèse pour un prix de l'Université York.

1.4 Il a de l'expérience dans l'administration de projets de recherche interuniversitaire. Il a été vice-président du GIRICO au Québec (= Groupe Interuniversitaire de Recherche en Informatique Cognitive des Organisations), qui publiait une revue scientifique, ICO-Québec (où le prof. Janta a d'ailleurs publié). Le GIRICO recevait de l'argent de compagnies privées, et plus de \$100,000 par an du Gouvernement du Québec. Le GIRICO cherchait à promouvoir l'informatique la plus avancée (système experts, etc..) au sein des organisations privées ou gouvernementales. Cet axe de recherche touche justement les deux domaines que le Sénat de l'Université York veut voir se développer à Glendon: l'informatique et les sciences de l'administration.

#### 2. Raisons propres à Glendon.

2.1 Le professeur Janta a donné beaucoup de cours à Glendon et est très respecté par ses étudiantes et étudiants pour l'étendue de son savoir, pour son zèle à le communiquer, ainsi que pour sa disponibilité envers ses étudiants.

2.2 Le professeur Janta a un contact facile avec les étudiants, une connaissance de leurs problèmes et un réel souci de leur venir en aide. Il a l'appui déclaré des étudiants. Chère professeure Hobson, j'étais dans la salle quand vous et votre comité êtes venus parler aux étudiants. J'ai entendu le nom du professeur Janta mentionné par plusieurs intervenants.

2.3 Le professeur Janta semble en savoir plus sur Glendon que de nombreux professeurs, plus même dirait-on que l'actuelle Principale.

2.4 Il s'est impliqué dans plusieurs comités de Glendon. Il a

été président du Comité des Normes Académiques [CASTL] et a été sénateur de York.

#### 3. Raisons internationales

3.1 Le professeur Janta a été impliqué (au risque de sa liberté) dans le processus qui a mené à la démocratisation de la Pologne. Il a colporté de la littérature démocratique sous le régime communiste. (Il s'est fait même prendre une fois). Il a été trésorier du Comité Belge d'Aide à la Pologne et au Syndicat Solidarnosc et a récolté des fonds importants pour aider la cause de la démocratie. Il est directeur des relations européennes de la Fondation Canada/ Pologne.

3.2 Le professeur Janta est très ouvert au multiculturalisme et s'est engagé en faveur des nombreux étudiants ethniques de Glendon. Il jouit de la confiance de la première personne à avoir occupé le poste de Ministre du Multiculturalisme au Canada, à savoir l'ancien sénateur Stanley Haidasz.

3.3 Le professeur a des contacts avec des scientifiques et personnalités dans différents pays du monde.

3.4 Le professeur Janta connaît bien les questions internationales et a été invité à faire des exposés sur ce sujet. Il a rédigé un livre sur les aspects occultés de l'histoire récente qui est présentement proposé aux éditeurs (*Le jeu à cache-vérité*). Il m'a plus d'une fois entretenues de ces questions.

3.5 Il connaît plus de 16 langues et en parle couramment huit, ce qui lui donne un avantage certain dans le domaine des relations internationales. Chère professeure Hobson, pouvez-vous me citer d'autres professeurs à l'université York qui lui soient sur ce point comparables?

#### 4. Raisons reliées à York.

Vous m'écrivez, chère professeure Hobson, que le professeur Janta n'a pas la permanence ou n'est pas dans un poste menant à la permanence à York. C'est vrai, mais il enseigne autant d'heures que tout autre professeur permanent!

Le Collège Universitaire Glendon lui avait offert un poste il y a 15 ans déjà, après qu'il a franchi avec succès toutes les formalités d'embauche, reconnaissant par là même ses compétences. (A cette époque et à son regret, pour des raisons familiales, il n'avait pu accepter le poste.)

Il y a cinq ans, le professeur Janta est venu à Glendon sur invitation. Il y est resté parce qu'il aime ce Collège et veut en faire le joyau académique que Glendon est naturellement appelé à être. Il s'est ouvert plusieurs fois à moi de ces projets.

On lui avait promis que deux postes seraient ouverts en informatique; on n'en a ouvert qu'un seul. Le titulaire de ce poste l'a abandonné depuis. Si un département aussi vital pour Glendon que l'informatique, et aussi attirant pour les étudiants, reste avec un seul professeur, à cause de la politique à courte vue de l'Administration, comment s'étonner que Glendon connaisse une crise? Sans parler des coupes sombres dans les autres départements, comme le mien [Anglais] dont j'ai déjà parlé.

Il y a présentement un poste ouvert au département d'informatique à Glendon, le plan de relance du Sénat en prévoit 4 autres, qu'est-ce qui empêche de réunir les comités appropriés (y compris le comité des permanences si besoin est) et d'engager le professeur Janta sur un de ces postes, puisqu'il a déjà fait ses preuves à York.

Le capital intellectuel est une des plus précieuses ressources des universités. Elles ne devraient pas s'étonner qu'elles vont au-devant de problèmes si elles le gèrent si mal.

Expliquez-moi chère professeure Hobson, pourquoi on préfère à Glendon engager des jardiniers plutôt que des professeurs, puisque de toute façon ce merveilleux campus reste honteusement sous-utilisé.

En espérant que ces quelques considérations vous aideront à faire prendre conscience de l'importance cruciale que vos décisions éclairées auront pour l'avenir de Glendon, et par voie de conséquence, pour l'avenir de York, je vous transmets mes salutations respectueuses et confiantes en votre sagesse.

Marc-Antoine Véricain  
Yku00337@yorku.ca  
Vericain@yahoo.com



# The YNN project

Stephanie Lake  
Grade 12, Meadowvale Secondary School

**We may be teenagers, but we're not all couch potatoes! Well, at least we weren't.**

Who knows, maybe one day soon, secondary school students all across Canada will be the same - walking, brainwashed zombies. The blame for this can be placed squarely on the shoulders of YNN and the governors of our education system.

Trust the government. I don't think so!

I am upset with the administration of my school for using us, the students, as guinea pigs, in a test which uses televisions inappropriately in my school.

