

Union votes on tentative settlement

By CAROL BRUNT

A tentative agreement was reached Tuesday evening between the Canadian Union of Educational Workers (CUEW) and York administration. Both the union executive and negotiating team recommended acceptance of the agreement when it was presented to members for ratification yesterday evening, said Daphne Abergel, union Communications Officer. Talks had resumed at 9:00 Tuesday morning in an attempt to resolve the 13-day-old strike.

The CUEW local voted 59 percent to reject the final package offer from York's administration last Thursday evening.

The union executive recommended on the basis of the negotiation committee's opinion that the offer was not a just and equitable settlement, and should be rejected. The offer provided for monetary increases of 6.4 percent for TAs, raised from a previous offer of six percent, and an increase of six percent for part-time faculty, Abergel said.

At a press conference held before Thursday's vote at CUEW headquarters, Charles Doyon, the union's chief negotiator, read from a prepared statement saying the administration's final offer was not a just and equitable settlement.

There had been major movement by the union which has not been reciprocated by the administration, and the two sides were far apart on the issue of money, Doyon said. The union was asking for an increase in TA salaries to \$5,905 from its present \$5,310 and increases for part-time faculty ranging from \$250 to \$750 per course.

The administration had refused to accept binding arbitration as suggested by CUEW last week. According to Vice-President (Finance and Employee Relations) Bill Farr, binding arbitration was mentioned by the administration as one of several devices that could be introduced had an impasse been reached in the bi-lateral bargaining process and if the strike were to continue for "a very long time." The



WAILIN' IN DA CITY. Richard Underhill, a student in York's music program, jams with the Shuffle Demons (off camera), a street-band rapidly becoming a landmark in downtown Toronto.

administration had, however, refused to take that step.

Doyon charged the students were being used as pawns and that the Board of Governors was particularly intent on prolonging the strike, but Farr answered this assertion, saying, "The Board of Governors, I am sure, is interested in having the strike settled, but not on any terms, of course."

Asked if CUEW was not also using the students as pawns, Doyon replied that CUEW cannot be accused of this as both CUEW members and students had presented the administration with a way out of the situation in the form of binding arbitration.

CUEW fights student penalties

By LAURA LUSH

The Canadian Union of Educational Workers (CUEW) "will take action" with University provost Tom Meininger, to handle student complaints about academic penalties imposed during the recent strike, said CUEW spokesperson Olga Michie.

Michie said a file has been kept compiling cases of professors putting pressures on students for missing classes and exams because they have chosen to honor the picket lines.

Meininger, the University's student ombudsman, has pledged to CUEW to work on behalf of the students to settle discrepancies regarding their academic rights during the strike, Michie said.

"If students feel they are being mistreated then they should call me," Meininger said.

At the end of the strike, two measures will be undertaken: CUEW will pass on all information to the provost who will petition on behalf of students to settle any grievances. CUEW will also follow up on student complaints.

"Any professor who violates that right will be petitioned," Michie said.

Despite the motion passed by Senate on October 3 saying that "no administrative academic sanctions in any form will be brought against any student... should she or he decide to honour the CUEW and/or YUSA picket lines," Michie said "all kinds of student complaints have come into the CUEW office."

"It is implicit in my job description to represent the interests of the students, both individually and collectively," Meininger said. "They can come to me with their problems and I will give the information for the best procedure to take." The provost has received an average of 10 calls a day from concerned students who have missed exams and classes because of the strike. The course director must provide a makeup test for students who miss an exam during a strike, says the Report to the Senate.

In an October 25 Senate meeting, a recommendation that an amendment to protect academic education and ensure academic credibility during a strike was made.

Students to grade courses and profs

By JOSEPH COLLINS

For anyone who has ever wanted to turn the tables on their professors just once, here's your big chance.

Fourth year history student Rob Castle is looking for volunteers to help organize and compile a comprehensive survey of all Faculty of Arts courses.

The project started on a smaller scale last year when the history students and the Political Science Students Association collaborated to produce *Shadow Calendar*, a survey of course material. Questions about how the professor and course material rated in terms of clarity, cohesion and pertinence were asked in the survey. Castle said student response to the survey was positive.

