



## Decision Friday Bethune compromise possible

**Susan Kuhn**

Negotiations over the use of the Bethune College dining hall by fine arts students took a positive turn yesterday at a meeting in the office of university President Ian Macdonald.

With all concerned parties present, two options were presented; go with the original decision to award 60 per cent of the available space to the fine arts program and continue with construction plans to accommodate their needs, or suspend construction plans in favour of a workable compromise.

In view of the recent flow of new information from both the Bethune and Stong student communities, it was felt that the second of the two options would be the most appropriate.

Grif Cunningham, Bethune College Master, seemed pleased yet cautious about the meeting's outcome.

"We're now looking at an option which I've been advocating since last March," Cunningham explained. "We are proposing a compromise where the fine arts students would be the primary users of the facility, but without any renovation so that our college would still have

the option of its availability for major social events."

He said further that the addition of a fine arts masters program at York was something to be proud of, and would be welcomed at Bethune as long as the Faculty of Fine Arts realized that the college community has very real needs of its own.

Dean Lawrence of Fine Arts is also looking forward to a resolution of what has grown into a very touchy situation.

## Class sues university

**WINNIPEG (CUP)** A class of psychology students at the University of Manitoba may sue the school for educational malpractice.

The decision follows the victory of a class of graduate students to have their marks assigned by their professor overturned. The students went before the university's board of graduate studies to protest Professor Harvey Kesselman's unusual teaching methods. Two students had failed the course but the university records of all the students now show only that they passed the course.

The students say Kesselman gave them insufficient time to finish tests throughout the year and that the final exam contained typographical errors and blurred printing. They also said they had

"Although I am responsible for the success of the graduate program, I do realize that it is very difficult to meet the changing structural needs of a university in the midst of architecture that does not change," said Lawrence, who does not see the issue as a classic confrontation between students and administration.

Meetings are continuing today and Friday as both sides reassess their needs in an effort to work out a suitable agreement.

been tested on subjects which had not been taught in the course.

Ken Zaifman, the student's lawyer said a number of the exams given to students were speed tests, "It's awfully hard to do a speed test when you can't read it."

Kesselman said he feels the decision put academic freedom in danger. "I'm concerned with the prospect in the coming years of some committee coming forth with guidelines to the instructor concerning time limits for examining students."

The issue of academic freedom is not in question, according to Zaifman. "If academic freedom means lack of fairness in the classroom, then something is wrong with people's sense of freedom," he said.

## Bank reverses loan cutbacks

**Reg Hunt and John Molendyk**

York students will be able to process Canada Student Loans on-campus following the Toronto Dominion bank's reversal of their recent loan cutback policy.

In an official statement released Monday, York President H. Ian Macdonald announced that the TD bank has reversed its policy of student loan cutbacks, and will instead continue to increase the funds available for loans.

According to the statement, the bank will also speed up installation of a Green Machine, TD's automatic teller, and expects this service to be available on campus soon.

Ken Bromley, manager of the branch, confirmed President Macdonald's statement.

A preliminary announcement of the policy change was given at a Friday night meeting of the York Student Councils, which had met to discuss a proposed boycott of the bank. CYSF President Keith Smockum said the decision was a "major victory for students." He also said that

the proposed Green Machine installation, which was an old complaint that he had not even bothered to raise in the current conflict, came as a surprise.

The boycott was expected to be the latest action in a series of withdrawals by campus organizations and individuals. This action had been initiated by the Osgoode Legal and Literary Society last week, as well as the York New Democratic Party, which also planned an information picket of the bank.

In the face of the TD cutbacks, many students took their loan applications off campus and had them serviced by other banks. An *Excalibur* telephone survey found that all the banks bordering the York campus, with the exception of the TD, had experienced marked increases in the volumes of new student loans.

The government-guaranteed loans, which can be paid back within a period of ten years, are considered by many banks to be unprofitable. A report by the Student Aid Task Force, which studied the problem, is expected to be submitted to the Secretary of State by early November.

## Elections called

**John Elias Jr.**

After a year and a half, York students are finally going to have a chance to vote for their president.

Elections for the office of the President of the Council of the York Student Federation are being scheduled for October 23.

Last year's presidential election was cancelled on March 13, following a complaint by David Chodikoff regarding candidate Andrea Doucet's eligibility. Doucet is a member of Bethune college, which is not a part of the CYSF. Only members of the CYSF's constituent colleges are eligible for the post. Although a member of Bethune, Doucet sat on the Council in her Council in her capacity as a representative to the university's Board of Governors.

A specially convened election tribunal ruled that although Doucet was a member of the Council's executive, she was not a member of the Council, and thus not eligible to run for its highest office.

Dissatisfaction with that decision led to the cancellation of the election.

With the drafting of the CYSF's new constitution, the nebulous by-law which caused part of the problem has been modified to make the rules governing the election perfectly clear; any member of a college which is not affiliated with the CYSF is not allowed to run for office.

According to current President Keith Smockum, "this election is the most important decision students are going to make this year." Issues such as tuition increases, cutbacks and possible strikes will all be facing students again. In addition, the Ontario Federation of Students will be holding a referendum to decide whether it will increase the fee paid by students from \$1.50 to \$3.

So far this year, the election has received little attention. No one has announced their candidacy yet, but this is expected to begin shortly after September 25, when nominations begin.

David Himbara



## It's only September!