**Television sets have been placed in each classroom, cafeteria, library, lobby, Guidance Office, and any other rooms that students use.**

YNN, with the cooperation of one school board per province, who in turn chose one of their schools to participate in this experiment. Meadowvale Secondary School was selected for the province of Ontario. Television sets have been placed in each classroom, cafeteria, library, lobby, Guidance Office, and any other rooms that students use. The Peel Board of Education, as well as the administration of Meadowvale Secondary School agreed, without asking or informing students or parents, to have YNN place these television sets in each room. Students are required to watch 12 minutes of news broadcasting every day which includes 2 minutes of prepaid commercials.

The official launching took place on Friday November 28, 1998 at precisely 1:20 p.m.

The actual news broadcast BRIEFLY discussed Canadian topics such as Quebec wanting to separate from Canada and the Canadian dollar. Both of these are great issues that all Canadians should be aware of, however, YNN did a poor job of delivering the information to inform students about these topics.

Since the purpose of the exercise is to educate, you'd think that there would be educational commercials. Wrong. The commercials feature chewing gum and milk. Only one of the commercials sent an educational message. It was a commercial about

smoking and how it causes death.

The people responsible for placing televisions in my classrooms should know that the media influences its audience. If they wanted to educate us, they sure aren't going about it in the right way.

The television stations are supposed to be monitored and used for educational viewing only. During lunches they don't seem to be monitored enough. Students crowd into the front foyer of Meadowvale S.S. to watch music videos and talk shows.

It's disgusting walking into my school after lunch and seeing the front foyer filled with teenage zombies in a daze starring heavy metal music videos. Personally, I do not find half-naked females parading themselves around in provocative clothing and throwing themselves at gangsters educational. What kind of a message is being sent?

Is the message that the administration at my school has no control over anything?

Throughout my education I have come to believe that exercise, fresh air and a chance to get out of class is what the purpose of my lunch break is. I didn't realize that now all of a sudden my teachers, principals and government are encouraging my peers to become couch potatoes.

How is it that there is money for this kind of experiment? Why can't someone donate books to our pathetic stack of books that we're expected to call a school library!"

# The ivy beleaguered

Marie Daviau

**Glendon's United Nations Club sent 13 delegates to represent the Philippines and Georgia at the Harvard Model United Nations debate. It was the first time that Glendon participated in this conference and a good time was had by all, but not because of the conference.**

Club members were very disappointed by the level of the debate, particularly senior members, whose expectations of a Harvard organized conference were high. More than one committee moderator was clueless as to the rules of the UN (Robert's Rules), and was unsure quite what to do with motions by committee members.

### York vs. Glendon

The 12-hour bus ride with Keele campus club was ...interesting. A rousing rendition of "I'd rather be a Yeoman than a dirty @\$ing Blue" greeted us as we took our segregated seats at the back of the bus (does this remind you of any particular historical discriminatory practise?). After we had been put in our place, we were told that, although we were known to hate York main students, we had to hate University of Toronto more (juvenile). Then, just to be sure we felt completely taken advantage of, we were asked for additional money to pay for the driver's hotel in Boston. We still can't figure out why this wasn't taken care of when Keele campus arranged for the driver. Puzzled, but not beaten, we even survived the occasional horror-show when the door to the bathroom was open. Next time, we're taking the plane.

### we're not with those people

I hesitate to report that York (Keele) embarrassed us (and anyone unfortunate enough to mention they

were from Toronto) when their delegation welcomed 3000 students and dignitaries with a stunning rendition of ... you guessed it. Seated

**A dedication on an old water-pump reminded us that Harvard is almost twice as old as Canada.**

in the balcony across from U of T, they captured the attention of everyone in the ballroom just before opening ceremonies to deliver their message of .... peace?.....and....love? In the spirit of the UN? "I'd rather be a Yeoman than a dirty freaking Blue (3x) So screw you Varsity Blue!" (I would like to apologize at this time to Pakistan whose misfortune it was to be represented by these Pep Squad rejects) Needless to say, we were a little hesitant to introduce ourselves to people who inevitably asked if we were part of 'that group who sang'

when we mentioned we came from Toronto. Unfortunately, our name tags betrayed us with "Glendon College, York University". There was no way around the association.

### Harvard, Boston

A beautiful city, with old townhouses on small, winding streets reminiscent of quaint European towns. Even the office buildings have that character. Boston has made a point of preserving its history and original architecture. Our guided tour of Harvard (... by a Glendon student visiting his girlfriend...?) was brief, but inspired sufficient awe. A dedication on an old water-pump reminded us that Harvard is almost twice as old as Canada. The lack of ivy, even dormant, surprised us. Maybe they were kicked out of the League after the conference fiasco?

### you are getting sleepy...

If you're not getting sleepy, you have an incredible attention span! Well, to wrap up, Harvard was the last conference for the club until next year. Usually, Glendon would be represented at New York in April, but we all drained our cash resources to go to Harvard.

Come out and join the club in the fall and find out about the other conferences the club participates in.

Despite embarrassment and a below par conference, Glendon delegates had a lot of fun. Living with four other co-eds for four days was my residence experience since I live off campus. It reminded me of an entire school year? Naw!

# The problem with education

Education is the process by which ideas get planted and the maintained in a mind. The maintenance occurs through nourishment and the weeding out of the ones that are sick and/or are putting the others in jeopardy.

The problem in education is determining what gets planted and what gets deemed "sick" and gets weeded. Things, which are known to have been weeded out of the content of education, are things such as multiple ideas of family, women in power, and homosexuality. It is impossible to teach all perspectives, so what should get admitted or rejected from public education?

The question can be reformulated as, what and who gets represented in the classroom. These are old questions, but ones that need to be discussed. The problem with the discussion is that there is no adequate answer. Some things are necessarily left out because everything can't be brought in. Part of the issue is who should decide what gets admitted?

This is what has led some to propose changes to the structure and purpose of education. Some are now arguing for the necessity of teaching through the exposure of the conflicts regarding the content. It is here, some argue, that students are able to learn and develop best because they become active participants in the discussion.

If education is looked at as a discourse between students and teachers, the power structures on which the present educational system begins to breakdown. The students become empowered with the ability and support needed to create their own knowledge with the guidance of the teacher.

This idea is in opposition to "banking education" where the teachers are thought to pour

knowledge into the students. The problem with this view of education is that it cannot stand up to the critique that it is privileging one view over another equally valid view and thus propagates societal inequalities.

