

# University NEWSBEAT

By the Communications Department, S 802 Ross, 667-3441

Summer at York. Classes have ended and exams are over. Most of the students have left. And that's when things really start to happen

## Pipers, jazz, the Olympiad for the handicapped, and more

For a couple of weeks each summer since 1973, the music of the bagpipe has carried clearly across the campus.

The pipers, part of the Scottish World Festival at the Canadian National Exhibition, have become regular users of York's residence facilities during their stay in Toronto.

And other residents of the university have become accustomed to cupping hand to ear (the better to hear with) or pressing palm over ear (the better not to hear with) depending on musical taste.

The 700 pipers, who practice daily, help to dispell the notion

that York is somnolent from May to September. True, there are relatively few of the university's normal academic activities taking place. But the flow of visitors utilising the university's accommodations and academic facilities — including such diverse groups as the Life Underwriters of Toronto, the Billy Graham School of Christian Writing and the Canadian Aeronautics and Space Institute, to name but a few — ensure that the campus remains lively.

The largest group to use York facilities this summer will be the participants of the 1976 Olympiad for the Physically Disabled. Of the

1200 participants from more than 50 countries, about 950 are in wheelchairs.

The participants will completely fill the campus residences (excluding Winters and Founders which have no elevators and are therefore inaccessible to people in wheelchairs).

This, according to York Conference Manager Jack Moore, has created some rather startling logistical problems.

Problem number one: wheelchairs won't fit through the doors to the cubicles in residence washrooms. So, before the athletes arrive, all the washroom partitions are coming down, to be

replaced by drapes.

Problem number two: the games will be held in the 200-acre Centennial Park in Etobicoke. Transporting 1,200 athletes to and from the competitions would be no mean feat at the best of times, but the wheelchairs again add a complication. A huge ramp, to be constructed in parking lot "A", will solve this problem. It will allow 15 buses simultaneously to take on or let off passengers.

Problem number three: what do 1,200 people do with their evenings in Downsview? A tent encompassing 25,000 square feet will be erected in "A" lot to serve as the group's social centre and

"beer gardens". (The conference office is predicting the consumption of some 80,000 bottles of beer.)

### FLEXIBILITY

Jack Moore is proud of the university's ability to handle such special arrangements. Moore, who was Metro Toronto's conference manager for the 10 years before he came to York, says "I've never seen a place that has greater flexibility. If a group is willing to pay for the extra expense, we can accommodate almost anything."

In past years, the "almost anything" has included such activities as an outdoor barbecue for 2,200 people (8 chefs, 15 beef hips), and a formal dinner for 800 people, complete with white linen tablecloths, out behind the arena. The arena was standing by with another setting for 800, in case of rain.

The university's involvement with conference activities was inevitable, given a high demand for conference facilities and an under-utilisation of university facilities during the summer months.

Many, if not the majority, of the organizations which come to York are educationally oriented. Some of them, such as industrial training seminars, have such specific needs for classroom space and related educational resources that they could not be accommodated at commercial facilities.

Aside from the inevitability, though, Moore sees a real benefit to the university from its conference operations.

