## Amnesty International goes local

Michael Monastyrskyj

Having already established a group at the University of Toronto, Amnesty International will be setting up shop at York. The organization is well known for its defence of political prisoners throughout the world.

The York chapter has just been accredited by A.I.'s head office in Ottawa. Presently, this university's group only has five official members, but close to fifty people have signed a sheet in Central Square, indicating their interest in the organization's activities.

Those who want to join Amnest will be able to do so at a general meeting to be held September 16. According to Genevieve Cowgill who has played a big role in establishing both the York and U of T's chapters, the York group's first priority "is to set up a system of urgent actions."

This activity involves special

appeals on behalf of "political prisoners needing medical care, those under sentence of death or having 'disappeared' and victims or potential victims of torture." According to Amnesty International literature, in the second half of 1979 "out of every 10 individual cases for which an Urgent Action was launched", three improved.

#### Affiliation uncertain

Frank McGee

Discussions are still in progress concerning a possible affiliation of the Ontario Institute for Studies in Education with York University.

Last spring the council of U of T's school of graduate studies voted to end the 14 year partnership with OISE at the end of this academic year.

Institute Director Dr. Bernard Shapior told *Excalibur* that a series of meetings has begun to re-examine OISE's status with U of T.

Both Bernard Shapiro and William Found, York's Vice-President of Academic Affairs, agreed that it would be beneficial for OISE to have a number of affiliations and not deal exclusively with any one

OISE needs an affiliation with a university to acquire a degree granting status.

Found pointed out that York and OISE are continuing to talk about the possibility of working together.

OISE is interested in York, says Shapiro, because of its metropolitan Toronto location. Also both institutions share common objectives concerning the effects of the university on the community in terms of development and growth.

### "Contradictory and confusing"

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areas" existing in the document.

After expanding its bureaucracy and business operations over the past couple of years, the CYSF was in need of a more explicit set of operating rules. The new constitution, which has incorporated resolutions into the form of 6 by-laws, is an

attempt to give the Council more direction.

"Before, the constitution basically reflected an association, not a corporation," Smockum explained. "There were parts in it that were contradictory and confusing."

Besides providing detailed job descriptions for the various

elected Council members and procedures for meeting of the council, the document also provides by-laws governing conduct in CYSF elections—an area which has been surrounded by controversy in the past.

The full report has not yet been printed.

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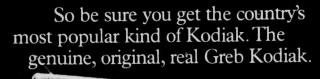
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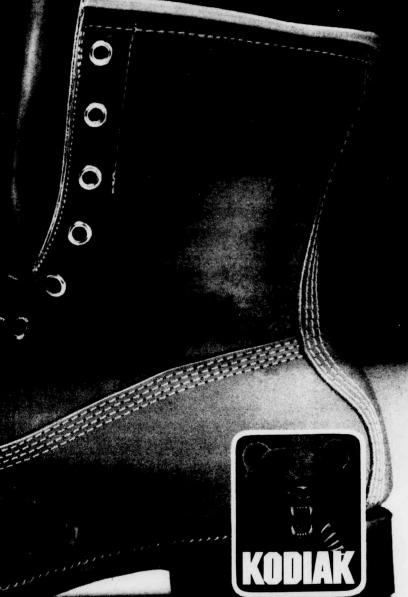
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#### our town

C.Y.S.F. classic film series begins its year of entertaining and diverse programming with a double feature of Campus Comedy. National Lampoon's classic Animal House will be screened along with Monster On Campus, from the makers of Creature From The Black Lagoon. Thursday, September 18, Curtis L, at 8 p.m.

The first meeting of the York NDP Club will be on Wednesday, September 19th at 7:30 p.m. in Room S105 Ross (behind the post office). All interested members of the York Community are invited. Discussion will centre on plans of political action for the upcoming year. Memberships in the New Democratic Party will be available. For more information call 663-0786.

The Gay Alliance at York will have an organizational meeting and coffee house on Thursday, September 18, from 7:00 p.m. to 10:00 p.m. in Room S416 Ross.

Excal staff meet today at 1 pm.