These new ideas concerning education propose to dismantle, to a certain degree, the hierarchy within the classroom in order to make students active participants in their education. It is assumed that this will better facilitate the idea of equality within education.

The discussion about education is pertinent to public schools and Universities alike. In order to approach the subject many questions need to be asked.

What is the purpose of education?

Is education meant to mold one into the existing structure?

Who decides the moral code, the norm?

What is it that we, society as a

whole, think is necessary to educate people about.

What do we mean by the term 'a good education'?

At what stage in one's education is the point at which to teach criticism of the existing structures. Politically and socially dominate structures.

These questions may eventually lead one to examine the issue more particularly. One may choose to look at the state of education right now.

If the ability to criticize those who hold political power is necessary within a democracy and that this ability is best acquired through public education, then it could easily be seen as a conflict of interest for the government to have very much control over the curriculum. Some could conclude that too much government control in the contents of education is necessarily anti-democratic.

# Taking our

Sarah Isaacs

Source: SFU Peak (CUP)

**On Wednesday, October 15th, the David Suzuki Foundation held a free lecture explaining the problems of air pollution and climate change and their affects on human health. The David Suzuki Foundation is a non-profit organization which strives to understand the root causes of our most pressing environmental issues, and help identify and implement solutions to those problems. The panel speakers included physicians, scientists, and a government official, all addressing the acute threat to public health posed by increased air pollution and climate change.**

The cause of both air pollution and climate change (i.e. the "greenhouse effect"), is the combustion of fossil fuels on a massive scale.

In addition to addressing the scientific factors involved in these processes, and posing feasible solutions, such as transit, there was an awareness in the panelists' addresses, and in the remarks made by the audience, that the problem was enormous, even overwhelming. As well, there was an awareness of the amount of social and economic review required to prepare our society for the implementation of effective changes.

In British Columbia, automobile exhaust is the largest contributor to total fuel emissions. In addition to contributing to air pollution, which has direct adverse effects on human health, the combustion of fossil fuels is contributing to climate change. The effects of climate change, or global warming, include heat waves, disruption of previously stable weather systems, more frequent violent weather events, increased risks of infectious diseases, threats to food supplies, and, in time, rising sea levels.

Although our current Liberal government committed to stabilize greenhouse gas emissions at 1990 levels by the year 2000, both at the Rio convention and in the Red Book, no serious action has been taken. In fact, Canada's emissions had already increased by 9.8 per cent above 1990 levels by 1995, and are predicted to increase to 19 per cent by the year 2010. Canada's continuing threat to global environmental security is proceeding virtually unchallenged by the Canadian public.

The threat of global warming and increased air pollution is terrifying. Scientists conclude that emission reductions of 60-80 per cent of current global output are required to avoid serious climate changes. But the possibility that these reductions may not occur does not seem implausible, which means that by the time I am 55, the world may be a different, hostile place, and not the relatively idyllic world of the 1990s. It is clear that maintaining our present course of wasteful, consumption oriented living is impossible, even if it is forever limited to those who now enjoy it; yet, resistance seems futile.

Lessening one's ecological footprint when surrounded by a society of devoted consumers, seems a moral rather than practical decision.

For this reason, substantial social change is more likely to result from collective decision making which dictates social policy, rather than individual consumption choices. It will take the force of government policy to stop women from using disposable maxi-pads, to stop parents from adding another diaper to the trash heap, to limit the amount of packaging allowed on consumer goods, and to stop the manufacture of one more gas guzzling sport utility vehicle. Encouragingly, the economic affects of implementing environmental regulations could actually be positive. So why aren't all levels of government responding pro-actively to the urges of the scientific community to avoid catastrophe?

Clearly the eventual economic costs of environmental degradation, to be eventually borne by an entire economy, will be enormous. The maxim "a stitch in time saves nine" is most relevant when applied to such an overwhelming problem. This is not only evidenced in the nightmarish situation in the former USSR, but is intuitive; clearly if the natural environment is not protected today, the problems we face tomorrow will be exacerbated by time, eventually to the point where human life can no longer be sustained. But what is good for the economy and society at large (when considering health, water, air quality, climate stabilization, waste management, etc.) is not necessarily good for the individual firm.

The thousands of environmental regulations needed to change the behaviors of consumers and industry will negatively impact the "business climate", resulting either in capital flight, or in difficult structural changes, such as the obliteration of a large part of the oil sector in Alberta, or perhaps the automobile manufacturing sector in Ontario. To try to offer palatable solutions to the problem of environmental degradation obfuscates the core reasons for present inaction. There is a perceived trade-off between a firm's profitability and an increase in regulations, environmental or otherwise.

The federal government's recent

action to force oil companies to decrease the amount of sulfur in gasoline by 90 per cent by the year 2005 is a recent example of this tension. Sulfur, when released into the air as a component of automobile exhaust, is linked to human sickness and premature death, and as sulfur is a naturally occurring component of gasoline, Environment Canada has ordered that oil companies must remove it in the interest of public health.

Predictably, Spokespersons for the oil companies are arguing that the regulations will be ineffectual, as sulfur in Canadian gasoline only produces a fraction of the harmful sulfur in the air. They are also arguing that this law will cost \$1 billion to implement and will therefore shut down 20 per cent of the industry. Both of these claims are valid, and illustrate the lack of affinity between increased regulations and the profitability and viability of private enterprises.

Clearly, the perceived trade-off between environmental concerns and the viability of private enterprise not only affects the perspective of the capitalist, but also that of the labourer. A poor "business climate" is a tangible form of instability for all, as labour is also reliant on the private sector's ability to function. I think it naive to assume that Canadians are willing to swallow the bitter pill of regulatory restrictions on business; the perceived trade-off between economic stability, and the continuation of "business as usual", and the environment is a reality. Eventually, one hopes, a wide array of health and environmental regulations will form the new parameters of business activity in the future. However, this will necessitate the creation of a huge network of regulatory policy.

In order for the implementation of environmental regulations to be effective, they would need to be comprehensive enough to force firms to behave as if environmental degradation affected profitability. Taxes, fines, regulations, and enforcement would all be a necessary part of the picture.

My question is, can such a comprehensive network of regulatory policy, that internalizes the negative externalities of pollution for the private firm, exist? Is it possible that government policy would effectively cause the private firm to mimic behavior that would benefit the environment, and society at large, if these actions are not an inherent part of the firm's conduct? Furthermore, the transition towards implementing such a network (worldwide, as pollution knows no boundaries) would cause significant economic turmoil.

