

pro tem.

Le journal bilingue de Glendon • Glendon's bilingual newspaper

42ième année

Sacrificing through rings of fire to Baal since 1962

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FEATURED IN THIS ISSUE:
THE TORONTO SPECIAL - Metro Militia
FOOD FOR THOUGHT - Glendon Women's Centre
THE MANOR AND GCSU - Investigative Reports

READER MAIL

(Re: "Give The Man A Hot Dog Stand", February 10, 2003)

I'm sick of whiners. York is full of them. Take, for example, Charles LeBaise who took up a good 2/3 of a page of Protem's last issue sarcastically ripping Jeremy Greenberg to shreds. What a waste of a bunch of innocent trees.

Journalism isn't about sour grapes or pointless whimpering; journalism is about using the written word to inform, educate and perpetuate change. I think we all (including both Charles LeBaise and Jeremy Greenberg) agree that there are things about our University that need to change. Which is why I commend Jeremy Greenberg for doing what he can to solve some of our problems.

Last week was York's Multicultural week, run by York is U, the student organization of which Jeremy Greenberg is chair. As Glendon students, we of all people know that Canada is about diversity. We should be commending Jeremy for giving us the opportunity to learn about each others' cultures, languages and faiths.

Jeremy Greenberg will make this university a better place for those of us sick of commercialism, bureaucracy and Diet Pepsi. Charles LeBaise will sicken us all with incessant whining. I think it's perfectly clear who the real 'buffoon' is.

Aliza Libman

Aliza,

I'm glad Jeremy Greenberg's work means so much to you. Given Canada's multiculturalism and the recent York is U event regarding it, I could only applaud the lengths taken by our university to benefit diversity. That much said, it might be an interesting task for you to find out exactly who are the students who are taking part in York is U. Personally I couldn't see a single face that has been known around Keele or Glendon to have stood up to the administration, Pepsi or any of the other things that make our York experience so much more corporate than educational. If you applaud that sort of thing, good for you.

My sarcasm stems from four years spent within this place, and while it might not be entirely fair to channel it against Master Greenberg and his bag of tools, it's certainly well founded in the issues that this academic institution is facing. Jeremy is a different kind of student voice, more like activist-lite.

If you want to find out who actually fights for your rights, stop looking at administration-backed "student" activities.

Mihnea Dumitru

pro tem.

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Pro Tem is the bilingual and independent newspaper of Glendon College, founded in 1962 as the student publication of York University. En plus d'être gratuit, Pro Tem est le seule journal bilingue en Ontario. Les opinions et les faits émis par les signataires n'engagent qu'eux même, et non l'équipe éditoriale. Les articles sous-entendant des propos diffamatoires, racistes, antisémites, sexistes ou homophobes ne seront pas publiés. The deadline to submit ads and articles is undetermined. Contact us by e-mail to get in the loop — and editorial positions are subject to change.

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Pro Tem would like to thank Hooman Kowshanbin for his dedication to student journalism on campus and beyond.

What's your name? I bet it isn't Lois!

by Rosalie Taylor

For those of you out there with less-than-common names, have you ever wondered how many other people there are in the world with your name? For instance, names like Arnold, Molly or Gertrude are not all that common anymore. But do these people ever form clubs based on their names? In the past 30 years, women named Lois have started doing so.

Back in 1979, in Minnesota, Lois bought life insurance from Lois. They decided to have lunch

‘I can truthfully say that I have never had as much fun on a trip as I do on tours full of Loises’

together because it was so unique that they had the same name. Then they both confessed that they had each considered forming a club of exclusively women named Lois, as the name was so uncommon.

Around the same time, Lois, current President of the Lois Club, moved to Ottawa.

“I loved my name as I grew up but I was aware that only rarely did I ever come across another Lois,” she says. She then encountered eight other Loises and was so astonished that she had a party for all of them. “We had such a great time that we kept in touch over the years.”

Back in Minnesota, Lois and Lois eventually did get a Lois Club of their own going. Once they reached a membership of about 60, they determined some basic club rules: no fees, no offi-



cers, no committees, no business solicitations, and no political statements.

They began having Lois Luncheons several times a year. Not surprisingly, their discussion revolved around their name. They ask each other, “Why were you named Lois? What’s your middle name? How did you hear about the Lois Club? What was your favourite birthday?”

Lois, one of the founders of the Lois Club, also came up with a slogan for the club: I Never Met a Lois I Didn't Like!

as I do on tours full of Loises,” says long-time Lois Club member Lois.

Currently, a woman in the States, Lois, is writing a book about the many interesting facts surrounding the name Lois. It is of concern to her that so many women named Lois are quite old, mostly in their 70s, as it is not a popular name these days.

“It has been intriguing to me to find so many named Lois who live or have come from the North Central region of the US and Canada. I am pursuing this phenomenon for the Lois book,” says Lois.

“To my knowledge, the earliest Lois dates back to the 1600s. She was a Lois Gray who came to these shores from England.”

Lois is also attempting to link Loises all over the world as part of her study. She has set up a website called Lois Link, which claims to “link Loises internationally.”

There are currently over 1500 Loises on the Lois Link mailing list, and this fall there’s a Lois Convention touring through Ireland, where Lois thinks many Loises roots originate. Lois also started a Lois Newsletter, which comes out quarterly, and costs \$5. Lois also made the Lois Club members nametags.

The success of the Lois Club and Lois Link has proved to be quite popular, and has even provoked a bit of an envious sentiment amongst other uncommon names.

In Minnesota, there is already a 46-member Audrey club, and word also has it that the five Eleanors of Orangeville will be meeting soon. On a more local level, Glendon rumour purports the initiation of the Mihnea Club.

And then in 1996, Lois met Lois and Lois, and they decided to have a Canada-US Lois Convention in Charlottetown, PEI. It was so successful that they were written up in major national papers, as well as interviewed on talk shows and radio shows.

They bonded so well that that they decided to make it a habit to have Lois Conventions, and have since been on two Alaskan cruises together, and one Mexican cruise.

“I can truthfully say that I have never had as much fun on a trip

Food for thought... by Danielle Lamb



Has it ever struck you how odd it is that there is a food bank in the middle of one of Toronto's wealthiest areas? Or that, day after day, a significant number of students come pouring into the centre in need of food? Surely the common saying of 'the starving student' is an exaggeration...or is it?

This is my second year working as coordinator of the Glendon Women's Centre, which houses the on-campus food bank. I have seen the number of students who have come to visit the food bank increase dramatically over the past twenty-four months.

What is the cause of this influx of hungry students? Is it simply the fact that the centre and the food bank within have become better known on and around campus? Or that tuition fees and the cost of books are sky high?

As much as I would like to pat myself on the back and claim that the increased popularity of the centre is due to the efforts of its staff, I sadly feel that in this case, it can be more accurately attributed to the latter suggestions.

Whatever the reason, however, the fact that there are students, friends and classmates, who do not have enough to eat is undeniable. I fear that those who come to visit the 'WC' or other on-campus food services is representative of only a small portion of those who are actually in need of this service.

There are likely those who feel ashamed to visit a 'food bank', or those who feel that since they are not, what they deem as being 'destitute', they do not belong in such a place. Please allow me to clear up a few of these concerns.

Firstly, there is no shame in visiting the Glendon Food Services at the WC. I refer to it as food service, because that is exactly what it is — a service which students pay for through a small part their tuition fees.

We also assure your anonymity when visiting the WC. There are no forms to fill out and you do not have to give your name or flash your student card. It is not like a cavity-free visit to the dentist where we will take a Polaroid of you and proudly display it outside on the bulletin

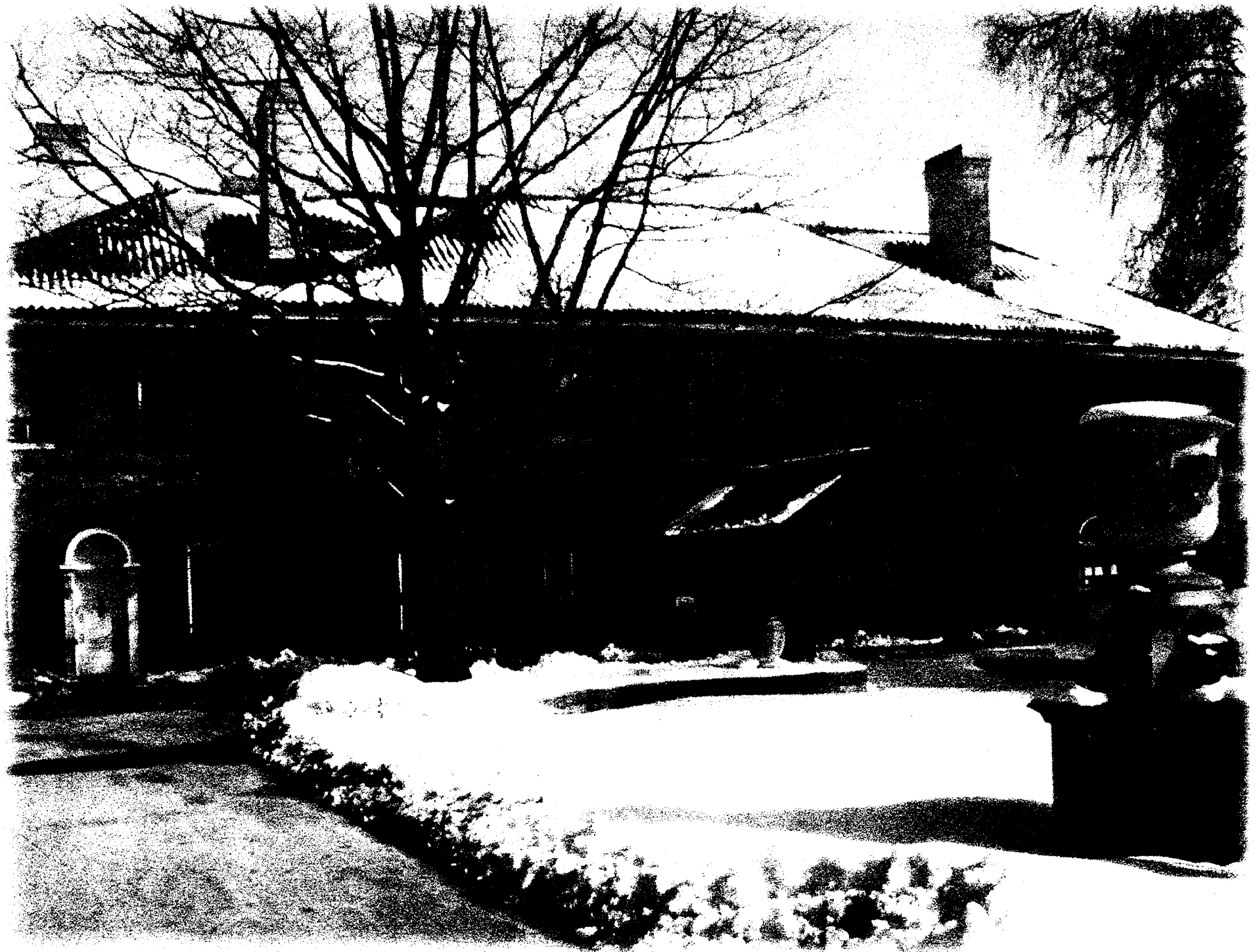
board.

