

# University News Beat

Emergency Services  
Centre — 3333

Acclaimed in Belgium, Mexico

## Canadian dancers open Performing Arts Series

By SARI COLLINS

The Toronto debut of the Canadian dance troupe Le Groupe de la Place Royale leads off this year's Performing Arts Series on Wednesday, October 2 in Burton Auditorium at 8:30 p.m.

Celebrating their eighth season, *les danseurs* have just returned from critically hailed seasons in Belgium and Mexico. Both tours were sponsored by the ministry of external affairs.

Number one drawing card to the

fine arts sponsored series is an exclusive Toronto engagement of the Royal Shakespeare Company performing *The Hollow Crown* on October 18 and *Pleasure and Repentance* on October 19, featuring lead actor Richard Todd.

Events are grouped into four series: dance (Toronto's only modern dance series), jazz and folk, 'serious' music (it's all vocal this year), and theatre. Included also are two special events.

"Central to the series is our conviction that York students should be able to see the finest artists from our own culture as well as the best internationally," series director Douglas Buck said in an interview this week.

"Canadians are starting to believe that our most accomplished artists rank with the world's best, although York students are still culturally timid; 'names' have sold the P.A.S. for most of its six years of existence. Still, audiences grow every year (more than half the events sold out last year) and the largest chunk of revenue comes from sales of master tickets and subscriptions, indicating that our audience is beginning to take us on faith."

Buck, a York theatre professor, explained that there are many fringe benefits in having a high-prestige series such as P.A.S. on campus.

Most visiting artists conduct workshops or give master classes to York undergraduates. Public receptions following each performance give students a chance to meet the artists informally, and a few performers have returned to York as visiting professors or full-time faculty members.

But there are problems.

Burton's small capacity of 613 seats coupled with the fact that 89 per cent of the tickets are sold at student rates, results in a very modest revenue. In addition, a deep-frozen budget for the past three years has



Just returned from triumphant tours of Belgium and Mexico, the Canadian dance troupe Le Groupe de la Place Royale makes its Toronto debut at York.

forced cut-backs in publicity and other areas.

"But the hardest thing to live with is the total absence of backstage, wings, fly tower and even a stage-level loading dock," according to Doug Buck. "Pianos must be brought in the front doors of the auditorium and man-handled down the steep aisles; many theatre and ballet companies refuse to perform at all in Burton."

Despite these drawbacks, the 1974-75 Performing Arts Series offers such internationally-acclaimed acts as the Bill Evans Trio, alto saxist

Anthony Braxton, the Festival Singers of Canada, New York's Murray Louis Dance Company, folk artists Fraser and DeBolt, and theatre company Le Tréteau de Paris.

The Burton box office (phone number is 667-3905) is open weekdays from 10 a.m. to 2 p.m. In its second week, ticket sales are already higher than at this time last year.

Little wonder, when performances are right on campus and a 14-event master ticket costs students as little as \$28.

## Scholarship\$, Bur\$arie\$, Fellow\$hip\$ and Grant\$

Eleven Rhodes Scholarships will be awarded to Canadians this fall; two in Ontario.

They will entitle the winners to study at Oxford University in England for two and possibly three years commencing in September, 1975.

The value of each Scholarship is approximately \$4,600 per annum. Applications for the 1975 awards may be made until October 25, 1974.

The present stipend is sufficient to pay all expenses and to enable the Rhodes Scholar to take advantage of opportunities for travel in Britain and on the Continent of Europe during the three lengthy vacations of the Oxford academic year.

Male Canadians, preferably in their third or fourth year of university work, who are unmarried and between 18 and 24 years of age, are eligible for the Scholarships. Application forms and particulars are available from Information York.

Applicants for the Rhodes Scholarships are not required to write an examination. Selection is made by provincial committees after personal interviews, and on the basis of the candidate's record.

Although scholastic ability is of importance, such factors as character, qualities of leadership and interest in outdoor sports, are carefully considered.

Some definite quality of distinction, whether in intellect or character or a combination of these, is the essential requirement.

Information regarding loans and bursaries for Part-time Students is now available at Information York, at the Student Awards Office (Room 110A Steacie Science Library), or by writing to The Student Awards Branch of The Ministry of Colleges and Universities, 8th Floor, Mowat Block, Queen's Park, Toronto M7A 1B9.

