

Nothing left but the voting

Candidates end campaign at Tuesday bearpit

By DEBBIE PEKILIS

Today is the second day of balloting in the Council of the York Student Federation's (CYSF) general elections. On Tuesday with the election still a day away the three presidential and Board of Governors candidates got one last chance to show themselves to the York community at a noon hour Bearpit session.

Alice Klein, presidential candidate of the United Left Slate (ULS) said the CYSF has two functions. One is to provide York students with social services such as clubs, the course unions commission and "the ULS-founded social co-op". The other is to help provide political leadership to oppose tuition fee hikes and cutbacks being imposed by the provincial and federal governments.

NEW KID IN TOWN

Tom Diotte of McLaughlin College praised this year's council for its achievements while speaking in favour of Radio York, the Social Co-op, lower TTC fares for students and lower food prices on campus. Diotte presented himself as the man in the middle, "the new kid in town".

Paul Hayden, Vice-President of Social Affairs on this year's council, spoke mainly of the achievements of his council and he expressed the hope that he could continue the work begun this year.

Hayden talked about the money he felt CYSF would gain if they pulled out of the Ontario Federation of Students (OFS) and the National Union of Students (NUS). "There is nothing wrong with making money, as we will have more money to spend."

Hayden spoke about the negotiations that Barry Edson and Atkinson tenants' association head, Dave Fleet, had with the administration over the rent review issue. "We are trying to keep both rent and costs down," he said.

BY-ELECTION BLUE

Tom Diotte opened saying, "A lot of you don't know who I am and what I'm about". He then mentioned his experience on the McLaughlin College council and in the rent review issue.

Diotte was critical of "certain" CYSF members who earlier this year had considered cancelling the CYSF's by-elections and appointing council reps. instead. Diotte suggested that by-election dates should be set early to avoid such confusion.

He commended Edson for "a good job considering his lack of experience". He also raised the issue of Radio York, and the Social co-op from which he said the CYSF might make a profit. "If Radio York can get their licence, they will be called that instead of loudspeaker York".

Klein spoke against the recent \$100 increase in tuition fees and warned that government policy called for further increases in the years to come. She also mentioned a recent government report on student aid that called for an end to grants for students whose parents earned more than \$11,000 per year. The report also recommended that all students be charged interest on their loans "the minute we get them", she said.

"The faculty have the faculty association, the staff have the staff association, we need a student union that fights these cutbacks and tuition increases, a union that stays involved in OFS and NUS, which organizes students and fights for them against the restraint policies of the government".

Klein also mentioned women's issues, which she said none of the other candidates had raised. "Forty per cent of the undergraduates are women but neither of the other candidates has mentioned them".

She accused her opposition of being sexist. Klein quoted the last paragraph of a front page editorial in the MAC TRUCK of which Diotte is an editor. It read: "As a regular feature in following issues, we will be running hot pics of your favourite university goals under the title 'Diners Delight'."

The three Board of Governors candidates spoke mainly of the domination of business on the Board of Governors, which they say is not necessarily in the best interests of the students.

Mike Brooke, said that to increase the number of students on the BOG "would have no more effect than having the two students that are there now. We should increase student membership by having the student elections from different sectors of the university, such as the colleges and Osgoode, so that students will feel closer to their leaders."

Richard Andreansky, an Osgoode student, suggested including a representative from the North York Council of the provincial legislature on the BOG. "I know we don't like them, but they can provide an increase in funds and in commitments to services that concern the students." He also suggested seeking commitments from the business leaders "as far as jobs for York students are concerned."

NORANDA HAS THREE

Harvey Pinder, the ULS BOG candidate, said 6 of the 32 BOG representatives are elected and of these, 2 are students. "It is very democratic, I must say." He mentioned the heads of the companies represented, including Noranda Mines which, he said has three members.

"Why should a private company have three members and we students who are more closely involved in the university have only two". He also called for an end to the BOG's secret meetings. "students should learn how, when and why the decisions are made which affect them."

QUESTION PERIOD

Among the questions addressed to the three presidential candidates were ones about extracurricular activities, the tuition increase for foreign students, and Harbinger. Hayden said Barry Edson's CYSF voted against the 250 per cent tuition increase for foreign visa students in the summer. "The Canada International Development can pay the difference for those students who are denied access to post-secondary education in their countries and come here."

DON'T SLING MUD

Diotte's position on the tuition increase was, "You have to speak to the people who make the legislation." He advocated moderating the opposition against the fee differentiation. "You don't yell, don't hold demonstrations, don't sling mud. You need the support of the people in Ottawa and at Queen's Park." In connection with this, he talked about the rent review. "Barry and I went to Queen's Park to talk to Davis and the others."

Klein called it a very major issue. "I don't know if everybody is aware that the Senate was against the fee differential and they were overturned by the business-dominated BOG. These students are from underprivileged countries and are denied access to post-secondary institutions where they live." She mentioned that in various Ontario universities, such as McMaster, Senates have voted not to collect the extra money from foreign students. She added that the government has promised the increase next year.

All three candidates, Klein in particular, said they are in favour of giving more money to Harbinger.

Klein added that although CYSF could not afford to totally fund



Waiting their turns to speak, presidential candidates Paul Hayden (left) and Tom Diotte listen to United Left Slate presidential candidate Alice Klein (second from the right) at Tuesday's all-candidate's debate in the bearpit. Chief Returning Officer Larry Freedman (middle) and ULS Board of Governors candidate Harvey Pinder complete the picture.

Harbinger, the Women's Centre Breakthrough, etc., she would help them seek funds elsewhere.

Hayden said Breakthrough should seek advertising.

ANONYMOUS AD

Klein was asked by a member of the audience to respond to an anonymous ad that appeared in last week's Excalibur attacking the 1975-76 ULS-led CYSF. The ad cited three examples of ULS motions implying that the ULS was actively anti-Zionist.

"The ULS has no position on Zionism or non-Zionism" said Klein. "Our program deals only with issues concerning students and we think the election should be decided on candidates' positions on these issues, not off-campus issues."

Klein pointed out that the ad, while saying the ULS-led council had funded the Alliance of Non-Zionist Jews, it had failed to mention that the council had also provided funds to the York Student Zionist and the Jewish Student Federation.

CLOSING DOWN EXCALIBUR

Hayden was asked whether he had actually told an Excalibur staff meeting that he would consider closing the newspaper down if he felt it was behaving improperly.

Hayden said that what he initially had been referring to was the chevron incident. He felt that the student council president there had responded to a legitimate request when he closed down the newspaper but, when he tried to take their typewriters he made a political mistake.

Hayden said "If you want to shut down a newspaper, you do it democratically".

Concerning extracurricular activities, Hayden said the athletic clubs have their own finances for their activities. "If students decide to pull out of OFS and NUS, there will be more money for CYSF to spend on these activities."

Diotte mentioned the profits promised from an expanded Radio York and the Social Co-op for next year. "With more money coming, we have potential for more funds."

Klein said the cutbacks in education are affecting athletics. "The hockey rink is unsafe. We've read in Excalibur of people getting hit by pucks."

Klein said the York Ice Palace had been originally built only to be a practice rink but due cutbacks in educational funding, the new rink was never built.

STAFF MEETING AT 2 PM

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