

2,240 students vote no to Shane

# Waterloo pres. dumped over newspaper issue

By MICHAEL HOLLETT  
University of Waterloo Student Federation President, Shane Roberts, the man behind the closing of the Waterloo student newspaper, *The Chevron*, has been forced to resign following a recall petition of UW students with over 2,240 names on it.

On December 15 Roberts was presented with the signed petition and under federatinn by-laws, he had 72 hours to vacate the office.

Roberts has been at the centre of a controversy that has raged on the Waterloo campus since his council closed down *The Chevron* following the resignation of editor-in-chief, Adrian Rodway on September 24. Roberts said he feared the paper would be taken over by an on-campus political group, the Anti-Imperialist Alliance (AIA) which is linked with the Communist Party of Canada (Marxist-Leninist).

The staff denied the allegations and has continued to publish a paper called *The Free Chevron*.

The anti-Roberts petition campaign began November 19. According to the federation bylaws, the president can be removed from office if 10 per cent of the constituency or the number that elected him (whichever is greatest) sign a petition to have him recalled. In this case 2,142 names were required. Organizers topped this figure by 98.

A statement attached to the petition accused Roberts of not

implementing his campaign policies, especially those related to student housing and cutbacks as well as charging him with holding "student paid positions for approximately four of his seven years on campus".

The statement also attacked Roberts for the closing of *The Chevron*.

The presidency is currently being filled by vice-president, Dave McLellan.

Under the student federation constitution, a by-election to fill the presidency must be held early this term.

While number of referenda have already been slated for January 13 there is some question as to whether there will be a by-election.

McLellan said the referendum will raise three options regarding the presidency including holding no by-election but simply having the person elected president in the annual February election take office immediately rather than waiting until March 1 as is the regular practise.

McLellan said the other options were to go ahead with the by-election or to finish the term with him as acting president.

The referendum will also raise *The Chevron* issue and McLellan said no action will be taken regarding the newspaper until after the vote.

Henry Hess, news editor of *The Free Chevron* said that despite

Roberts' recall "nothing's changed. It looks like the strings are in the same hands, they are just being pulled by an intermediary".

Hess said the referendum was "pretty loaded".

Free *Chevron* editor-in-chief, Larry Hannant, said of Roberts' recall, "It's a victory of course but it doesn't mean the end of the fight. We are still going to encounter opposition to our goal of reinstatement of *The Chevron* followed by an investigation.

Hannant says the staff wants an investigation to focus on why and how *The Chevron* was closed down to give both the federation and the newspaper staff a chance to present their charges.

Hannant charges that the student federation's referendum is "stacked, confusing and complicated". He feels no referendum should be held with regard to the paper until after an investigation so the students can make an "informed decision".

The *Chevron* staff are considering holding an alternate referendum which they feel would raise the issues clearly.

Roberts was unavailable for comment though the *Free Chevron* published a statement by him following his recall. Roberts accused the paper of "...working to undermine the credibility of the federation and its primary thrust has been against me in my role as president. I see the recall petition



Student federation president Shane Roberts is seen here trying to remove a typewriter from the *Chevron* office last November. Preventing him are chevron staffers Henry Hess, Larry Hannant and Neil Docherty.  
as a direct extension of AIA strategy".  
Roberts went on to say the paper was a "political tool" and he urged UW students to get involved the upcoming presidential campaign to guarantee *The Chevron* does not "dictate" who will become president.

## Plans for counter-OFS stymied by indifference

By ANNA VAITIEKUNAS

An inter-university conference to discuss the feasibility of establishing an alternative student organization to the incumbent Ontario Federation of Students (OFS) may be cancelled due to the general indifference of Ontario universities.

The conference, scheduled for January 15 will be sponsored by the University of Western Ontario, but according to Western student council president Margo Grandy, the response from the universities was so low, that the Western student council "may decide to cancel the conference."

Grandy said that when she sent invitations out to the student council presidents in Ontario to attend the conference all of them, except for York student president Barry Edson, replied to say their universities weren't interested. Edson said Tuesday that if the conference is held, he would be willing to discuss student issues with the student council at Western.

Last October 25 and 26, Western held a referendum to determine whether students at the university wished to remain in OFS. 52.4 per cent of the Western students voted

to withdraw from the provincial student lobbying organization.

According to Steve Lichty, a Western student council vice-president, the majority of Western students had "never heard of OFS and those that did, did not see the organization as an effective one".

Lichty also said that the university students disagreed with the domination of OFS policies on the various student councils. He cited the recent example of an article published in the OFS publication, the *Ontario Student*, which described a recent strike at a Kresge's store in Kitchener, where many university students were employed for the summer, as a scab labour dispute.

## York's financial future is grim

By AGNES KRUCHIO

York may lose as much as \$250,000 in operating costs next year just by maintaining of current levels of service and the population, York president Ian Macdonald told Senate in his Christmas address in December.

He said he arrived at the conclusion that the university's financial outlook for 1977-78 is "severe", based on calculations following the Minister of Colleges and Universities Harry Parrot's announcement of overall increases of 10.7 per cent in public funds to universities for the next year.

Of this, 8.08 per cent (or some

\$51,300,000) represented additional public funds, with the balance being made up by increases in student fees.

Assuming that York is an average university in the province, it will get a calculated additional \$5.8 million in operating income. This sum however, will only be enough to match annualizations of the costs of minor changes made in 1976-77, salary adjustments along AIB guidelines, salary adjustments determined by collective agreements with unions at York, and "only a portion of the inflation in cost of non-salary items." The average level of inflation is much higher

at a university than average; the inflation rate for energy, books, scientific equipment is about 20 per cent, president Macdonald said.

The deficit of \$250,000 will occur even before considering additional staff and faculty, scholarship or bursary needs, debt reduction, replacement of equipment, and the university would need several millions more to "operate with flexibility." Growth in the past has made up the difference but under the new government university financing scheme of averaging the BIUs and formula fees on a three year basis results in decreasing the per capita value of increased numbers.

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