Secondly, the food service is open to all members of the university community. Whether you are flat broke, trying to make the funds on your meal card last as long as possible, or you simply did not have the bus fare or gas money this week to make it the grocery store, you are welcome to visit the food bank. Please, do not go hungry under any circumstances.

I ask that if you or anyone you know might be going without food, please let them know about the services that we provide and encourage them to visit the WC or the food bank at the Keele Campus.

After all, the reward for a hard days work of studying shouldn't be an empty stomach.

The Glendon Women's Centre is located in Hilliard Residence, Glendon Campus Room D124. Ext. 88197 or email us at glendonwc@hotmail.com.



Is the Manor closing?

by Chris Spraakman

The Glendon College administration is interested in renovating the Manor according to Principal Kenneth McRoberts. During the February 28th Faculty Council meeting, he announced that the university has been approached by a group of volunteers that restores historic buildings.

In response to student questions, McRoberts revealed that he and the group, called the Junior League had begun discussions and that he would be considering their proposal. When asked whether existing tenants of the manor will be asked to move out, he said that "these

were issues that would have to be addressed if this would happen."

However, when McRoberts was approached after the meeting he indicated that he would be willing to talk further about the future of the manor with ProTem. At the same time, several faculty members who had first heard about this proposal expressed surprise that this proposal had not yet reached a wider audience. The faculty commented that it was strange to first hear about changes to the manor from a question raised by a student, rather than through more official channels.

At the moment it is unclear what exactly the proposal consists of, but

the Junior League has done several renovations of older buildings in Toronto. What sort of agreement would be struck and what the obligations that Glendon would have to meet are among the chief concerns of those following the talks closely.

Currently there are several student groups using manor space as well as the student pub, an art gallery, professors offices, the bookstore, as well as two groups which pay the university for space. The art gallery would be most heavily hit and student sources believe that this often-struggling group would be hearing its death knell. Whether it would be able to continue to serve the college

if it lost its existing space is questionable.

The Junior League is a group of approximately 500 women who work on various charity projects. The membership rules help keep the group exclusive enough - as new members have to complete an "orientation program consisting of modules and work a community project."

This proposal and future movements by the administration will be looked at closely by ProTem.

Stay tuned.

Student Politics at Glendon

What is the GCSU? One could first answer that it is an abbreviation. "G" and "C" for Glendon College, and certainly the GCSU's gaze extends no further than Glendon College, if that far at all. The "S" obviously stands for students, and truth be told, the GCSU is composed of students, Glendon College ones even at that. But what of the U? A union? Certainly not. The GCSU is far from a union.

When one thinks of unions certain images come to one's mind: Solidarity; Activism; Progress; Determination; Fearlessness, and so on.

So what of the Glendon College Students' Union?

Certainly someone besides a bunch of barely-elected and nearly entirely appointed clique-minded students could do a better job of doling out funds to clubs.

As a loyal member of the GCSU for almost an entire four years now I have had the sad and honourable privilege of being privy to the carryings on of Glendon's most well-paid and hated student organization. I wish to share with you all what I have seen and what leads me to where I am today and the actions I have taken of late. My intentions are not to be apologetic for what I have done, as I feel I have been acting in accordance with morality and what the GCSU is supposed to stand for. Please hear me out and take into consideration what I have seen both past and present.

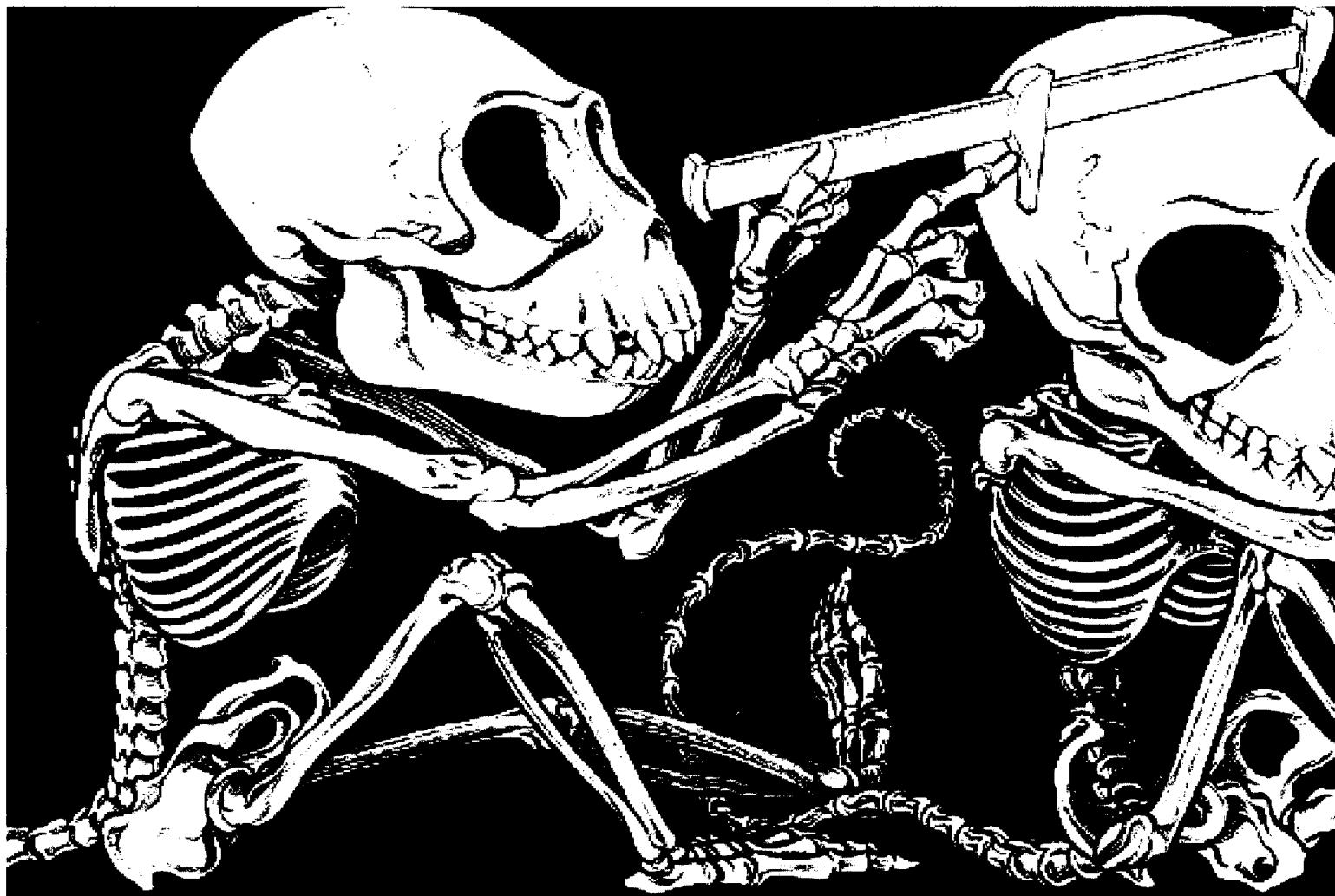
Let us start back in 1999-2000. Some members of the current GCSU were at Glendon, some people reading this were too, other's - probably most - were not. In my first year I sat as the GCSU's First Year Representative, I was actually one of

two, and council meetings were held bilingually. Aside from the comparison that I can draw in my own mind of what the Senate chamber looked like then, as compared to now, the two major things that stick out in my mind are Nicole Lavigne cursing at

tem of cheques and balances if you would. No one person was supposed to be able to take matters, especially financial ones, into her own hands. The student uproar that this act generated, and the debate that followed was incredible, and sadly vacant

the stigmantiaon of the word still haunts the office to this day among those old enough to remember or care.

Fast-forward to 2001-2002 and the Lee/Griswold - Lee/Medina - Lee/Dumitru - Dumitru/No One fiasco



the student populous in the cafeteria that, "if they didn't have the balls to stand up for what they believed in, why were they there?," and then Vice-President Lavigne signing a cheque to pub without President Biggs co-signature.

On the first point I now have respect for former VP Lavigne, outraged with the general apathy at Glendon VP Lavigne was unquestionably lacking tact, but as a person now in her position I can sympathize. To her signing a cheque with neither council's permission nor President Biggs' co-signature, I still find this act reprehensible. It is for that cheque that the pub is still in debt to the GCSU to the tune of close to \$6,000.

It was to prevent this kind of thing from happening, among other things, that created the dual signature cheque in the first place. A sys-

tem of cheques and balances if you would.

Skip ahead to 2000-2001, I now sit as the Director of Communications, a seat I win by default after my much more popular opponent drops out of the race. Little really sticks out about President Drummond and Vice President Nicolas. Both presented themselves often enough in the office, and aside from a computer mysteriously growing legs nothing else really went wrong. Oh, except for the CUPE strike. Here the GCSU took a neutral stance on the whole situation, a pussy-foot attempt not to piss off the administration, or the teachers that we had to face on a day-to-day basis. Such is the sad fate that befalls Glendon. With such a small institution the GCSU is often impotent to do anything for fear of reprisal. And while a pro-student stance is actually what the GCSU was going for when it said neutral,

of a year. Yikes, of all the things that could go wrong within the GCSU everything possible did. It would be a year that would start with a council of four! Then see over a dozen resignations including the vice-president's (TWICE!), and end with the impeachment of the President, the first and only time to ever have that happen at York University. In retrospect the only good thing to come out of that year was the impeachment; it showed that the GCSU could stand up for what it should: truth, honesty and transparency. Unfortunately the office politics of that year stymied much other development.

Yet, the GCSU was set to be a phoenix rising from the ashes. Seeing its rebirth under a short tenure of President Dumitru, which no one, back in 1999, saw coming, 2002-2003 was poised to be a year of action for the GCSU. Its morals and duties gal-

lon: Here I stand by Sean Bawden

vanized, its leaders put on warning that the students would not stand for the shenanigans that President Lee carried on, the GCSU was set to change.

So what of 2002-2003? Now sitting as the Union's Business Manager, an

all intensive purposes IS the GCSU as it has no councilors or first year representatives, no alumni reps or senator, no outside parties of any sort present at council meetings.

What major political voice has the GCSU adopted? As the threat

a better job of doling out funds to clubs. It would probably remove the bias that sees the most active group on campus, the GCF, get a mere \$100 when the Student Males of Glendon, founded and chaired by a member of the GCSU gets \$400 to go out and

what do those posters read? Direct all correspondence to the Speaker of the YFS? Call the GCSU and one will be informed that the GCSU really isn't handling this matter, its speaker/attorney is. So, I guess the GCSU isn't really standing up for student interests. Some guy who walked into the GCSU office one day and declared himself speaker is. And if I recall correctly, aren't speakers supposed to be neutral? Quite the active role for a neutral party to be playing. Don't get me wrong, I think it's great what Speaker Wagman is doing. I just wish the GCSU was doing it. But the GCSU is too scared of C-Wing reprisals, and this matter is probably too political to get involved in anyway, better leave it for someone from Keele.

The GCSU is useless. Its members are useless. And at this point probably any ideas to fix it any other way than its complete overhaul will be useless.

So what then does that leave for the GCSU to do? Well it pays itself pretty well. Doling out close to \$20,000 in salary to those smart enough to walk in to collect a pay cheque.