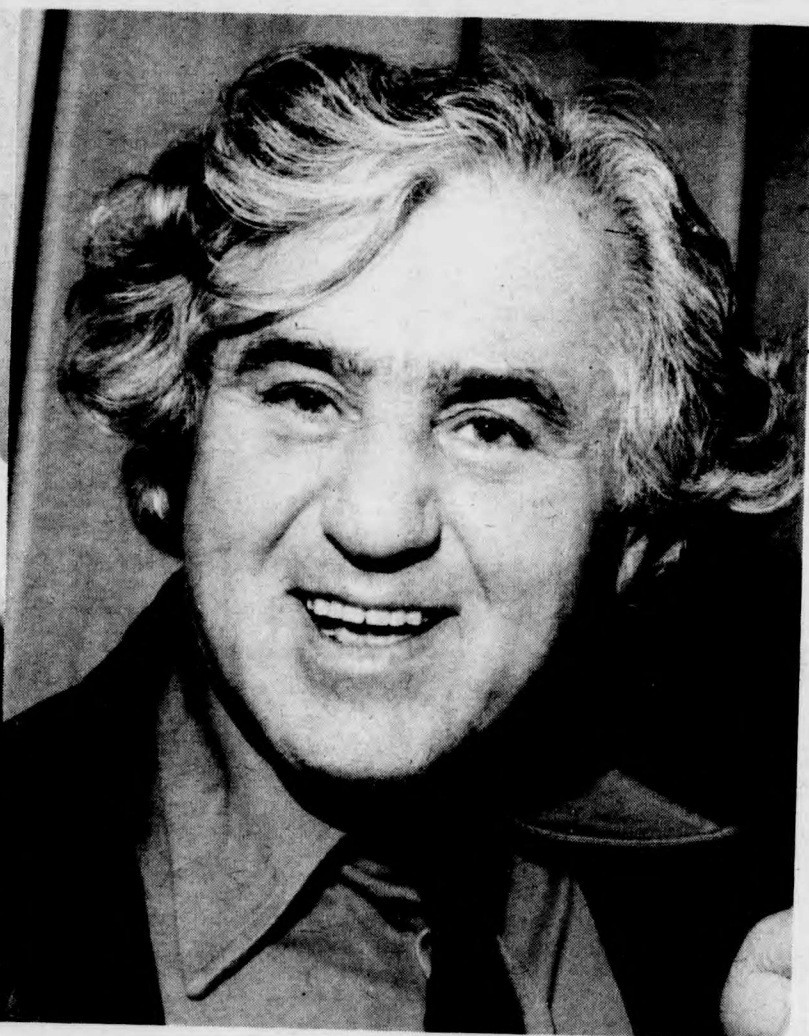
Even if the conference office were only to break even, says Moore, the university would be making money — the normal summer operating costs are paid for, the non-academic support staff are kept on full-time, and the food services maintain a high volume of service.

If that's a rationalization, Moore has never had to use it. The conference office has generated a net profit in excess of \$100,000 in each of the last few years.

This revenue has a direct benefit for students, since it becomes part of the residence budget and may help to hold residence costs down.

Well and good, you say, but you still don't like bagpipes? Then you have an alternative. Another summer regular is the Stan Kenton Jazz Clinic. And if that doesn't please you, you've got no soul.

## Yolton, Layton to get honorary degrees



Two York University professors will be awarded honorary doctorate degree at convocation ceremonies this summer, it was announced recently.

Dr. J. W. Yolton will be awarded a Doctor of Literature degree (Honoris Causa) by McMaster University in Hamilton on Thursday, May 27. Dr. Yolton served as Acting President of York University from January, 1973 to June, 1974. For the 10 years previous, he was Chairman of the Department of Philosophy.

Irving Layton, Canadian poet and York University English Professor, will be awarded a Doctor of Laws degree (Honoris Causa) by Concordia University at its Loyola Campus convocation ceremony on Sunday, June 13.

Professor Layton joined the York faculty in 1970. The most recent of his many volumes of poetry, For My Brother Jesus, was released in January of this year.

## On Campus

### THURSDAY

- 4 pm — General Meeting of York Women's Centre — 257, Atkinson.
- 4-5 pm — Meeting of Philosophy Students Association — S169, Ross.
- 4:30 pm — Meeting — Faculty of Arts Student Caucus — S105, Ross.
- 7:30 pm-10:30 pm — Communications and Interpersonal Relationships — (Centre for Continuing Education) "Open Marriage" with Barbara and Sy Silverberg — general admission \$6; \$4 for students — 107, Stedman.
- 8 pm — Music Department Concert — with the York Wind Ensemble — JCR, McLaughlin.

### FRIDAY

- 12 noon-9 pm — Art Sale of Fine Art Students' work — Lobby, Fine Arts Phase II.
- 1:30 pm-5:30 pm — Final meeting of Winters Chess Club — 030A, Winters.

## Summer Interchange

As a community service for the summer only, while Excalibur does not publish, the York Bulletin will offer to students, staff and faculty the opportunity to advertise, without charge, items for sale, barter or exchange. No outside or commercial agencies will be permitted to use this space. Advertisers must observe the following:

1. All items must be submitted in typed or printed form, with name and telephone number, to Information York or to Room S814, Ross Building. Items will not be accepted over the phone.
2. It will be understood that:
  - the Bulletin has the right to edit all material submitted;
  - items will be published once only;
  - items will be published on a first come, first served basis; and
  - due to space limitations, the Bulletin cannot guarantee publication of all items.