

# United Way contributions approach \$20,000

By ED PIWOWARCZYK

Despite increased criticism, York's United Way campaign has raised - \$19,386 as of Nov. 29 with the final contribution total not yet available. The 1972 campaign raised \$26,714.

In an opinion piece in Excalibur Oct. 4 the Citizens Concerned about Social Policy stated that most of the money raised went to professionals rather than the poor.

A recent policy shift in the fund to stop supporting medical research and professional training and instead con-

centrate on public education, community development, innovative projects and helping the elderly has led the Canadian Arthritis and Rheumatism Association to withdraw from the organization.

The Canadian Muscular Dystrophy Association and the Multiple Sclerosis Association are considering a similar move.

Although the number of persons solicited and contributing were down, the average contribution per person was up from \$59.74 to \$61.54.

Malcolm Westcott, a psychology professor chairing the campus campaign, set up a drive designed "to lean on people as little as possible."

A form letter asking for contributions, signed by Westcott and co-signed by YUSA chairman Barbara McCaw and YUFA chairman Dennis Russell, was sent out to 2,600 faculty and staff members. Brochures were also enclosed with university pay stubs.

Howard Buchbinder, an Atkinson social science professor, objected to the latter tactic, feeling it was a form of pressure. Westcott said that it was "no more coercive than any other advertising in the mail."

When questioned about the opinion piece, Westcott said the article was

"factually stated and the figures were correct."

"However they impose on those facts a particular interpretation which is by no means the only interpretation."

Westcott felt no need to reply publicly to the piece but sent out a letter to his 15-man volunteer staff to reply to the negative opinions so that the volunteers could act as information sources in the campaign.

The letter in part read, "It is true that less than 9 per cent of contributions is diverted to general administration and fund raising. On the other hand, many businesses and industries provide gifts of time, service or whatever and these costs are usually borne out of the advertising or

public relations budgets of the business involved.

"I have been assured that the contributions of this kind in no way diminish the cash contribution which industries or businesses make, but I have no idea whether individual contributions of time are, in effect, subtracted from any cash contribution that an individual might make. In general, I doubt it."

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- I thought you'd never ask.



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## Smoking ban voted down by Senators

Professor Russell at least deserves credit for trying.

His motion to have smoking banned during Senate meetings finally received consideration at 7 p.m. last Thursday — an hour after the Senate meeting was scheduled to end, with all of 17 Senators still in attendance.

As several Senators pointedly lit up, Russell, a mathematics professor, presented a stirring oration on the evils of smoking, especially in the midst of Senate meetings.

In his history of smoking in the Senate chamber, he revealed that smoking had at one time been forbidden, and told about the fateful year he was away on leave, during which a motion to allow such air pollution "slipped through."

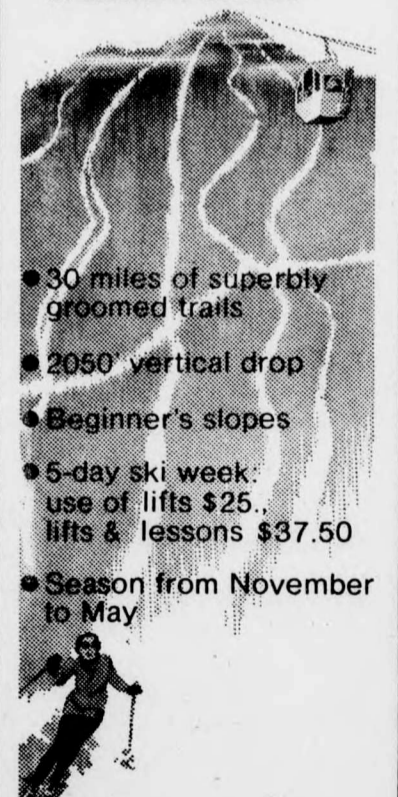
He made mention of the House of Commons rules (which the Senate theoretically follows) which prohibit smoking. He pointed out that in Norway it is against the law to smoke while driving.

And so, in spite of the fact that "some of my best friends are smokers," Russell moved that smoking be outlawed during Senate meetings.

The motion was defeated.

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