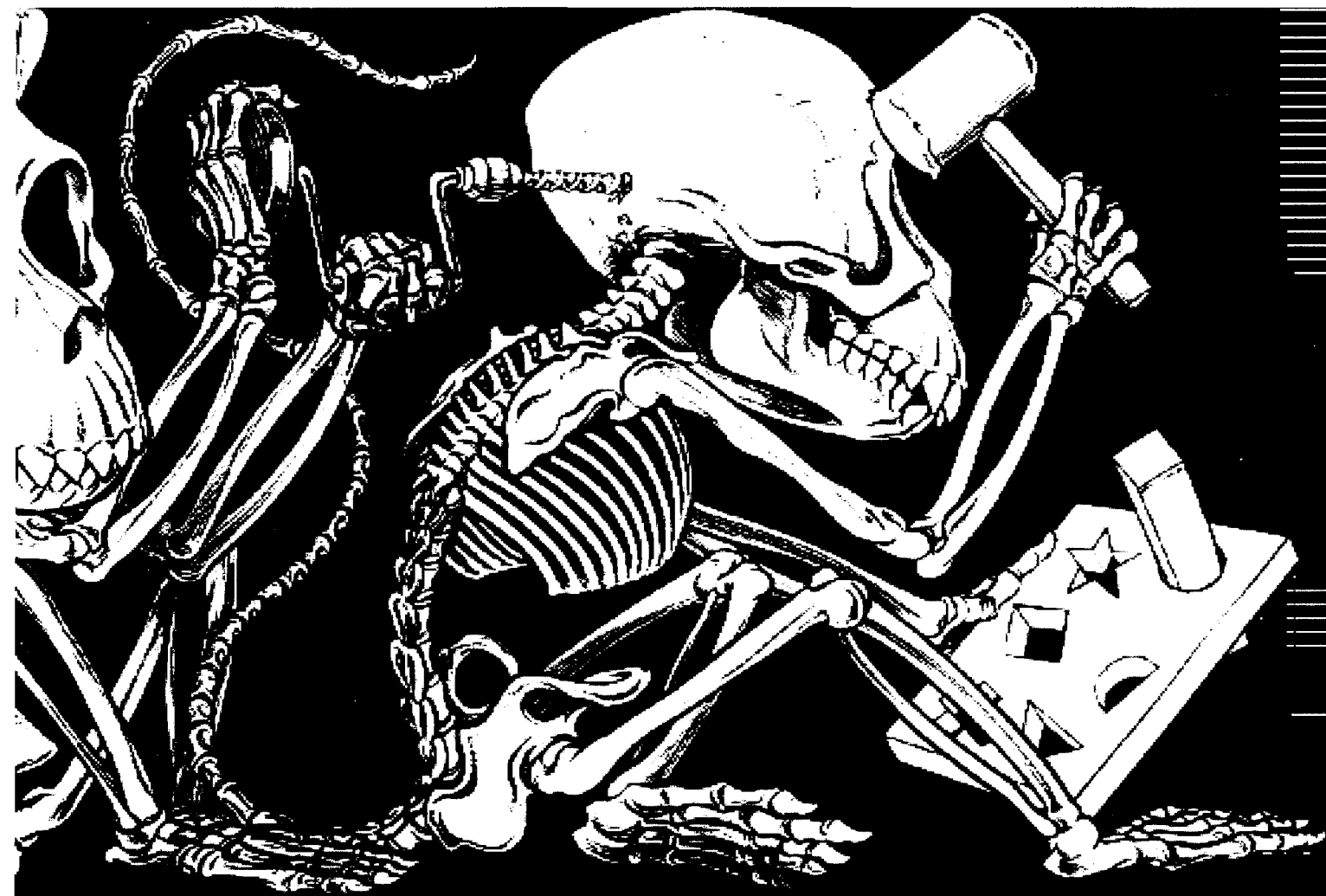
For this, the average student blindly pays close to \$60 a year? For shame!

If the GCSU is not going to be anything more than a biased rubber-stamp, hiding itself behind the fear of administration's reprisal, and a clause of prohibittance from political topics, I say dissolve it.

The GCSU is useless. Its members are useless. And at this point probably any ideas to fix it any other way than its complete overhaul will be useless.

Dissolve the GCSU, for once it's in the student's real interest.

Here I stand.



appointed position that acted mostly as an accountant and consultant, then later acclaimed Director of External Affairs, I was privy to all the juicy details that are the financial carryings ons of the Union. Wow. If I wasn't disillusioned before this point I certainly was now.

It leads to me to my question of what is the GCSU?

Think of the major advancements the GCSU has made this year: Frosh Week, Snowball - both major loses in the pocket for the GCSU, (over \$25,000 combined). A half-hearted attempt at an old-exam supply business, and the valiant retaking of Pub. And, oh, wait there is no and.

If one were to look at the motions passed by the GCSU, one would find allocations for clubs and friends, and little more. With, as a side note, all of those amounts being agreed upon in the executive meeting - which for

of war and genocide looms above the world's head student groups world-wide are standing up for democracy and fair play. The GCSU, however, cowers behind a clause in its constitution that says it cannot support any group that has ties to political parties. Those wishing not to offend the C-Wing Administrators hide behind this clause and refuse to support, ANYTHING political. The GCSU is the only local of the CFS not to take ANY stance on the impending war on Iraq. Even when members of the YFS came to plead the GCSU for support it shrank back and refused to even consider the idea, claiming that it can't support anything political.

What is the GCSU for then? A rubber stamp? Certainly someone besides a bunch of barely-elected and nearly entirely appointed clique-minded students could do

drink beer.

And Frosh Week and Snowball? Frosh Week could easily be handled by the YFS, or even Glendon Student Affairs. Hell, I can't even remember when Frosh Week was even organized by an elected member OF the GCSU, my hat tips to Brad, Ron, Brad again, I think Brad again, and Robin. Student Affairs, just as easily as the GCSU could hire student coordinators to run this money-losing fiasco of a week.

And Snowball? If the turnout numbers of the past years reflects how many students actually care about this formal, it too could be easily scraped as so few members of the Glendon community actually care enough about this school to make celebrating it worth while.

Then there is the pub thing. Yes the mighty GCSU is going to take back the pub for the students. Oh wait,

THE LAST LINE OF DEFENSE:

MIETRO MIETRA

Toronto Special

Vol. 1 No. 4 • March 10, 2003



SMART DRINK OVER-DOSE!



*Find out how
they kill
inside!*

Plus:

**More of Corey Haim!
More of Mid-Town!
More of Toronto!**



**Pageant loser
lashes out after
drunken friends
of organizers ogle
contestants in the
NUDE!!!**

America to the French: Our fries are 'Freedom Fries!'



A powerful consortium of North American prepared food manufacturers are planning to boycott the food product "French Fries."

Mandated by the power of focus group findings, the consortium plans to remove, alter or censure the word 'French' from entire product lines because France's opposition to a U.S. led war on Iraq.

In turn, the group will introduce new "Freedom Fries" on the market early this spring.

Freedom Fries, and their new "FF" logo, will feature the Statue of Liberty and will be prominently displayed on packages, the Special has learned.

Ironically enough, not only was the Statue of Liberty a gift of from France to the American people to commemorate the centennial of American independence, but the statue has also been off limits to visitors since September 11!

All of this has American po-

litical analysts worried that the move may spark another diplomatic incident with the French.

In fact, on CNN's "Cross Fire," the normally hawkish Bob Novak expressed his concern about the situation to viewers: "Look, the French are not minor players here," he said.

"We can't just go around the world childishly thumbing our noses at people we don't agree with."

But apparently, the French couldn't give a damn!

Even prominent French food activist José Bové was quoted in France's *Paris Match* saying, "Not only will we not change the name of the café américain, but it will continue to be bad, watered-down coffee."

It seems fries are in the eyes of the beholder after all!

Miss Universe Canada hopeful gets her bikini in a knot

TORONTO — Celina Mziray already knew she would come far short of winning the Miss Universe Canada 2003 pageant.

But that isn't stopping this 20-year-old who lives in Nepean, Ont., from making a stink about improper conduct on the part of the pageant's organizers long after this year's winner has been announced.

Meanwhile, it's obvious that Leanne Cecile, 25, who won the Miss Universe Canada crown on Jan. 25, has been standing tall in the face of the controversy.

For now, Mziray — who didn't even place in the Top-10 — has been airing her dirty laundry in public on an Internet chat group dedicated to the pageant.

"The Miss Universe pageant has been involved in fowl [sic] play," Mziray writes to the group. "I just feel people should be aware of the situation so other young girls interested in a pageant can think twice before going in with false expectations."

Although Mziray doesn't want to start a petty catfight

against Cecile, who she calls one of the most down-to-earth people she's ever met, she allegedly does have proof that organizers took advantage of many of the girls.

She continues: "I never expected to win. I was simply proud of myself for going on-stage in a bikini."

In a later post, Mziray wrote that other contestants have supported her claim against organizers.

And a friend of another candidate has written that some men were allegedly drunk and lurking backstage during the pageant, peeking at the half-naked girls.

"They were the creepy friends of the organizers and had no business backstage while young women were changing," he writes.

Another insider who was close to the action wrote that much tinkering had taken place behind closed doors in "eliminating girls for reasons yet unknown."

And a third insider argues Cecile won because a full-page photo of her appeared in an advertisement in the pageant's program, and her boyfriend hosted one of the regional finals. As well, two judges allegedly had once worked with the sister of an employee at the organizing company of the regionals — and it's the same company that produced the ad.

"This is ridiculous," writes a member of the chat group. "Even if Leanne had an ad in the program, or her boyfriend hosted the preliminary, or the marketing company for the pageant is the same as that model agency — it's not like Leanne is an unattractive, out-of-shape, uneducated, or self-conscious woman."

But many say Mziray is flustered about a fact of life that is out of her control.

"Celina is hurt," writes an anonymous member of the chat group, nicknamed 'Piggy.' "I know from the bottom of my heart how she feels. But starting rumours is not the appropriate way of resolving an irrelevant issue."

The truth is, Mziray is a



SORE LOSER?: Celina Mziray (inset, above; and pictured at left) lost the Miss Universe Canada 2003 pageant to Leanne Cecile (below, at right).



WHAT A WINTER

TORONTO — Is this a record brrreaking winter or what?

According to the folks at Environment Canada, Toronto is inches away from burying the average snowfall record for the season.

Last year, old man winter dropped close to 74 cm of snow. But this year alone, we have already seen 144 cm.

"I remember coming home from work the other day. I looked outside and couldn't believe it was snowing again," says Arnie Davidson, an employee at Environment Canada, in Toronto. "At least it was pretty to look at it fall when you're sitting indoors."

But try telling that to the thousands of Torontonians who have been shoveling it on a daily basis. And compared to last year's tropical January and February, who can blame them?

"But I'll tell you something, even if I had to shovel the driveway three times today, I don't mind," adds Davidson. "After all, it's the only exercise I get."

And what about that windchill? If you thought it seemed colder than usual, you're right!

In fact, Environment Canada came up with a new measure for windchill last year, and this more accurate system has proven how Toronto is colder now than in any other year.

"Yeah, it's true," says Amy Edwards

from the corner of Yonge and Eglinton Streets. "It's really breezy here, but I just take my scarf and wrap it around my face and I'm fine."

The average temperature in the big smoke was -8° Celcius, but with the windchill, it was really -17°C. And that temperature reading was made during midday.

Driving conditions have been a nightmare — despite the help of our efficient city workers, but at least we haven't seen anything like those highway pileups in Ohio or New York State after their record-breaking winter.

"Toronto has been pretty good about clearing roads and sidewalks," adds Edwards.