# away

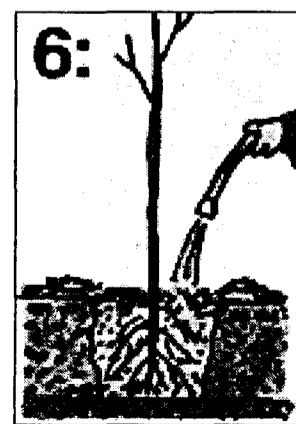
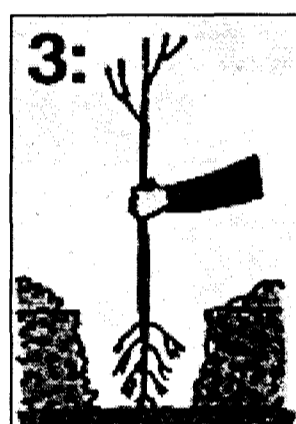
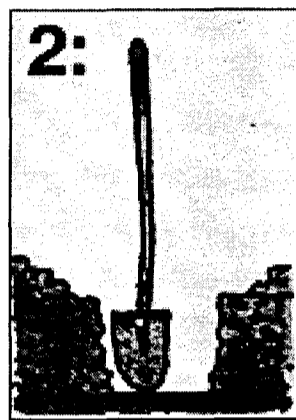
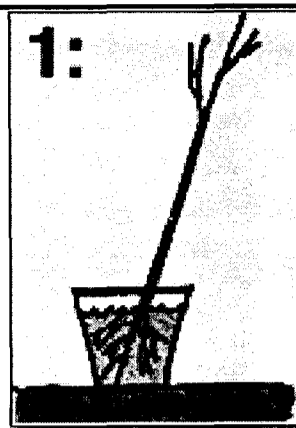
Take, for example, the promotion of public, rapid transit. The implementation of infrastructure for public transit, when viewed superficially, is a "win/win" public policy choice. But promoting and implementing rapid transit should coincide with a decrease in the manufacturing and sale of automobiles, especially those that are fuel inefficient; this is logical and in the interest of public health, as the purchase of more automobiles undermines the movement towards public transit. In this sense, automobile marketing is competing with the message of those who would prefer mass transit, and fewer cars.

Although the need to address and solve environmental problems is urgent, the individual who takes environmental concerns seriously and alters his or her lifestyle to accord with these concerns lives on the margins. Not only because of the direct impacts and inconveniences associated with rejecting consumer impulses, but also because of the critical analysis of the social and economic structures that will necessarily follow. The capacity of a profit-driven structure to adjust to massive priority shifts, which must take place globally, is yet to be seen. The reason why regulatory changes have been conservative, despite promises to make substantive changes, is clear - the concerns of large firms in the private sector dominate.

Perhaps we can also blame inaction on the short policy horizon of governments; actions that will necessarily precipitate economic instability re not likely to result in re-election. But the result of inaction is so dramatic and so frightening that eventually, the lifestyles and social structures that dominate North American life must change. Perhaps it will not be the proletariat who will fuel the revolutionary fire, but the scientists, all too conscious of the impending doom.

Yet, like every plea for environmental awareness, the messages of the David Suzuki Foundation and others, who advocate harmonious relations with the natural environment, by any means necessary, will be drowned out by the cacophony of consumerist propaganda and the whines of myopic lobbyists advocating "business as usual" policies; these, at present, successfully dominate the public sphere.

One can only hope that grassroots activism gives government a clear message: Environmental concerns must precede all other political concerns in North America. This Brave New World is not sustainable, and it is the values that perpetuate our way of life that must be critically examined and changed.







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# Lick this... If you consider the simple explanation of which is about to follow, 'see' may pop into your head....'c' for conspiraSEE.

Annamaria Kougias

For those of you who check the mailbox regularly, you know already that it's rare to find an actual letter amidst the pages of junk that habitually accumulates at your residence. When you do get an envelope, it's usually a bill of some type or another and it's been stamped with an automated stamping machine.

It's not often that you end up with a letter in your hand that has an actual stamp on it. It just seems real mail doesn't visit you that often, eh? I don't know whether that's because of e-mail or if it's just because people don't write other people as often, or if it's a combo of both or not. Whatever the reason it doesn't matter, it's just that usually, you don't get authentic mail.

## P.S. you will self-destruct

So the day that I received that white envelope in the mail with my name hand printed on the front of it, something immediately made me question the contents...and the fact that there was no return address on it. It turned out to be, you guessed it, one of those clot chain letters. You know the kind I'm referring to, that says if you don't follow instructions and send twenty people a copy of the same letter within seventy-two hours, you'll experience damaging, avoidable bad-luck and self-destruct in nine days...or something like that.

## pulped mission

I read the thing in its entirety and the first thing that came to my mind was the psychological aspect of the whole thing. Here you get this letter, and it tells you, by the power invested in the saints that launched this paper mission, that you will suffer the consequences of not choosing to send

the same message to additional peeps. I could write about the 'guilt' and 'scare' aspects of its tactics, but I'm sure you can figure that out on your own if you read one of these letters by noticing the manner in which it is written.

## XXXluck

These letters usually include 'real' examples of people who decided not to follow through with the chain. Like Bob who meant to make copies and send them out, but put it off and eventually forgot about it. Poor guy came home one afternoon and found his cat dead, semi-chewed, floating in the fish tank. Then there's Ellen who upon receiving the letter, threw it in the garbage, only to unfortunately slip under a bus the next day. After her hospital release she immediately retrieved the letter and then later that week attributed her lotto winnings of ten dollars to the fact that she followed through with the instructions of sending out copies to her closest friends. And there's Sheila, who ripped up the letter after reading what it was. A few days later she went to the pharmacy to pick up some vitamins, and shockingly witnessed her husband at the counter purchasing a box of condoms (hmm...but Sheila had her tubes tied two years ago...oh boy). And finally, there's Mitch who, after a hot date returned home,

alone. Down on his luck he figured he'd release some what-could-have-been-energy, by going to the video store etc. He hurried back home and upon his arrival found a note on the door. His date had changed her mind and went to his apartment to resume the evening, but he wasn't there. What could he do now, he thought, but go ahead and pop in the flick. Poor, poor Mitch should have sent out that letter as soon as he got it because when the film started rolling, he soon realized that his hot date was the hot feature.