Information and Applications for Minority Language (French or English) Study Fellowships to provide full-time university students to spend one academic year of immersion in the milieu of their second language in any discipline can be picked up at the Student Awards Office in Room 110A in the Steacie Science Library.

The Canadian Human Rights Foundation is offering an annual grant to writers, university graduates, undergraduates, and others, to assist them in the preparation of a book, dissertation or other work dealing with some aspect of human rights in Canada.

Applicants are requested to submit a curriculum vitae, appropriate references and a plan of the project. Submissions can be in English or French and should be sent to: Award Committee, Professor John Humphrey, Chairman, Canadian Human Rights Foundation, Suite 2165, 630 Dorchester Blvd., West, Montreal, Quebec H3B 1S6. Submission should be received no later than November 1, 1974.

## President to go to Pits

York University president H. Ian Macdonald has accepted an invitation from CYSF president Anne Scotton to "meet the students face to face" in a series of Bearpit sessions to be held during the next few weeks.



Ian Macdonald

The first session will be at Glendon in the Junior Common Room at 12 noon on September 23. The second session will be in the Bear Pit of the Central Plaza in the Ross Building (next to the drugstore) at 12:30 p.m. on September 25. Further sessions will be scheduled later.

The President, who will be officially installed in office at the Atkinson College Convocation on September 28, has been on campus for less than two months now but feels that "even if I don't have all the answers I will certainly be interested in what the questions are... I look forward to exchanging views with the students in these informal sessions."

CYSF President Scotton says the idea of the Bearpits is "certainly not to put the President on the grill... he hasn't been here that long. But it will give a number of students the opportunity to question the President about his views and plans as well as letting him know theirs."

Radio York is arranging to broadcast the Bearpit sessions for the benefit of those who are unable to attend.

University, somebody once observed, is a place where young people who think they know it all go to be taught by old people who are coming to the conclusion that they don't know half of what they should.

Whether you're a know-it-all or a know-it-none, Information York in the Central Plaza just by the Post Office is the place for you.

If you are new to the university (or a still-confused veteran) the staff of the double-wicket booth will do their damndest to find answers for your questions. If they can't find the answers on their calloused fingertips (they use those phones a lot) they may be able to root it out of the piles of pamphlets, brochures, posters, maps, booklets, calendars and related material that looms like the Matterhorn behind them.

If you are a know-it-all when it comes to York University then you can help out... because all the staff are volunteers and additional expertise is always welcome.

The Information York booth is now in its second year of formal operation, the result of a Student Services Community formed by concerned members of staff a few years ago who felt they were not doing enough to help students, particularly those new to the university.

## Info York has all the answers ... well, almost all the answers

The project is a smashing success... and after watching hordes of students using the facility daily the only unanswered question is what did everybody do before Information York was established?

Denys Brown, of the Department of Information and Publications, coordinates the operation and is Draft Sergeant of the Volunteers... who's ranks include Presidents (both of the university and student body), Vice Presidents, Deans, Directors, faculty, staff and students. In short, anybody who knows one end of the Ross Building from the other, can use a phone and is willing to lend a sympathetic ear to students who are lost, lonesome or utterly confused is welcome to the club.

Most volunteers claim no matter how long they have been at the university (and some were here when the Temporary Office Building was considered a high rise) they never fail to learn something new while serving on the booth.

Most of the questions tend to be routine. Where is my Social Science class being held? How do you get to the Tait McKenzie Building? Who is Professor Schultz and what's his telephone number?

But some queries offer more of a challenge and test the ingenuity of

the staff who consider defeat a smirch upon their office. Like the gal who wanted to know if she could go somewhere to terminate a pregnancy. Her cat's.

Or the dog who turned up lost and refused to say who his owner was.

The booth is open from 9:00 to 5:00 a.m. Monday through Thursday and from 9:00 to 2:00 p.m. on Fridays.

The reaction of visitors to the service is usually rewarding to the volunteer staff. Frequently frustrated, occasionally fuming, they are delighted to have found the one spot on campus which is not only willing but usually able to help them solve whatever problem besets them.

"This is really terrific" said one first-year student with tears of gratitude flowing freely down his chubby face. "I've been so confused so often this morning before I found you that I thought of running for Parliament."

So if you have a question go and visit Information York. Or if you like telling people where to go, volunteer to serve with Information York.

How do you find it? Now let's see... first go through those doors, then turn right and after you pass the drinking fountain...