"But we're Canadians, so we're meant to handle the cold and the snow."

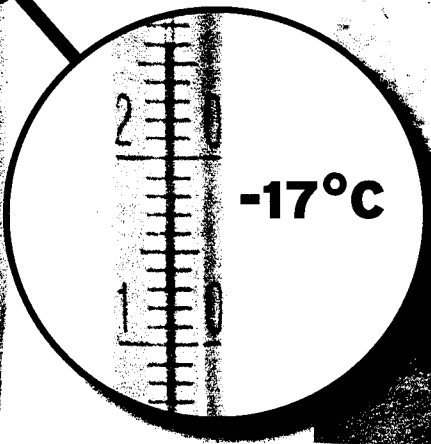
By the way, get used to this weather because it doesn't seem as if it's going to let up anytime soon. The long-range forecast is calling for more snow, colder winds, icy roads and slush to lead us into rainy April.

"What I do is I pretend it's the middle of July, and then I'm OK," Edwards says.



'IS THIS TACKY?': We at the Toronto Special find swimsuit issues adhere to a certain style — recent ones by Sports Illustrated, Saturday Night, The Toronto Sun and National Geographic didn't sit well with us. So here's our own!

Megan (top photo) uses colourful strips of duct tape to fashion this appealing bathing suit. She reveals a tiny bit of creativity in this home-made model. Meanwhile, the Scattingcourt swim team (above) stays fresh.



BUSH'S RISKY GAME OF 'RISK'®



...And meet the kids
who almost beat him!!!

JACKSONVILLE , Fla — President George W. Bush took time out from his busy schedule to spend a day with a Grade-8 class in this bustling North Florida city.

"People ask: 'How can I help on this war against terror? How can I fight against evil?'" the President said.

"I say to them: 'You can do so by mentoring a child; by going into a shut-in's house and say 'I love you,'" Bush told reporters outside of Mrs. Anne Blackmore's second-floor room at Paxon Middle School.

President Bush spent the afternoon watching the students play games that included Monopoly, Clue, Scrabble and Risk.

While observing youngsters Tim Murphy and Megan Fry play Scrabble, he was heard saying: "You teach a child to read, and he or her will be able to pass a literacy test."

By mid-afternoon, Bush got into the competitive spirit himself, when he engaged in a game of 'RISK'® with class

members Benjamin Lauder, Molly Jacobs, and Eddy Li — who were all thrilled to play games with the Commander-in-Chief.

In fact, the always straight-shooting Bush even asked the students to go easy on him since he had never played it before.

However, the hesitance was short-lived when on his third move, Bush tried attacking his opponents by jumping his pieces from one end of the board to the other.

But Molly stayed his hand and pointed out that he could only attack territories that were touching one another.

After taking back the move, President Bush was heard mumbling that normally, Colin Powell always let him play that way. Shortly thereafter, a visibly frustrated Bush 'card-rushed' Molly out of the game,

increasing his military gain two-fold.

By the next round, Bush seemed in complete control.

Ben was about to turn in his cards for more armies, but the ruthless Prez stormed in and easily toppled his two tiny soldiers in the Middle East.

"It would have been fairer if Mr. Bush went after Eddy instead of me," Ben Lauder said to the other classmates.

By then, Bush had spread his armies clear across the board: Australia, North America, South America, Africa, and Europe, too.

However, young Li still managed to hold on to more than half of Asia using all of his armies built up along the border territories.

The children who had been playing other games in the classroom stood and stared as they watched the final turns.

"They underestimated me," said a boastful Bush.

It was a real David and Goliath moment as the President's armies were



BEATING KIDS AT RISK: Molly Jacobs (left), Eddy Li and Benjamin Lauder, all Florida middle school students, played the board game 'RISK'® against President George W. Bush.

depleted with each of little Li's high rolls.

"Eddy just kept getting fives and sixes again and again. I never saw such good rolls," observed a fellow classmate.

When it was Eddy's turn, he cashed in all his cards and ran the board. His control grew from a pitiful eight countries to 39.

"Bush was so busy building up his defence in North America, and attacking everything in sight he forgot to protect his border territories from Eddy's onslaught," said a loathesome

Ben Lauder.

And just as Eddy was about to roll for the remaining two territories, Bush accidentally knocked the board with his knee.

The children tried to put the armies back where they belonged, but the fire alarm sounded and they were forced to evacuate from the building.

Bush later commented that he believed that his foot had slipped on a pretzel and that he would love to challenge Eddy Li to a much longer game in the future.

QUÉBÉCOIS TEENS ARE HOOKED ON SMART DRINKS!



BURSTING WITH ENERGY: These three unidentified teens at a discothèque in Vertville, Que., have consumed 'smart drinks' without being fully aware of their danger.

But the literacy rate is still only at 53%!

VERTVILLE, Que. — Some of Quebec's brightest teens are becoming hooked on 'smart drinks,' and experts fear that by 2006 these shining stars could turn into the province's dimmest.

These drinks, popular in Vertville, Que.-area nightclubs, have become more sought after than lip balm, sexual intercourse or chocolate, experts say. It's believed the drinks increase intellectual and physical stamina.

'Guru,' along with 'Red Bull' and similar smart drinks, are beverages specifically designed for active people who want to surpass themselves, providing them with increased alertness and vitality.

But the beverages have come into hot water as of late after Vertville teen Kayla Summerville lost her entrance scholarship to Laval University, where she was to have studied molecular neurobiology, all due to her overconsumption of one of these drinks.

"A lot of Vertvillians are doing whatever they can to get a hold of smart drinks," Summerville said from her home in Vertville. "I, like so many others, lost sight of everything important for the bottle."

'Guru' claims to be made from all-natural ingredients that combine the power of carefully chosen herbs borrowed from ancient cultures around the world. They also have more than six

times as much caffeine as a regular cup of coffee.

Summerville and her friends had been spending weekends at a popular Vertville discothèque, 'La Gigotière,' which sells Guru.'

The 21-year-old almost died of a smart drink overdose after partying at the discothèque, Vertville officials said.

Last month, Summerville suffered kidney and liver failure shortly after leaving the nightclub and was rushed to hospital.

Paramedics said Summerville began consuming the controversial drink sometime after 12:30 a.m. Soon after, she started "feeling ill" and left the club between 4 and 5 a.m. with a man she knew, paramedics said. The pair then went to a home on Dominique St.

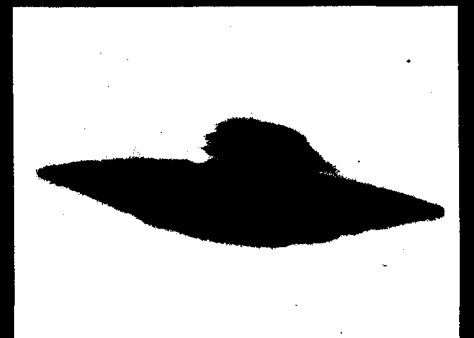
At 9:26 a.m., the friend called 911 when he couldn't wake her up.

Summerville showed weakened vital signs when emergency crews arrived. She was revived by emergency staff at Vertville General Hospital.

After a lengthy investigation, it was discovered that she had ingested 16 'smart drink' throughout the night.

In the wake of the incident, officials are warning young people about the hazards of 'smart drinks.'

34 UFOs spotted last year in Toronto



WOO!!! HOO!!!: Unidentified flying objects, such as the one above, are seen commonly in Toronto.

TORONTO — At least 32 unidentified flying objects were seen in the Greater-Toronto Area in 2002.

"In 2002, we had the largest number of separate events for a single year in the history of collecting UFO data for Canada," said Chris Rutkowski of Ufology Research of Manitoba, which compiled a report on last year's sightings.

"We have some extraordinary cases in Canada last year reported literally from one end of the country to the other."

About 18 per cent of all UFO reports remained unexplained but only about seven per cent were what researchers consider high-quality cases. Most sightings involve at least two witnesses and last approximately 15 minutes.

Rutkowski and other researchers don't draw any conclusions from the sightings and don't suggest alien spacecraft are visiting planet Earth.

"As with previous studies, the 2002 Canadian UFO survey does not offer any positive proof that UFOs are either alien spacecraft or a specific natural

phenomenon," notes the report.

"However, it does show that some phenomenon, which is often called a UFO, is continually being observed by witnesses."

On July 11, 2002, a young man was driving to work, with his father in the passenger seat, westbound on Highway 407.

At 8:46 a.m., the young man noticed a black asymmetrically shaped object 10 kilometres away, hovering about 300 feet from the ground. As well, the object did not have wings, or a basket for passengers — as would a helium balloon.

A few minutes later, as they drove closer, his father saw two white discs attached to each other, hovering side-by-side. These second objects were smaller than the first black object and they hovered 40 feet away from it.

The objects continued hovering, and the man and his father agreed they did not see them drift, nor did they notice wires attaching them to the ground.

TORONTO READY



Charging towards their goal: The Metro Militia hopes to defend freedom in T.O.

WILL CAN

Metro Militia S

TORONTO — While the United States gets increasingly militaristic and the prospect of war breaking out around the world gets starker, some Canadians are worried about the security of this country.

Commander 'J' of the newly formed Metro Militia says his group of armed citizens are ready to defend the city.

In this exclusive interview, the Toronto Special takes you through the Metro Militia's boot camp.

The Militia invited us to a training operation — during which our photographers took exclusive photos and were privy to seeing their special training drills being conducted in order to prepare these men for conflict.

We watched as these dedicated soldiers pushed themselves through gruelling endurance drills and intelligence gathering operations, such as putting up road blocks and conducting

vehicle checks.

Commander 'J', one of three founders of the Militia, says all this hard work must be done for the safety of Toronto.

"Not only has the Canadian Armed Forces itself been going downhill and has lost its focus since we signed the NORAD deal, but our soldiers are spread out all over the world, involved in all sorts of foreign conflicts that have nothing to do with Canada."

The Commander then told a reporter from the Toronto Special: "Who is going to defend Toronto?"

The members of the Metro Militia worry that while the Canadian government is concerning itself with far-away threats, Canada sits between



Rich Vigilante Heritage

The last militia group to defend Toronto's streets called itself the 'Guardian Angels.'

two of the most heavily armed countries in the world — the United States and Russia.

"Have you seen some of the anti-Canadian propaganda being shown on American TV?" asks Commander 'J'.

"They're calling us 'Kanuckistan,' and accusing us of harbouring terrorists. They're treating us like criminals at the border — the hostility is rising," he told the Toronto

Special. "They're seriously going after our bacon."

'J' also points out the U.S. already has a deal where their soldiers are allowed to enter Canada 'in case of emergency' and have been amassing troops all along the Canadian perimeter — supposedly the world's longest undefended border. "If it's an undefended border, who are all the slobs with the guns?" asks 'J'.

"What happens when they storm northward? Who's going to stop them, The Maid of the Mist? The Beefeaters at Fort York? The Bluenose? The beaver? Who?" he asks.