## bad luck-no...life-yes

Okay, so did these folks suffer bad luck because they did not fulfill the letter's requisition of distribution? I don't think so. Shit happens. Bob should have bought a canopy for his piranha tank or should have made a smarter choice in pets. Ellen shouldn't have worn her heels in icy weather. Sheila, well her husband was a loser anyway. And Mitch, well he shouldn't have skipped the what-do-you-do-for-a-living part of the conversation during his date. All in all, the examples mentioned and others included in chain letters could have happened regardless of continuing the chain or not. But some folks believe that the events that happen to them after the letter are due to the choice they made of complying or not complying. Attribution seekers is all they are I tell ya.

## 'post-attribution'

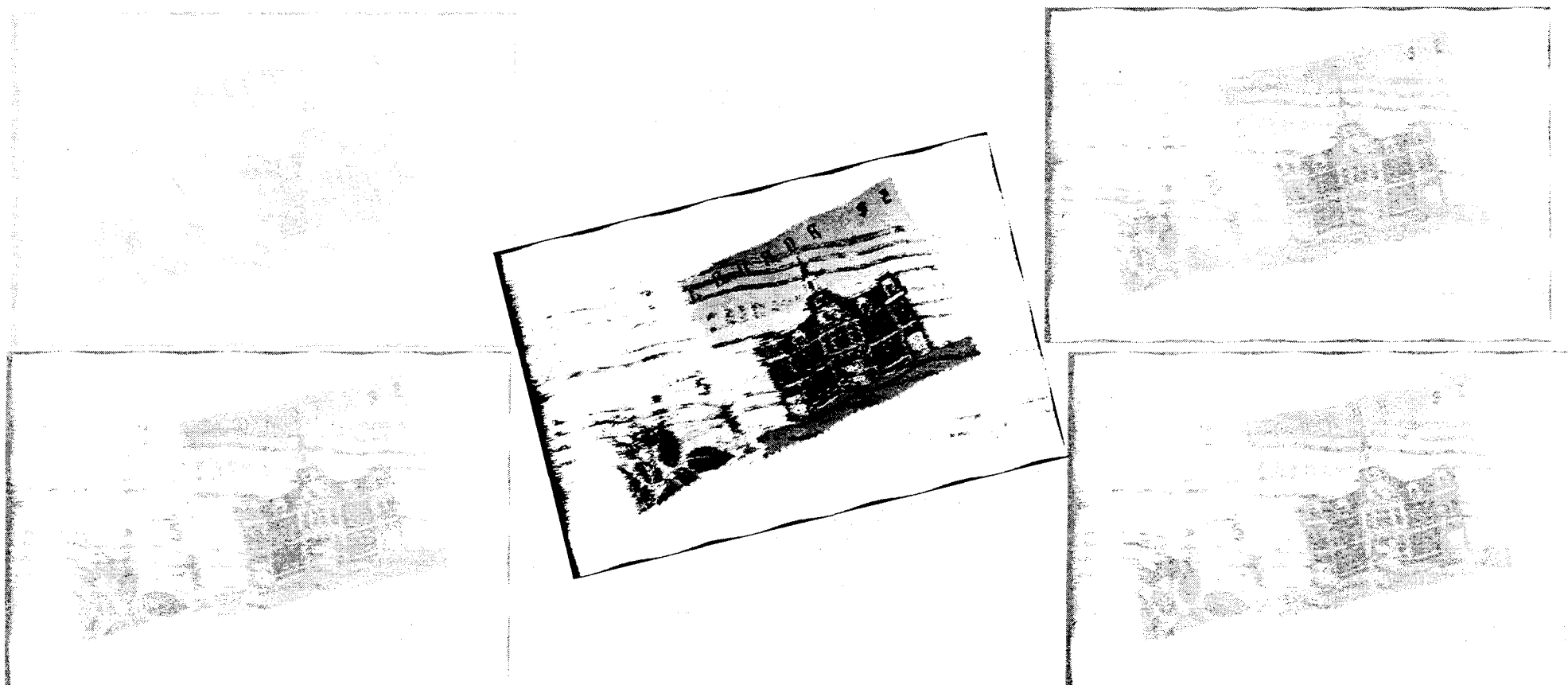
In the concluding paragraph of the chain letter, you'll notice that it basically threatens you. If you don't

make twenty copies and mail them out within a couple of days, you too will experience bad luck. Do it. Don't ignore this. DO IT or St. Whoever will make sure that whatever you touch, wherever you go, whatever you do, will have bad luck written all over it and you'll melt, you'll melt away slowly as your world around you too melts, because you didn't do what you were supposed to. You broke the chain that has circled the world 236 times and now you must face the consequences. Well, after opening and reading my chain letter, I put it aside. That was about a month ago. Are the chain-letter-gods waiting patiently to cast bad luck upon my ass? Je ne pense pas. What I think is that the whole thing is a scam. Yup, a big worldwide scam. As I mentioned earlier, there aren't too many letters out there anymore with stamps on them right? So, the chain letter is just a convenient, inconspicuous way of making money for the post office. They send out a bunch of letters right, and suckers who feel guiltily ruled by their weak conscience, make twenty copies, just like the letter instructs, and mail out these copies. Twenty copies means twenty stamps, each one almost fifty cents. You can't just send out two letters, because then you wouldn't be following the rules, so you write out the addresses of twenty peeps you know and mail this letter in the hopes that your lucky numbers come up. So Joe sends twenty and so does Sandra and so does Trish, and maybe some of their recipients send some out and so on, you get the picture. Anyway, if enough of these letters

are sent out and circulate -and it happens, because I've received about three of them as I'm sure you have also come across one or know someone who has - then we're talking cumulative expenses on postage, non? Did I mention the cost of the envelopes and photocopying? I'm not saying the post office is the demon behind the scheme-scaring peeps by implying that bad luck will rule their house if they don't continue the link, I'm just saying that it could possibly be an indirect and unsuspecting way to make money for the office. With telephones and e-mail eliminating mailing traditions, the guys and gals in blue gotta deliver something right? So Mr. Postmanhead decides (or is told) to randomly infiltrate the mail system by means of the popular chain letter with the aim of generating some type of revenue for the bureau by playing on the minds of the wishful and superstitious.