Arts Faculty Dean Tom Traves requested a more comprehensive survey covering all Faculty of Arts departments be made. The new survey will help students when selecting courses, and provide department heads with a tenure and promotion guideline for their staff.

Information memos directed to professors in all departments will be sent out by Castle to implement the project. Volunteers are needed to collect and interpret data, and to aid in the printing and distribution of the survey.

Line crashers injure picketers

By MEL BROITMAN

A number of CUEW picketers were injured by cars attempting to crash the lines during the strike by teaching assistants and part-time faculty which ended yesterday.

The most serious injury occurred October 24 at the Glendon campus. The CUEW member was badly bruised when a car crossing the line collided with her, leave her with a concussion. She was kept in hospital overnight and released the next morning. It is expected that she will need at least three weeks to recover from her injuries. Patrol Constable Cashman of 53 Division, the arresting officer at the scene said the driver will be charged.

Another incident involved a picketer who was thrown up on the hood of a car at the Sentinel gate of the main campus. The driver then apparently panicked and drove off at a high speed for a distance of 450 metres with the picketer still on the hood. The CUEW member was shaken up but not seriously hurt.

"The police have been very cooperative and are presently investigating," stated Larry Lyons, secretary of CUEW.

"I have a list of some 500 license numbers of incidents where our picketers have been

endangered in cases of dangerous driving, or bumping of picketers of speeding. Lyons said, "There has been a lot of this. If we find multiple offenses when matching license numbers we turn them over to the police for further investigation."

Other major incidents include a driver who approached the picket lines at Thompson and Steeles at a high speed and hit a picketer from behind. The car then reversed and sped away eastbound on Steeles Avenue. The driver was later apprehended and charged with dangerous driving and failure to stop at the scene of an accident.

Also at the Thompson gate, a car crashed through the picket lines with four CUEW members on its hood. The driver was also charged with dangerous driving.

"Thank grace of God nobody was seriously hurt," said arresting officer Good of 31 Division. "It makes you wonder."

The police and CUEW have refused to release any names of individuals involved in the incidents.

"The police have so far been very good. I think to date we've got charges laid in every serious incident," Terry Conlin of CUEW said.



Tom Meininger

news bits

Leader in law

By NADINE CHANGFOOT

Stephen Lewis, former leader of the Ontario NDP and present Canadian Ambassador to the United Nations, is to receive an honorary degree at Atkinson College's Convocation, November 3.

About receiving his honorary doctorate in law (LL.D.), Lewis said he was "very tickled about it." Lewis added that he feels "especially warm toward Atkinson as it embodies the kind of education I like to see and believe in."

When R. Bordessa, dean of Atkinson College, became aware of the nomination he was "pleased that it was made," and said, "Atkinson would be a good Convocation (at which) to bestow the degree." About Lewis's recent appointment to the UN, Bordessa stressed that the close timing of the degree

was a "chance happening." He added that the judgment of the university to recognize

"The occasion of Convocation will give me a chance to say a few things about the job (appointment)," Lewis said.

Lewis has spoken at York before and said that if he was invited back to speak at Atkinson he would certainly try to fulfill the request.

Lewis's "extraordinary accomplishments" was reinforced by Prime Minister Brian Mulroney's appointment of him to the UN.

CUEW group hits the streets

By STEVE STRIBBELL

A group of York students and CUEW members blocked pedestrian traffic in a protest against the BOG at the Confederation Life Building at 321 Bloor St. E. on Monday.

The executive committee of the Board of Governors was meeting with the negotiating

team and the deans of administration. About 35 protesters lined the sidewalk armed with placards that collectively read "Bored of Governors?" The group was demonstrating to indicate to the Board that they (CUEW) want to settle the strike and get everybody back to school.

The BOG was meeting downtown because as Bruce Bryden, the chairman of the board, has offices in the Confederation Life Building. According to Charles Doyon, chairman of CUEW, "It's more convenient than crossing our picket lines."

The university's last offer was 6.4 percent for teaching assistants and six percent for part-time. CUEW's last proposal of 12.5 percent as well as three neutral arbitrators to decide the outcome. The Board refused this proposal.

In response to the Board's handling of the strike, Charles Doyon commented, "They're (BOG) holding the students hostage and have something to hide in terms of paying us a liveable wage."