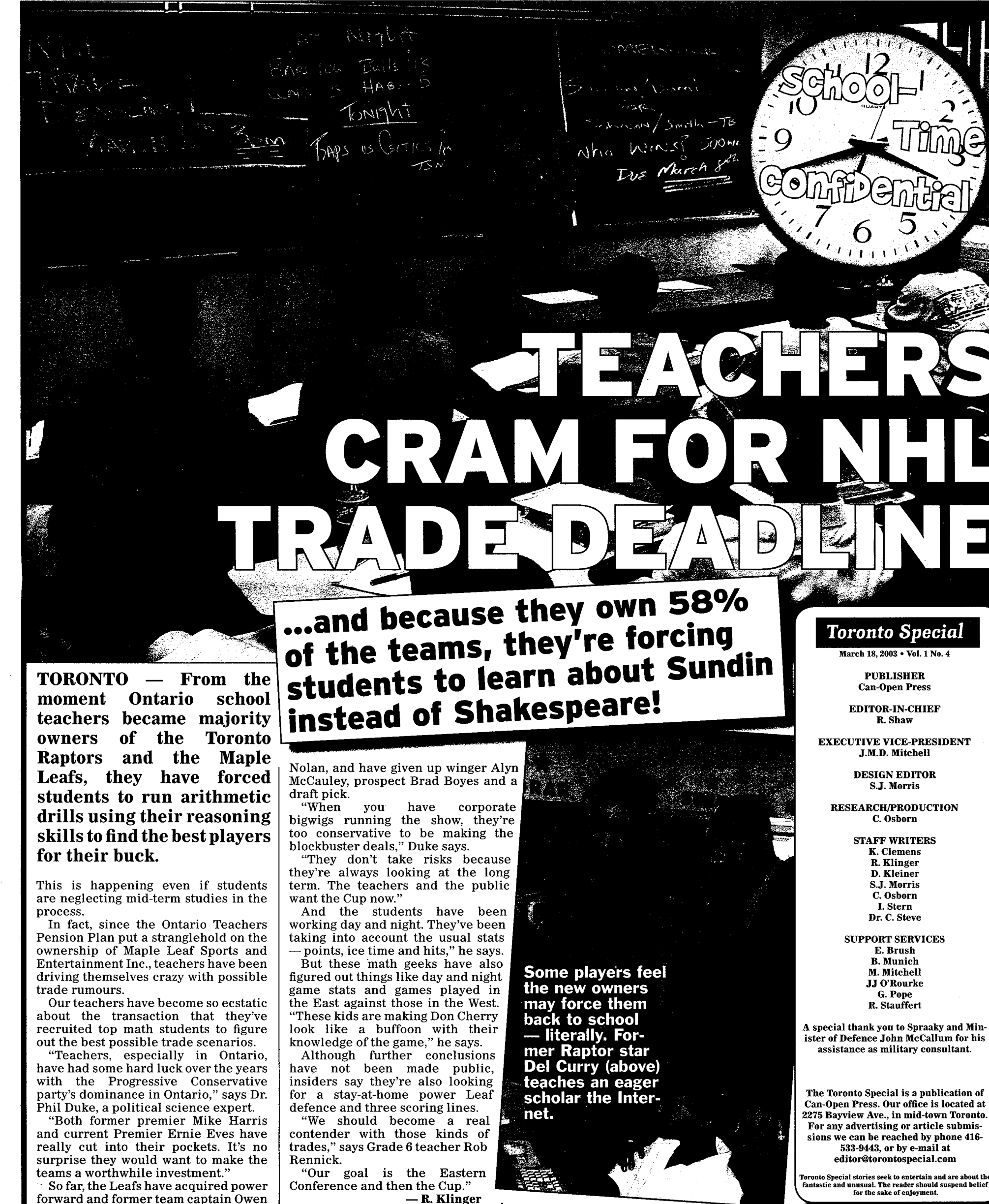
"Well, us, that's who. Maybe there aren't many of us, but with dedication, training and a good strategy, we'll keep this country free."



tands on Guard for Thee



CHECK POINT: This seemingly inconspicuous vehicle awaits clearance after it interrupted the militia's morning exercises.



TEACHERS CRAM FOR NHL TRADE DEADLINE

**...and because they own 58%
of the teams, they're forcing
students to learn about Sundin
instead of Shakespeare!**

TORONTO — From the moment Ontario school teachers became majority owners of the Toronto Raptors and the Maple Leafs, they have forced students to run arithmetic drills using their reasoning skills to find the best players for their buck.

This is happening even if students are neglecting mid-term studies in the process.

In fact, since the Ontario Teachers Pension Plan put a stranglehold on the ownership of Maple Leaf Sports and Entertainment Inc., teachers have been driving themselves crazy with possible trade rumours.

Our teachers have become so ecstatic about the transaction that they've recruited top math students to figure out the best possible trade scenarios.

"Teachers, especially in Ontario, have had some hard luck over the years with the Progressive Conservative party's dominance in Ontario," says Dr. Phil Duke, a political science expert.

"Both former premier Mike Harris and current Premier Ernie Eves have really cut into their pockets. It's no surprise they would want to make the teams a worthwhile investment."

So far, the Leafs have acquired power forward and former team captain Owen

Nolan, and have given up winger Alyn McCauley, prospect Brad Boyes and a draft pick.

"When you have corporate bigwigs running the show, they're too conservative to be making the blockbuster deals," Duke says.

"They don't take risks because they're always looking at the long term. The teachers and the public want the Cup now."

And the students have been working day and night. They've been taking into account the usual stats — points, ice time and hits," he says.

But these math geeks have also figured out things like day and night game stats and games played in the East against those in the West. "These kids are making Don Cherry look like a buffoon with their knowledge of the game," he says.

Although further conclusions have not been made public, insiders say they're also looking for a stay-at-home power Leaf defence and three scoring lines.

"We should become a real contender with those kinds of trades," says Grade 6 teacher Rob Rennick.

"Our goal is the Eastern Conference and then the Cup."

— R. Klinger

**Some players feel
the new owners
may force them
back to school
— literally. For-
mer Raptor star
Del Curry (above)
teaches an eager
scholar the Inter-
net.**

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Toronto Special stories seek to entertain and are about the fantastic and unusual. The reader should suspend belief for the sake of enjoyment.

Izzy Stern or ain't he? By Isadore Elliot Stern

SCOTTY BOWMAN CURSES LEAFS

TORONTO — I was having one at my local the other day and the boys and me were talking about the old hockey coach, Scotty Bowman. He was a General in his own right, if not just manager and coach.

His retirement last year was the storybook ending to a glorious career that led to nine Stanley Cups, four less than the entire Toronto Maple Leafs organization.

"Not that Pat Quinn doesn't have the best chance since '67 to get there, but lately we've been lacking in the defence department," said one of the lads.

"The Leafs have got to make a move in order to secure the Cup this year." He was right, too. We can't have our opponents flying in off the wing and firing on Eddie the 'Eagle' all the time.

"Until he makes a change, our chances are up in the air at best!"

It's always just so hard to imagine how the Leafs, after so many years as a hockey team in a hockey town, haven't been able to assemble the forces to mount a winning campaign. Will Toronto stay

stuck at lucky-13 Stanley Cups forever? Did our hopes die with the dream of a six-team league?

"There are options for Quinn around the league, but his dual GM-coach position might prove to be too much conflict of interest for him to deal straight with other GMs," another buddy said. Bowman could have done it for us though. He was a leader - he was a hero.

"Say Izzy....," says Mickey the barkeep who turned out to be monitoring our conversation, "what year did Bowman start coaching in the NHL?"

It was the '67-'68 season for the expansion St. Louis team, I remembered.

The Blues later let him get away to Montreal and they're still awaiting their first Cup. What a legend that Scotty Bowman.

Just then it occurred to me: Why I had never considered it puzzled me, but I

now saw the reason why Toronto had bombed all these years and why the future looked brighter than ever. The Leaf's have never won a Cup while Bowman was coaching in the league.

After discovering this 'Bowman Curse,' I decided it was TIME TO GET STERN. That rat Bowman probably orchestrated the whole thing - year after year, battle after battle.

His Canadiens terrorized opponents in the '70s, and his Red Wings crashed through the competition past the '90s to '02-'03. That low-life probably worked to prevent Toronto the Good from ever winning, even when it sacrificed his own chances!

Toronto certainly has a superstitious past, being stuck at 13 Stanley Cups. The stories about Bill Barilko and pyramid power only strengthen the fact that wacky things have happened to our boys over

Izzy blames 35 year Cup drought on freaky coincidence.. or is it?

the years. We can't afford another boondoggle of a year where our team goes down in flames, not having a good enough defence to stop the enemy attacks. We look like Canada's military out there.

A couple of new forwards for insurance would be a good idea, to go along with Gary Roberts and Alexander 'The Answer' Mogilny, who has lately been living up to his moniker.

Quinn has to capitalize on this stroke of good luck for our boys in blue, after all, Canadian history is on our side.

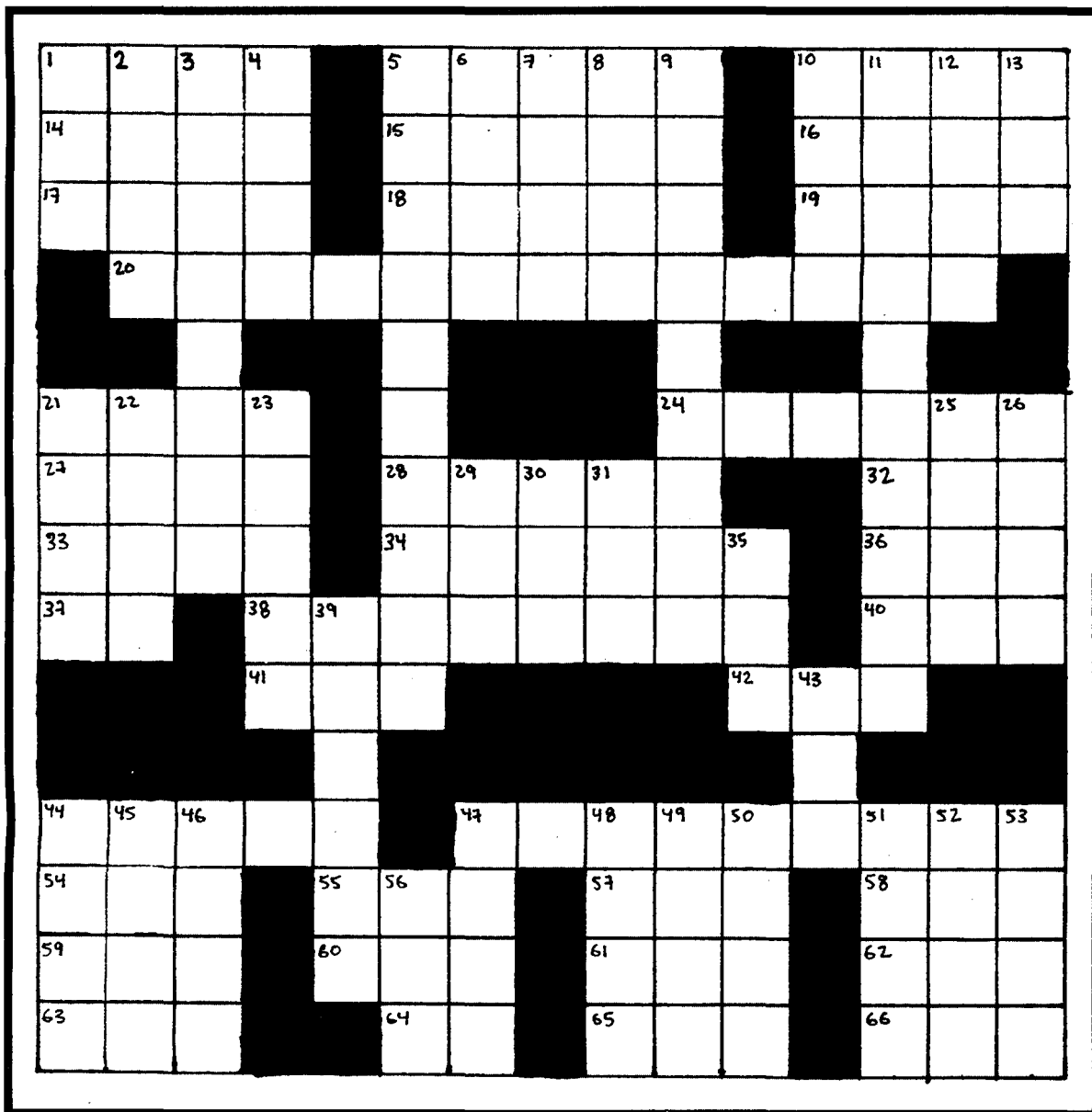
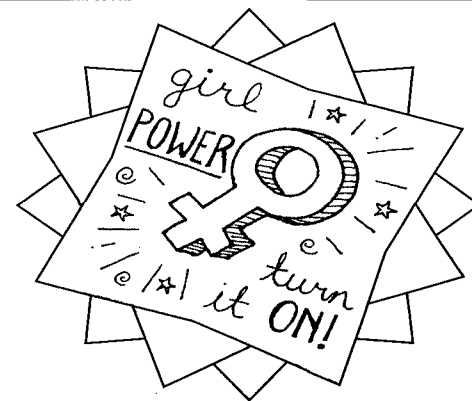
With Scotty Bowman hopefully gone for good, nothing should stop the Maple Leafs from bringing home the Cup for the first time in 35 years.