## sparing your tastebuds

If you do participate in chain letters hoping that good fortune will come your way, then the best of luck. If you do so because you fear the letter's stated potential consequences of non-compliance I'm sure there's a group or something you could join to help you with the pressures of conformity, or help you in achieving the karmic balance you so desire, or you could just pray to St. Catharsis of the Immaculate Lick-patron to chain letter addicts - to help you overcome the urge of making those copies, to conquer the glue-craving-blues, and to help you deperate your luck-needy-link-driven thoughts.



# Abandon ship

Patrick Tomlinson

As the school year slowly comes to a close a few thoughts come into mind. As much as I love this school and value the education it has given me I must confess certain worries. How much longer is Glendon going to last?

It seems strange to me to even consider that we should even be worrying about the future of this college. The idea of having a liberal arts college, which stresses bilingualism, in a country, which is represented by two national languages, seems ingenious. At risk of sounding insulting to others I find it hard to believe that graduates of Glendon College find it that hard to find a job. In fact, none of the grads which I come across have any problem what so ever. So why then is it so hard to attract students to this school?

Periodically I carry on conversations with students who are about to enter university. My first big surprise was that a significant majority of these students did not even know that Glendon existed. Of the others who did recognize the name Glendon College, very few seemed to have a good idea of what the curriculum was. The one fact, which seemed to come up time and time again, was the whole "French" question.

"Oh I heard that you have to take most of your courses in French!"

"I heard that there are very few classes offered in English."

I found it very difficult to reply to these charges. I tried to first explain that these assumptions were greatly exaggerated. I added that indeed it is mandatory to take a certain classes in French that the majority of the course load could easily be in the English language. I then tried to show these students that knowing French was actually an asset. I am a true proponent of studying languages and push this credo upon any that asks me. I must admit that as a child I fought tooth and nail with my parents to take me out of French

Immersion, but now I am very happy to have persevered.

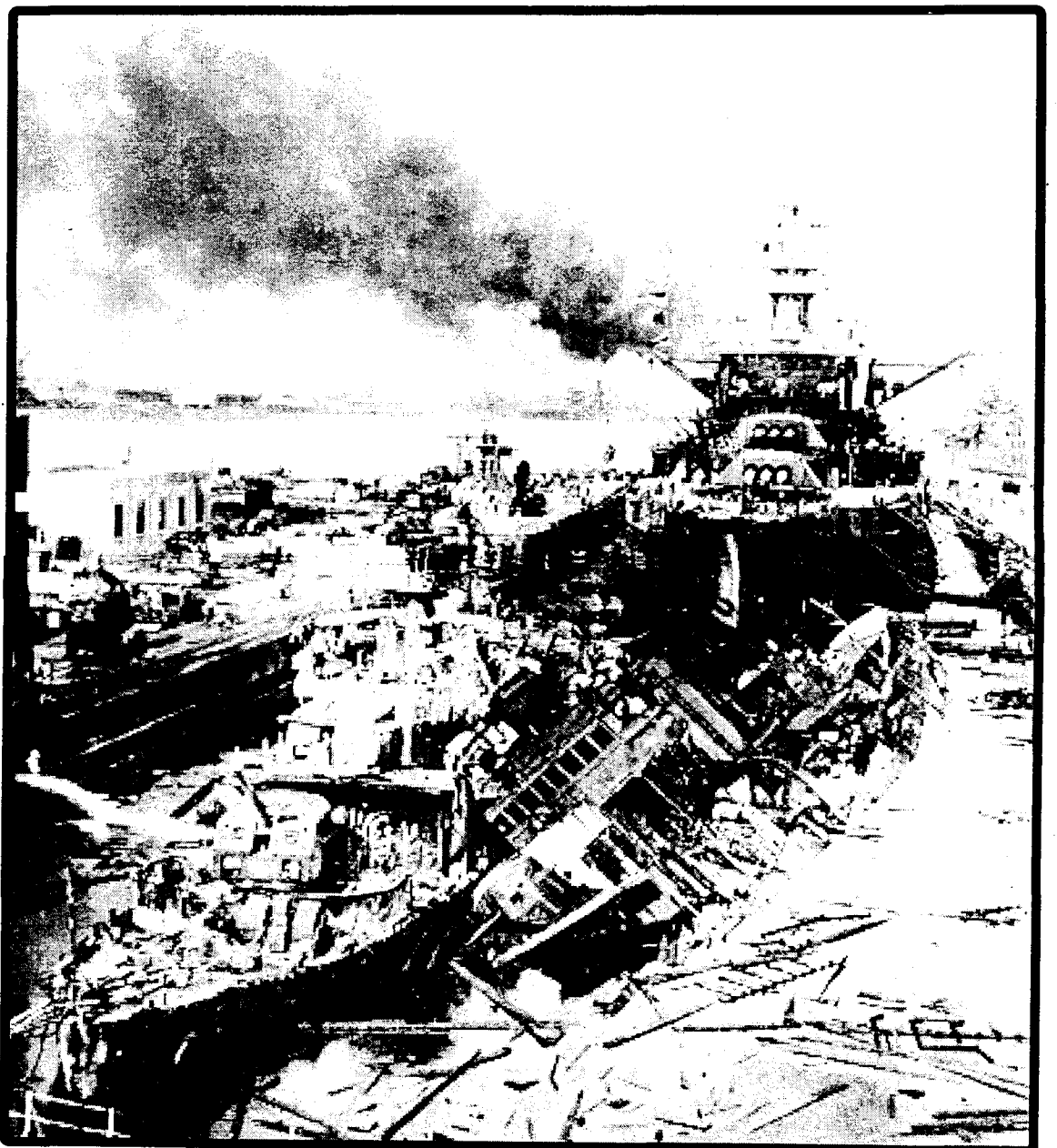
This French "turn off" is just a minor deterrent to enrollment at this school. In fact there are much greater structural problems which present many more problems.