IN FLAMES: 'The Buds' hope Izzy is on the mark about former coach Scotty Bowman.

Down 'N Acrossword

with Auntie Bees Nees



Down

1. The Elmwood is one
2. "___ on the beach"
3. Like a soap opera
4. Camping need
5. Groupie, maybe
6. Expression of boredom
7. U.S. anti-MP3 org.
8. Signature, for short
9. Personalities
10. Observed
11. Daytimers
12. Dumb dude
13. Tampon disease, for short
21. Break
22. Tiny hole
23. "Beans, beans, the magical fruits. The more you eats, the more you ___"
25. East side avenue
26. Expression of surprise
29. Little red ___
30. 3 vowels
31. Record speed
35. A.A. Milne baby
39. West side river
43. Monthly drag, for some
44. Gonorrhoea, for short
45. Candy with bubbles
46. Hitchcock film
47. Birthplace?
48. Mammal juice
49. Like an axis, maybe
50. Soixante-___
51. Popular tape
52. Bum hole
53. What Toronto once was
56. Cow sound

Across

1. Porn
5. Oil producing nation
10. Tender
14. Yearn
15. Sully
16. Love god
17. Prayer ending
18. Expect
19. Personalities
20. With 47 across, event in March
21. Gob
24. Not ready to eat
27. Taboo
28. Musical combination
32. Zig-___
33. Toronto ball player
34. Tampon alternative
36. U.S. anti-pollution org.
38. "I party all night, ___ ___ tired at work" (3 wds.)
40. Commie colour
41. Big ___
42. Psy ___
44. Chocolate alternative
47. See 20 across
54. Sign of pride?
55. Type of rock music
57. "___been everywhere, man!"
58. Card game

SOLUTION TO LAST PUZZLE:

59. Early synth
60. Museum with its own subway stop
61. Actress Lucy
62. Bad dude
63. Creepy author
64. ___-gyn
65. "3am eternal" artists
66. Expression of disdain

| | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | |
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Puzzled? Then email auntiebeesknees@riseup.net !

TORONTO'S Favourite Puzzle!

THE DUMBEST LAWS IN TEXAS

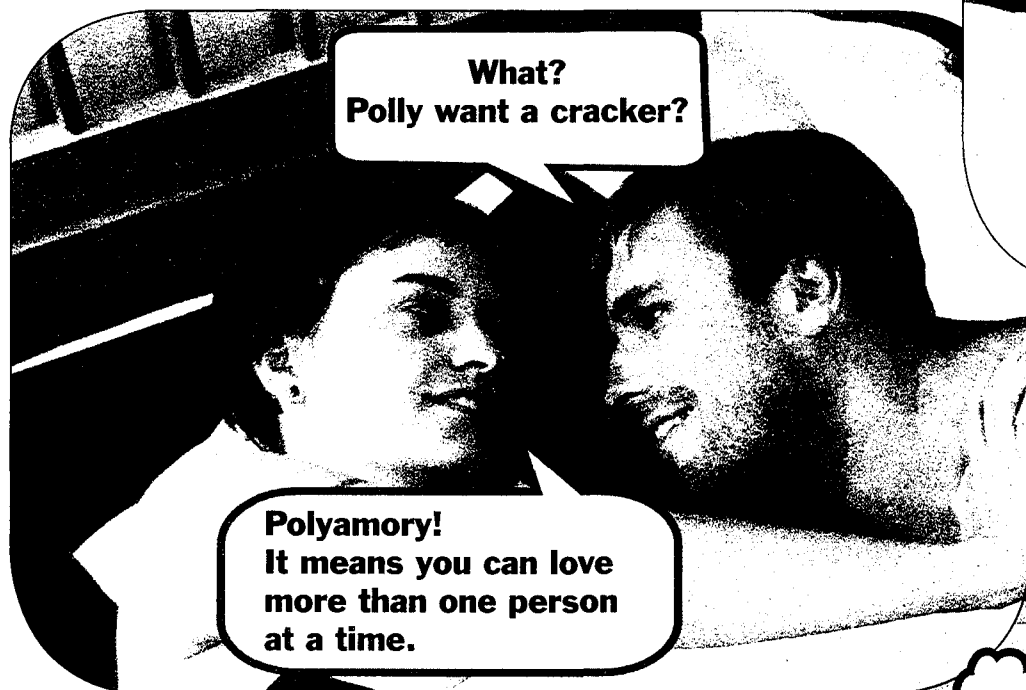
Hey we know George W. is only pretending to be a Texan but we thought we might help out the act and shed some light on his "character" by exposing a few of Texas' dumbest laws!

- Up to a felony charge can be levied for promoting the use of, or owning more than six dildos.
- It is illegal to take more than three sips of beer at a time while standing.
- It is illegal for one to shoot a buffalo from the second story of a hotel.
- It is illegal to milk another person's cow.
- Homosexual behavior is a misdemeanor offense.
- The entire Encyclopedia Britannica is banned in Texas because it contains a formula for making beer at home.

WOW THOES ARE DUMB LAWS!

Something more with Jesse and Greg

A *Special* guide to love and romance



What?
Polly want a cracker?

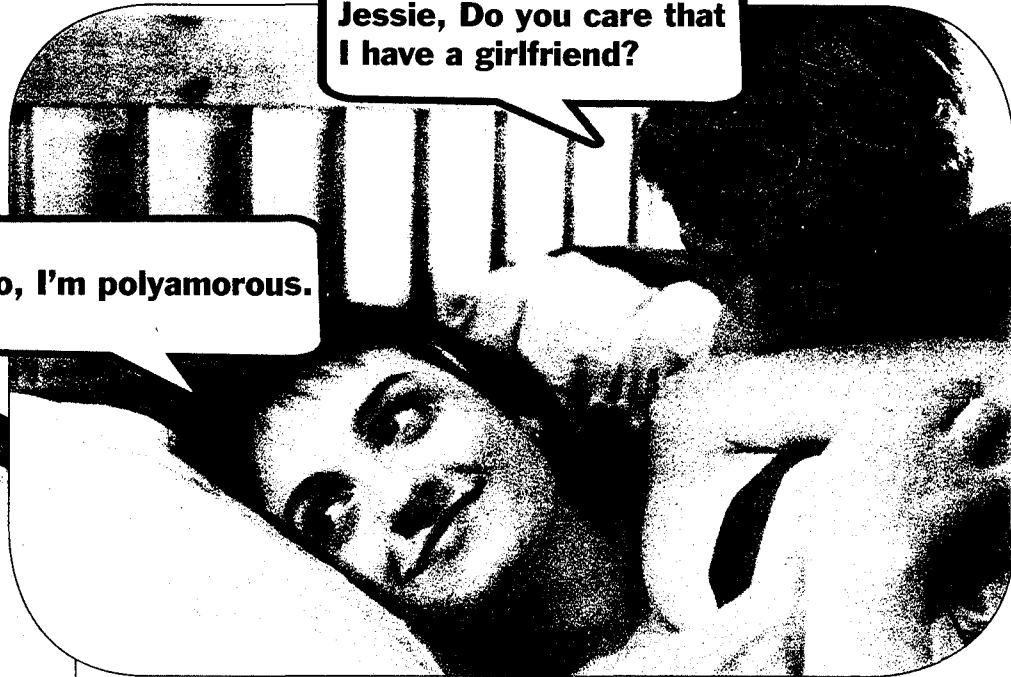
Polyamory!
It means you can love
more than one person
at a time.

Now that Jessie has made her bed, is she prepared to lie in it. It seems that Greg goes birdy by the word "love," but can easily cuddle up to the idea of two girls. Are things getting a little too close for comfort for both of them? How much longer can he keep their relationship undercover? Tuck yourself in next time for *Something More* and slightly poly.

Oh, Greg.
Are you trying
to be a dumb
cracker?

No, I'm polyamorous.

Jessie, Do you care that
I have a girlfriend?



Are you trying to say
that you love me?



Science proves:

Men who have a small penis get more oral sex!!!

STOCKHOLM — Finally, the lingering question: 'Does size matter?' has been answered — and this time the little guy comes out ahead!

A Swedish study involving 6,790 Scandinavian men shows that men who have a larger penis get far less oral sex than those with a smaller one.

"In the motion of sucking, a critical component of oral sex, the larger the penis is — if erect — the more strain is felt by the jaw muscles," explains Dr. Tina Hatterstrom, a researcher who conducted an exhaustive study for the Institute of Sexuality in Stockholm.

"We found that as result of jaw fatigue, oral sex is performed not only for a shorter period of time, but also less frequently," she says. "The ergonom-

ics of oral sex clearly favour men with smaller penises."

The study is part of a larger research initiative funded by Sweden's socialized-health care system, which has been under strain in recent months because of the growing popularity of penis enlargement treatments.

"What this study tells men is that there are great advantages in having a smaller penis," she says.

Dr. Hatterstrom has been touring North America to share her research. She enjoys getting interactive during her talks to further get across her point

of view. On the road, the charismatic researcher brings cucumbers of varying sizes to demonstrate how sucking on different-sized specimens affects the motion of her jaw.

She states that not only does the motion become dramatically more pronounced with a larger, wider, cucumber, but the bigger vegetable also fills her mouth — allowing her tongue less room for motion. This decreases her ability to provide the sort of stimulating manoeuvres that enhance oral sex.

"The Institute is very satisfied with the results," Dr. Hatterstrom proudly explains to the *Toronto Special*.

"It's well-known that traditionally, men with smaller penises have been reluctant to discuss sexual issues. For many men, these talks have reversed that fact," she says. "At many of my talks, it has not been uncommon for men to raise their hand and openly discuss their penis size."



A CLOSER LOOK: Dr. Tina Hatterstrom is studying how penis size affects jaw muscle fatigue.

"Men frequently approach me after my presentation and tell me about their four- or five-inch penises without the slightest embarrassment. Some are actually eager to volunteer for the study."
— By D. Kleiner

FLAMING HAIM

LIGHTS UP MID-TOWN!!!



Occurrence No. 1

Date: Saturday,
March 1st, 2003

Time: 22:30 p.m.

Location: Mosquito Moes'
Bar and Eatery

(130 Eglinton Ave., E.)

Synopsis: Unveiling of the
bar's newest shooter, the
'Flaming Haim' — a tribute
to actor and bar regular
Corey a.k.a. 'The Haimster'
Haim.

**Special
EXCLUSIVE**

Here are 10 ways you can stop
the war from your livingroom:

1. Write a letter to a politician. Tell them what you think about his or her policies.
2. Stop watching CNN — the ratings drop will let them know you are fed up with their biased pro-war propaganda.
3. Phone a talk-radio show host and protest against the war.
4. Write a letter to the editor in response to pro-war articles your local newspaper. Let the editors know you don't agree.
5. Log on the Internet and post anti-war information to every discussion group you can find.
6. E-mail your friends and encourage them to speak out for peace.
7. Stop eating U.S.-owned 'Hostess Frito-Lay' snacks and buy Canadian 'Humpty-Dumpty' snacks instead.
8. Drink more French or Chilean wines. Support France's anti-war stance.
9. Display an anti-war message in the front window of your house.
10. Boycott all U.S.-manufactured cheese.



George!!!

Curious VJ 'superstar' George Stroumboulopoulos puts on his party face for a couple of dames at last week's Canadian Music Week kick-off party. All in a ...

...MID-TOWN MINUTE!!!

I Look On From Here

By Christina Sibian

Looking forward to each second of tomorrow
No dwelling on the hours of yesterday
I've shed tears, but they have dried
I've had fears, but they did subside
With strength, I look on from here

Whether I am to fail, at least I have tried
And whether I lose, I played the game
In these experiences there is much to gain
And the pleasure will override the pain
With hope, I look on from here

I have made it this far, amongst all the obstacles
And all the jewels were discovered inside
I thought it all came from somewhere out there
But, that they would be found within, I wasn't aware
With wisdom, I look on from here

If I can see the sun once more, I will find my peace
And like days ago, I'm sure the light will shine tomorrow
For there has been much learned and there is even more that
awaits
Release the heart, free the soul and unlock these gates
With open eyes, I look on from here

Dub-a-Rub

by J

Baby powder bitch slaps,
Come, complimentary,
With unplanned, illrouted,
So what, she's a peeler,
I'm think I'm in love,
Two feet first roadmaps
Baby powder
That covers the smell
Coupled with vanilla extract
Lap dances from Hell
Twenty dollar bills
That you can't get back
And you used to do it for me
Housewives
That you can't tell,
Mans weak leash
On his own imagination
Creates man's bad rap
And indorfin biult fantasies
Inevitably end
With baby powder bitch slaps.

Homage to Dionysius

by Martine Clements

I am struck
Immeasurably
By your silence

I am troubled
Deeply
By my sobriety

Your wine once sweet,
Now left bitter & sour

Merciful penance
Virtuous peril

In my time of need
Empty bottles made
Broken promises
Cascade to humble frailty

As abstinence meets despair
When vaporous nights make
Spirits possessed fall from grace
Awakening from my drowning slumber

I am sober!



Enter the
ProTem Poetry Contest <<
Submit to protem1@yahoo.ca
Publish and win Prizes

Behind The Veil Of Morality

By Karen Chan

Two issues ago (Vol. 42, No. 5), Aliza Libman wrote a response to an earlier article by Jonathan Swayze ("Asking the wrong questions", November 4, 2002). In her response, Ms. Libman contends that George W. Bush wants to go to war "for the sake of the people of the world." She notes that Iraqi gays have to stay in the closet and that Palestinian women do not have rights equal to their male counterparts. She states that "we cannot allow dictators like Saddam Hussein and Yasser Arafat to continue exploiting and subjugating their people." She insists that Dubya heads "one of the few governments who are willing to be inconvenienced for the sake of the people of the world."

While I agree that legal, social, political and economic inequalities between men and women are unjust and wrong, I think it is important that we in the West don't jump too high onto our horses to declare moral superiority on this issue. Yes, we do have relative equality between men and women in Canada. But it is important to note that the battle of the sexes is not over and has not yet been won. Women are still paid less, we find it more difficult to get to the top of their professions and there are still aren't enough women in parliament. I think we should also remember that what we do have was gained mostly in the last one hundred years. It wasn't so long ago that Emily Murphy had to go to the Privy Council in England to fight over whether women were legally 'people' under the law. As for gay rights, it was for many years illegal to be gay. After that was lifted the social stigma attached to homosexuality remained.

More importantly, the idea that Bush cares about anyone in this world — other than perhaps Americans of his social class who think like him and look like him — is absurd. If Bush's real agenda is to rid the world of awful dictators and despots, why doesn't he go after the Saudi Royals, Jiang Zemin in China, Musharraf in Pakistan, etc.? Instead, the Saudis are our allies because of their willingness to sell us cheap oil. China's human-rights abuses are only given a cursory glance (if that even) while the West stares greedily at China's huge populace while signing trade deals. Musharraf, despite his coup-d'état and fake elections, is our friend because of his strategic importance and aid during the war in Afghanistan.

The sad part is that these are only a few of the countries in which the Americans choose to turn a blind eye to the oppression inflicted on people by their own



governments. Indeed, in the 1980s, while Saddam was our buddy, the Americans supplied him with weapons to fight a war with Iran and looked the other way when

former oil company executive (as are most of his cabinet including Cheney and Condeleeza Rice). America is so dependent on oil (as are we) that Bush needs to make

family feud. The memory of September 11th looms large over the American psyche. It is impossible to say whether Bush is himself afraid or whether he is playing

sue of the family feud. I don't think anybody (other than Bush and his immediate family or friends) know whether the beating of the war drums have anything to do with the supposed feud. One thing is for sure, Bush isn't going to take America and the rest of the Western world into battle because he has a soft and squishy heart. His motives are far from pure.

Thirdly, how one can group Saddam Hussein and Yasser Arafat in the same sentence and describe them both as "exploiting and subjugating their people" is beyond my comprehension. Hussein is a mad man whose chief interest seems to be a desire to hold onto power. Ironically it seems the sanctions and America's threats make him more popular. Since many Iraqis blame America and the West for the sanctions imposed on them that have made their life very difficult. Saddam is a tyrant with real power while Arafat is a man who watched powerlessly last April while Israeli tanks bulldozed his

"Bush isn't going to take America and the rest of the Western world into battle because he has a soft and squishy heart. His motives are far from pure."

atrocities were committed by Saddam against his fellow Iraqis.

Now, suddenly, British foreign secretary Jack Straw asks us to look back to the mid 1980s and ignore American and British complicity in Saddam's oppression of his people.

The truth is that Bush would care less about Saddam and his oppression of Iraqis if Saddam wasn't sitting on the world's second-largest known oil reserve. It's not a coincidence that Bush is a

sure he has a reliable pro-American leader in Iraq, especially since the Saudi Regime has been looking awfully shaky these days.

There is also the small matter of Saudi involvement in Al Qaeda (bin Laden is Saudi) that has cooled American-Saudi relations. Oil is not the only reason for going. Other reasons include the change in America's psyche after September 11th, distraction from the sad state of the American economy and that little issue of a

the fear to meet is own ends. Bush always looks like a wooden two dimensional piece of cardboard when he speaks so I find it impossible to discern any emotion other than false gung ho bravado. Bush certainly has good reasons apart from oil to go to war now since the American economy is in the toilet.

Bush needs to distract the populace from this, or "it's the economy, stupid" will come back to haunt him like it did to his father. Finally, there is that small is-

Attack on Iraq Not Justified

Morality (from page 25)

compound in Ramallah. His only recourse was to huddle with his cell phone frantically calling world leaders for help. While he may be crafty and not all together honest (show me one politicians who is) Arafat now hardly has the stature or power to suppress anybody. Hamas carries out a large bulk of the suicide bombings and they do not answer to Arafat. His international stature has been undermined by the Israeli incursions into "Palestinian territory."

If the Palestinians have an oppressor it is the Israeli army personnel who bulldoze their houses, man the checkpoints and decide on a whim to enter what is theoretically Palestinian territory. Ms. Libman mentions the suicide attacks but she neglects to mention the occupation and settlement of Palestinian land by Israelis. They each feed on

one another. The more suicide attacks the more Israeli counter attacks which lead to more suicide bombings. It is a very sad and vicious cycle.

To look at only one side while neglecting the other is not just wrong — it confuses the issue and makes it impossible for any real understanding. If I sound like I'm condoning suicide attacks, I'm not. I think they are horrible because they spread fear as well as death. They create a sense of uncertainty that pervades every element of life. Personally I cannot imagine what living under those sorts of conditions must be like. But I'm also disgusted by the treatment of Palestinians by the Israeli army. The travel bans and curfews (echoing the treatment of Jews by some Europeans before and during the Second World War) only heighten the sense of oppression.

Getting back to Saddam, even

though I know that he is a horrid dictator I don't support a war against Iraq for two main reasons:

First, I do not believe that Bush and Blair et al will institute a democratic and independent government that will be stable and have real power. Afghanistan is the most recent example of US rhetoric not translating into reality. Hamid Karzai only has power in Kabul. Shortly after the war was "won" the British and others started to want to pull troops out of Afghanistan and thus did not provide proper support for the new government. Elsewhere in Afghanistan right now the war lords are at work. After much brouhaha about there being a female cabinet minister in Karzai's government she has been quietly kicked out. There is a reported resurgence in Al Qaeda activity. Is this the kind of democratic, stable and strong government that the Americans

and British promised the world they would bring to Afghanistan last year?

Second, I no longer believe that democracy is something you can impose upon a people. I remember crying the first time I read about Tiananmen Square and wanting somebody or something (invariably the West) to impose democracy upon China. But it's been a few years since I've realised that such values cannot be imposed on people. The people of any country living under a dictator have to want democracy and elections on their own. They have to make it out on the streets and tell their government. Anything imposed on a people from the outside is likely to upset them. We have to lend moral and monetary support to those fighting the good fight but the imposition of our values is wrong; and more often than not, doesn't work.

GCSU halts payment to its directors by Sean Bawden

In a bold move, uncharacteristic of the GCSU, the members of the most well-funded student organization voted to halt mandatory payment to the directorship of said organization - starting next year.

In a meeting held Thursday 20 February, 2003 the five members who were present at the meeting, (Pres. Metcalfe, VP Hanna, Directors Leegsma, Clementes and Bawden) unanimously voted in favour of a two part motion that would see the GCSU turn off the taps on automatic payment beginning May 1, 2003. The motion, in its preamble, stated that:

The GCSU should endeavour to reduce tuition rates in any way possible; and...[that] the GCSU is the only student organization on

campus to pay its directorship; and...[that] the GCSU aids little in the way of academic, social or cultural development.

And as a result of so accepting voted in favour of repealing By-Law #5 of its constitution, to become effective May 1, 2003 - if so ratified.

The second part of the motion, also unanimously accepted, went on to point out that:

Whereas "Salary" comprises twenty per cent of the GCSU's budget, The GCSU [is now bound to] hold a referendum to reduce its referendum levy by twenty per cent, beginning with the 2004-2005 academic year. (A reduction from \$57.00 to \$46.50 per FTE)

Both motions were moved and seconded by Director Bawden (External) and Director Leegsma

(Communications) respectively.