Although I will be finished my degree at the end of next year I worry passively about the future of this campus. Since I started studying here at Glendon I have seen many programs cut, slashed and even moved to the Keele campus. I have seen one of the most popular programs, that of education, moved off campus. I have witnessed the attempt to down size the work study program, one that I am presently a part of, so that no full time Prof. will be over seeing the day to day results. I have seen the campus pub, a once thriving facility, wither away at the hands of a relentless debt. The International Studies program is undergoing a complete over hall. All of this adds to an already high level of instability, which does very little in attracting new students.

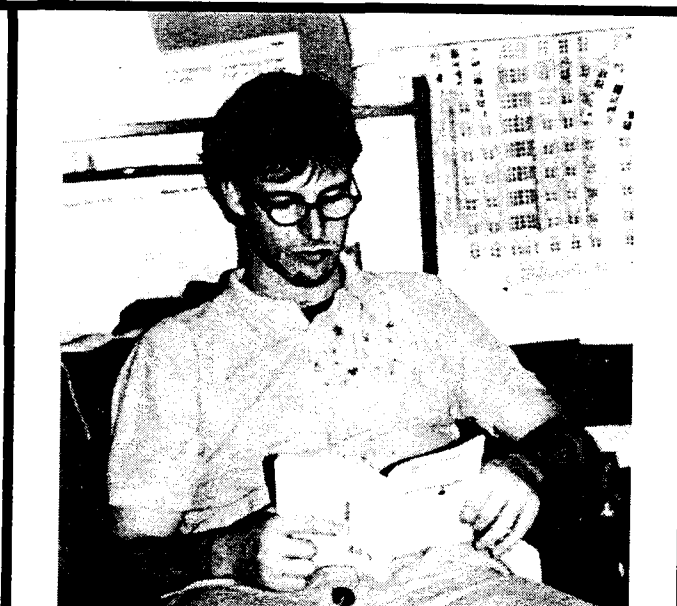
Since I was born in this neighborhood and I grew up in this neighborhood I can say with confidence that there is a great deal of students who would be interested in coming to Glendon if in fact Glendon interested them.

The fact that Glendon has slowly deteriorated in every sense of the word comes as no surprise to the head honchos of York University. One only has to look at the policies taken by the board over the past few years and it becomes painfully evident that Glendon's future is quickly coming to an end. It is rather sad to a part of a sinking ship, but I fear that is what we as Glendon students are effectively apart of.

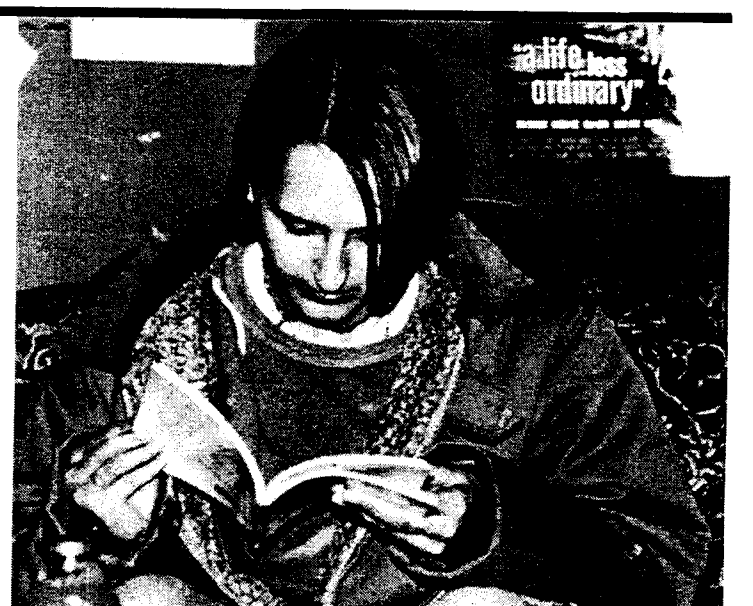
Since I started studying here at Glendon I have seen many programs cut, slashed and even moved to the Keele campus.



Pro tem staff hard at work....



We are the intellectuals...



Resistance is futile.





# Reviews

Catherine Hancock

## She's All That

• Hollywood has done it again... She's All That, like every other "teenie bopper" movie follows a formula that we know by heart: - popular boy meets loser girl - they fall in love-conflict arises-conflict



is resolved- they live happily ever after

She's All That takes this formula, adds in some beach scenes, nice cars, and of course, a prom. The film industry is like Puff Daddy, taking what worked back in the 80's and redoing it for the 90's. The film is nothing but an updated version of Can't buy me love - with a couple of twists, of course. But, even though originality is definitely lacking in this particular flick, I still found myself enjoying every minute. Why?

I actually like "teenie bopper" movies. I enjoy the temporary escape from reality that these movies

provide. Two hours of fun, laughs and the latest music - and no, there is no Puff Daddy on the soundtrack.

2. Matthew Lillard (Scream) is one of my favorite actors. Once again he plays a weirdo, but he's good at it, so he might as well.

3. The movie is filmed in the same school as the television show Buffy the Vampire Slayer. Sarah Michelle Gellar (Buffy) makes a small appearance and since I'm a huge Buffy fan, that made the movie for me!

4. Finally, the 80's flick Can't Buy Me Love is my favorite movie so obviously I would enjoy a new version of the same story. The only real difference is the reversal of the sexes. In Can't Buy Me Love, the boy is a geek who pays the most popular

girl in school to date him for one week. In She's All That, the boy is maybe too cool and bets that he can turn any girl into the prom queen.

To be fair, I'll share the film's biggest problem. The lead female (I can't even remember her name) is not very talented. There are many young actresses out there who could have done a much better performance, and while the story is good, a chain is only as strong as it's weakest link. However, Freddie Prinze Jr. (I know what you did last summer) plays the role very well and I'll admit that I left the theatre with a little crush on him!

NOW PLAYING



## 200 Cigarettes

What a long list of big names in a low budget movie. This does not happen often and maybe that's why this movie works. These are the serious actors, the one's who do it for passion and not for money. And talk about funny! This film had the sold out audience laughing so loud they were stomping their feet.

There's something for everyone in this 200 Cigarettes. Contrary to what some may think, it is not a "chick flick". There were just as many males in the theatre as there were females.