All that remains for these initiatives to become binding is a referendum. The students of Glendon College will need to ratify these motions if they are to become enforceable. In order for a referendum to pass 10% of the eligible voters at Glendon College must vote in the upcoming election, and it must pass by simple majority. Failure to meet such a requirement would render it null and void.

In addition to the reasons articulated, some of the membership of the GCSU feel that by actually having the directors, and the President and Vice-President having to do work in order to earn an honourarium, which would have to be further accepted by council at the end of the year, better candidates will present

themselves for candidacy than simply those wishing a pay cheque.

Also, such a motion would move in favour of payment equality, as all members of the union regardless of title or position would now be eligible for the same amount of money, including councilors. It also ensures, by having payment come only at the end of the academic year, that members stay active the entire year, and don't act with financial impropriety.

It is hoped that the students of Glendon College will ratify this motion and set an example for all of York.

Medieval times in Toronto

Famous castle presents an all-prize tournament

by Boris Roginsky

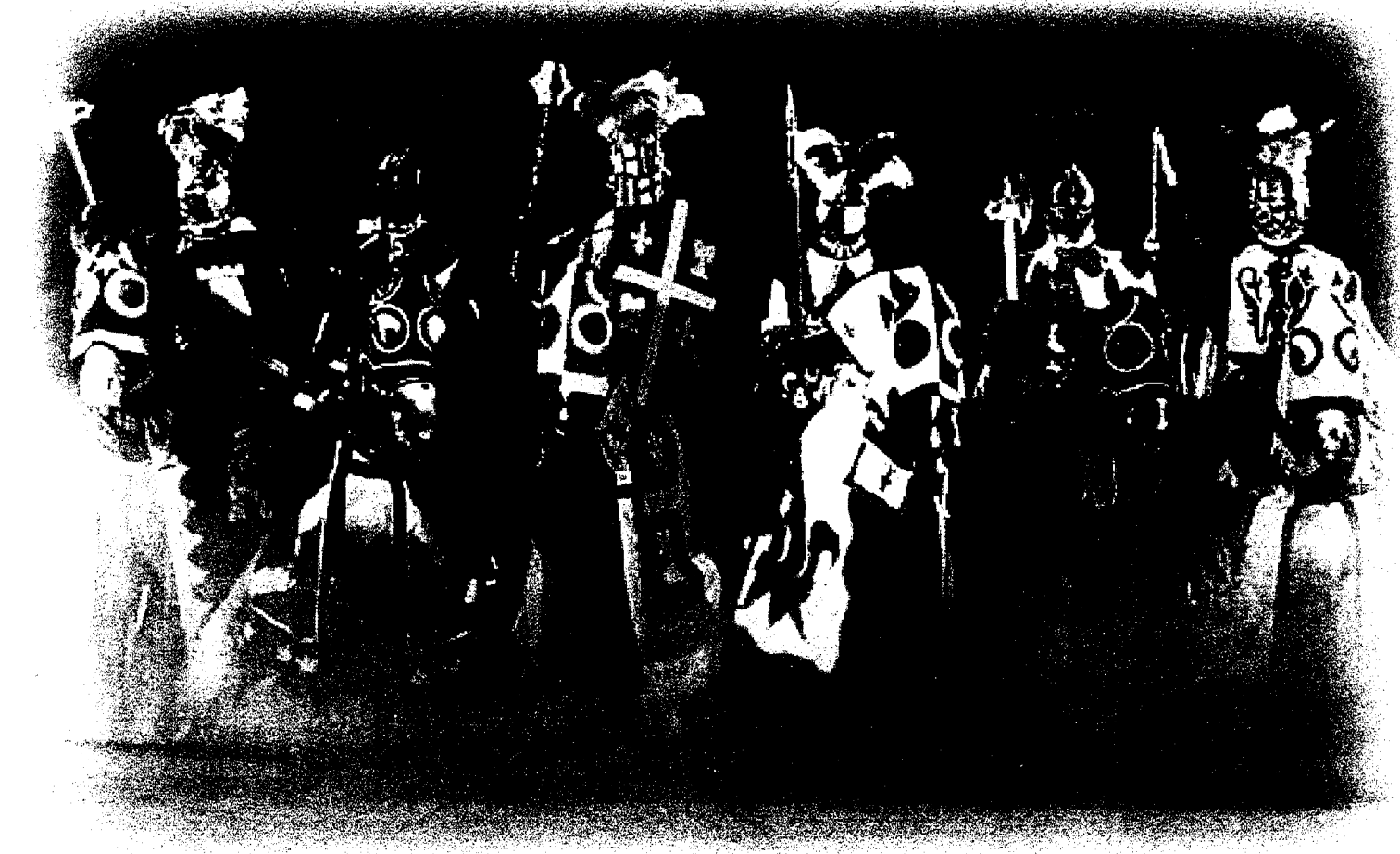
There is a place in Toronto where a contemporary lord may court his lady-love in a historical setting glorified once upon a time by Sir Walter Scott and Miguel de Cervantes Saavedra. As you gallop astride your four-wheeled stallion along the Lakeshore Boulevard and then through the L'Arc de Triomphe-like Princess Gates of the Canadian National Exhibition, the dome and the watchtowers of the Medieval Times Castle will soon greet you.

Once you leave your loyal runner in the parking stables nearby, you are only a few steps away from entering the world, which once constituted the daily round of Don Quixote and Ivanhoe, King Arthur and Guinevere - the world of chivalry and valor in which a word of honor meant more at times than any signed agreement nowadays.

Toronto Medieval Times castle is the only one in Canada with six more fortresses of the kind towering south of the border in regions as diverse as Buena Park, California and Lyndhurst, New Jersey.

The idea itself in all its brilliance displays a combination of business mother wit and admiration for the European history of the medieval period.

The performance is billed as "an adventure unlike anything you have ever experienced before or will ever experience again". And is it ever!



As you enter the castle you are greeted with soldiers attired in the traditional XI century apparel. Even standing in the line up to confirm your reservation makes you feel like you are in a crowd of those waiting for the arrival of a king in a town square.

Upon entering the castle each lady and every lord, and that is how attending guests are addressed, receives a crown of a particular color: green, blue, red, yellow. My beautiful valentine and I were given the black and white symbols of royal power. This led to a bit of confusion at the beginning, since our dinner table was in the blue section of the arena and the two were supposed to correspond.

While trying to sort out all the intricacies of this color coordination system, we took a stroll around the main hall of the castle, yours truly being as proud as a peacock of his charming sweetheart, holding her hand and being anxious to never let it go! King Alfonso and the Princess were graciously

waving at us and only us, or so I thought at least. It was a Valentine's Day show and so each lady received a modern version of a medieval ring with an electronic heart

'It seemed as if childhood memories from a Robin Hood movie were coming alive before my very eyes.'

flashing on it.

The audience, engulfed in the candle-lit atmosphere of romance and mystery marveled at the magnificent display of weaponry at the Hall of Arms, guarded by two live falcons, with the sight of lances, swords, maces, alabardas and bolas awakening the "warrior" instinct in every male guest.

It was a family day as well. However I was not able to understand where

all the children were, until we came across a gift shop - the place of real magic! Beautiful princess dresses, wands and headbands for young ladies! Toy figurines, wood swords, daggers and shields, capes and leggings for young knights! And even the Lord of the Rings-like goblets and Harry Potter style chess sets were luring, beckoning and mesmerizing! Remember the treasures that Drosselmeier used to bring Marie and Fritz in the famous Hoffman's fairytale? That's what I was thinking about when there came an announcement from a public crier inviting the audience to enter the arena.

The tournament began and it seemed as if childhood memories from a Robin Hood movie were coming alive before my very eyes. Trumpets blaring, squires holding banners high and of course knights showing off their skills in javelin toss, ring pierce and joust competitions, while riding magnificent Andalusian Stallions. But there was the feast as

well, with a soup of dragon tails, a roasted baby dragon, dragon blood as drinks and a few other deliciously cooked parts of dragon anatomy, the names of which escape my mind now.

Somewhere between courses, which by the way tasted very much like vegetable soup and chicken, a high-end drama began to develop. An evil rebellious knight was leading a revolt against King Alfonso and a dozen or so warriors filled the arena creating a mass battle scene. This kaleidoscope of clanging swords with sparks flying, horses galloping, music playing, spectators chanting and finally the powers of the good triumphing, took us away into a fairytale of the days long gone.

And when it was over my lords, there was a kiss. Not a theatrical, but a real one with that sparkling look in her eyes that every man dreams about. And no tournament victory means anything without a reward like that.

Alleged Irregularities in Student Union Cheques Brings Balance of Power Into Question

by C. Peter Spraakman & S. J. Morris

Many students at Glendon College, including last year's student union president, are calling for the resignation of this year's president and vice-president after discovering evidence of irregularities on cheques allegedly written by the GCSU.

Former student President Mihnea Dumitru tabled a letter requesting the resignation of President Erin Metcalfe and Vice-President Christine Hanna at the last Glendon College Students' Union meeting.

At this meeting, he told student representatives he had received evidence from Sean Bawden, the business manager and director of external affairs, of alleged irregularities in the cheque-signing process.

"They seem to be able to do anything they want without accountability to the student body"

Director Bawden told the ProTem that he is in possession of seven cheques with only a single signature. This is despite the fact that Vice-President spent almost fifteen minutes explaining to ProTem in an interview that the cheque-signing procedure must include signatures from both the



"Watergate does not bother me, does your conscience bother you? Tell me true."

President Metcalfe seen here with former President Nixon

President and Vice-President.

When asked about cheques with single signatures, Vice-President Hanna said: "No cheques go signed without one of us knowing — actually both of us knowing."

Meanwhile, when asked to explain several cheques showing only one signature, Hanna said: "[y]ou know when you're in a rush, and you're busy, and you do things on the run? That's what happens."

Some students are frustrated by the way business at the student union is being handled. "They seem to be able to do anything they want without accountability to the student body," Dumitru told the ProTem in an interview.

The students are calling into question the financial practices of the union, citing the alleged irregularities as examples of deeper problems that may exist.

These students have called into question the authenticity of one of the cheques which past through the GCSU account in the previous months.

As well, the director of communication, Justin Leegsma, told ProTem that "at the last meeting both President Metcalf and Vice-President Hanna said that all signatures on cheques were authentic." Hanna also reiterated this point at the last meeting.

President Metcalf has responded to allegations by e-mail to

ProTem stating: "[T]his information has been brought to our attention before and we have looked into it. We have no reason to believe there is a problem with cheque No. 314," making reference to one of the allegedly suspicious cheques.

When asked whether she had further comments for ProTem,

When asked whether she had further comments for ProTem, she responded: "When is the article coming out?"

she responded: "When is the article coming out?"

Although many students believe the financial side of GCSU affairs is far from clear, there are still many projects that this year's union can accomplish. There are several issues facing Glendon students, so union leadership will be crucial to getting outcomes that are favourable to student interests. These considerations include the future of the Manor, as well as the closing of the Pub.

Meanwhile, Dumitru's allegations are now in the hands of the Speaker of the student union, Grant Wagman. He is considered neutral in all GCSU matters, according to union bylaws. "It's up to him to investigate," Dumitru says.

We Need Your Submissions! Send all written work and inquiries to protem1@yahoo.ca