All the actors gave good performances, with the exception of Courtney Love. She plays Lucy, a

girl who is secretly in love with her best friend, Kevin (Paul Rudd), who just got dumped by his girlfriend. I'll be fair and admit that Courtney did have her moments, and maybe she just seemed less talented than the rest because she is the one with the least amount of acting experience. Next to actors like Paul Rudd (The Object of My Affection), Janeane Garofalo (The Truth About Cats and Dogs) and Ben Affleck (Shakespeare in Love), she's bound to seem inexperienced.

Another thing is that the previews are slightly deceiving into letting us think that Ben Affleck has a big role. His role is quite small compared to

the others; he does not even have a name; he is known simply as "the bartender". His brother, however, has a much bigger part and is actually quite talented. Casey Affleck had a small role in Good Will Hunting as the friend who went upstairs with the baseball glove - if you know what I mean...

With an accurate portrayal of New York City, 80's wardrobe, retro music and New Years Eve, how can the film go wrong? It doesn't.

Other names include: Dave Chappelle, Elvis Costello, Gaby Hoffmann, Kate Hudson, Jay Mohr, Martha Plimpton and Christina Ricci.

NOW PLAYING

# Tomson Highway and Jason Sherman at Glendon

Rob Shaw

Just after 4pm, March 2nd, the senior Common Room was converted into a small stage as Michael Ondaatje hosted a seminar with Canadian playwrights Tomson Highway and Jason Sherman. This area was reserved for readings and discussions from these two, which Ondaatje called "the best in Canada," writers. The outline for the hour was that the writers were to read from their latest work and then answer questions from both the audience and Ondaatje.

Tomson Highway was the first to read from his most recent novel Kiss of the Fur Queen. He was born in northwestern Manitoba and graduated from the University of Western Ontario with a degree in Music and English. He began writing in his early thirties and has been the author of several plays including, Rez Sisters and Drylips Oughta Move to Kapuskasing. He read a selected chapter from his newest book which had to do with understanding religion and the way

in which his character is hearing it for the first time. Tomson who teaches at the University of Toronto began by introducing himself and asking why there is a God and no Goddess. The selected passage was very entertaining and very meaningful in the short time that he read.

Sherman, whom I believe to be the lesser known of the panel, graduated from York Main in creative writing and has put on several plays in Toronto. His reading

was from a play called It's All True. Because it was read as a play it lacked any of the descriptive prose that Tomson had, but still Sherman's reading was very alive as his characters were very much enhanced through his dialogue. A strong dialogue was the one technique that these writers captured amazingly. His writing focused on a person or person's search to find themselves through happiness: Even in this short passage, however, one was definitely able to feel the narrative of this story.

As Sherman ended his reading Ondaatje and the audience held a small discussion with these writers. Through this I began to see Tomson as a comical figure as he talked about the "Garden of Eden" and growing up in a Cree background.

As well, Sherman discussed his transition from writing plays for small theatre companies in Toronto to the small screen. While Tomson talked about taking the Queens face off the Canadian dollar, Sherman would talk about moving to television in order to support his family. In the end both writers agreed on the lack of interests in art and the small funding put into Canadian productions. However, they both expressed their dislike for Canadians supporting American plays and not encouraging more Canadian theatre.

One topic that I found very interesting was when Tomson talked about Australia and how that country has put a lot of their money into funding their own arts. When speaking with a friend of mine from

Sydney she told me this is true and much of the film, music, theatre and writing are directly funded towards "homegrown" talent. This is something that Tomson felt would eventually separate Australia from the rest of the Commonwealth and why he felt Canada would stay as a colony.

In the past year I've seen a few Canadian writers speak, but I would have to say that this was by far the most entertaining. These two men looked beyond their own works and took time to express opinions on real matters and beliefs; things that most people are too shy to say. I definitely found that this was very worthwhile and something that I think most, of the standing room only common room, would agree upon.

FACTS ARE  
USELESS THINGS.  
RONAD REAGAN

FRAGMENT

AS FOR HIM WHO  
FINDS FAULT  
MAY SILLINESS

CHOOSE

THE SINGLE CLENCHED  
FIST LIFTED AND READY,  
OR THE OPEN ASKING  
HAND HELD OUT AND  
WAITING.

BUT CLICHES IN A NEW  
CONTEXT CAN BECOME  
UNCLICHED  
WHICH IS TO DISCOVER THAT  
THEY ARE NO  
LONGER ORDINARY.

AND SORROW  
OVERTAKE HIM  
WHEN YOU WROTE

CHOOSE:  
FOR WE MEET BY ONE OR  
THE OTHER.

YOU DID NOT  
KNOW  
THE POWER OF

CARL SANDBURG

YOUR WORDS.

CORITA KENT

WILLIAM CARLOS  
WILLIAMS

THE NORTH END OF THE FIELD WAS CONSIDERED UPHILL. RUNNING SOUTH DOWN THE PROPERTY, YOU ENDED BY GOING DOWN INTO THE GULLY. IF YOU WENT DOWN THERE, AS I DID ON THAT DAY, YOU FELT THE PULL. YOU COULD LOOK UP, STRAIGHT UP, AND SEE THE BIRDS BATTLING ITS CHARM. THEY ALWAYS FLEW THERE, GATHERED AND FLOCKED INTO THE CURRENT THAT THE PULL CREATED IN THE AIR.

AS THEY FLEW ABOVE ME THAT DAY, THEY WERE BLINDED BY THE REFLECTING SUN COMING OFF THE GLITTERNG TREE TOPS. THEY WERE LAQUERED IN ICE FROM THE RECENT STORM, AND THE SUN MELTED THE COATING JUST ENOUGH TO MAKE IT LOOK LIKE A SILVER SCULPTED LANDSCAPE. THE BLINDNESS DID NOT SOOTHE, BUT GATHERED THE BIRDS INTO A MASS HYSTERIA THAT EVENTUALLY EXPLODED, SENDING FEATHERS AND BEAKS EVERYWHICH WAY. WELL, EVERYWHICH WAY BUT THE PULL, YOU SEE, IN THE CONFUSION, THE PULL TURNED INTO A PUSH. THIS GREAT MASSIVE SHOCKWAVE BURST SO LOUD, A LONELY HITCHHIKER HEARD IT FROM DOWN THE WAY. HE FROZE. HE DECIDED THAT HE SHOULD START WALKING, HE DECIDED THAT HIS LUCK JUST MAY HAVE TURNED SOUR. JJOR



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OF EXCELLENCE**



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