Coalition urges cut-rate fares

By STEVE STRIBBELL

An organization called The Half Price Metropass Coalition last week presented the Toronto Transit Commission with a detailed proposal for reduced fares on behalf of low income, transit dependent people in Metropolitan Toronto.

The interest group is headed by Ward 6 Alderman Jack Layton. Representatives from student councils at York University, the U of T, Ryerson and Metro colleges are also involved. CYSF Director of Finance Valance Ellies is York's lone student representative.

Students, those persons receiving social assistance or unemployment insurance, and permanent compensation recipients are finding it virtually impossible to pay the current rate of public transit, the authors of the proposal say. Often this results in the sacrifice of such necessities as food, clothing and shelter, they argue.

The program would prove to be most beneficial to post-secondary students because, as stated in the proposal, "Given the high cost of education, university and college students are finding it increasingly difficult to afford high

transit fares. A half-price Metropass would be of great help in reducing the overall cost of financing an education.

CYSF has been actively involved in this proposal. Ellies said, "The TTC has agreed to study the proposal and report back in February." He went on to say, "I am cautiously optimistic right now. It (the proposal) is the farthest any post-secondary group has gotten with the TTC.

This is to say that the TTC will at least consider the proposal. According to council President Chris Summerhayes, "We haven't heard anything in any way, shape or form from the TTC."

"I'm not encouraged by (Alderwoman) Rowlands' (response)," Ellies said. "Her point was that her kids walked when they went to university, so why can't other kids walk."

Similar programs have already been implemented in many Ontario cities such as Guelph, Niagara Falls, Hamilton, Cambridge and Kitchener-Waterloo, and, read the coalition's proposal, proved beneficial to the communities involved, although the original funding may often prove difficult.

ACSA president threatens to sue paper

cont'd from page 3

over a year and a half, but she has registered for two since then."

When Rogers was first contacted by Krohn she threatened to sue the *Atkinsonian* if it printed the information. The paper quotes Rogers as saying, "If any of my personal information is printed in any newspaper, whoever prints it is going to be in big trouble.

"I don't give a damn who it is, I will sue anybody . . . because that information is private," she added.

Rogers told Excalibur yesterday, however, that she had decided against launching a law suit because the Atkinsonian is owned by ACSA, and "It would be like suing ourselves."

"As the president, that would be stupid, wouldn't it?" she said. "The ACSA is incorporated, so every officer is personally liable."

Rogers said she does not plan to release her records to the assembly in order to prove that she is a student, but "if the assembly asks for it, yes, I plan to. But until they ask for it, I won't."

Cohen and Doldrun also said the Atkinsonian's information is incorrect. Cohen said he completed a course "two terms ago" and enrolled in another last summer, but was forced to withdraw because of time conflicts with his job and family.

The York employee, however, said Cohen has not registered for a course in a year and a half

Doldrun said he is currently taking a social work course, and completed another course last winter.

Rogers claimed the Atkinsonian is effectively destroyed the ACSA. "I see the ACSA killing itself... I feel the ACSA won't be around a year from now," Rogers said.

"Every month the paper we publish says some not very complimentary things about the ACSA," she continued. "If there's a problem we've never heard of and it goes in the paper, it's not going to help much, is it?"

Krohn said of this charge, however, "I expect Rogers will approach the assembly with a sob story that will cloud the issue, in an attempt to win emotional support that will outweigh Rogers', Cohen's and Doldrun's betrayal of the assembly and students."

Other Campuses

By ADAM BRYANT

Meat meet

To protest regulations governing the Miss Georgia College Beauty pageant, two members of the school's student newspaper submitted a piece of meat as an entry.

Jackie Smith, editor of the Colonnade and staff writer Andrew Boswell submitted the entry to protest the regulations which require that all contestants must never have been "married, cohabitated with a male, had an abortion, had any children or plan to marry before the end of her reign."

The organizers of the pageant say the entry will be rejected.

-Toronto Star

Fee spree

By ADAM BRYANT

Underfunding has long been the chief ailment of Canadian universities. Fears that student and staff dollars will be called upon to help ease the burden are being realized at three financially strapped universities in particular.

University of Regina students have recently been told by their board of governors that there will be a 9.3 percent increase in tuition fees for full-time students. This announcement comes less than six months after the board raised fees by 19.6 percent over last year's fees.

At the University of British Columbia, there are fears that the Social Credit government will decrease university funding by five percent. Administrators have warned that such a move could mean the elimination of educational programs or even a whole faculty, and the continuation of the freeze in university faculty and staff salaries.

On the east coast, Dalhousie University has launched a five-year fundraising drive to help alleviate some of the school's \$25 million debt. The campaign is geared towards attracting dollars from the private

sector, but students are being asked to contribute as well.

In return for a guarantee from the administration that tuition fees will not exceed the annual cost-of-living in-crease, Dalhousie's student council has come up with a proposal to increase student union fees by \$15, which would go to the campaign.

-Press
Brock University

Death wish

By ADAM BRYANT

A student peace group at the University of British Columbia is circulating a petition asking the campus health service to stock cyanide pills. The pills would be reserved for students who wish to commit suicide in the event of a nuclear war.

Students for Peace and Mutual Disarmament are calling for a referendum similar to the one held earlier this term at Brown University on Rhode Island, whereby students would be allowed "the choice of a quick painless death rather than the slow, inevitable death in a world destroyed."

"The intent is to make students realize the gravity of the issue," peace group member Mark Fettes said, "and think of alternatives to cyanide pills. Basically it's cyanide or disarmament."

The peace group will need 500 signatures to hold the referendum. Even if the vote passes, the UBC student health service could refuse the request, as did the campus health centre at Brown University.

The referendum at Brown was passed by a 60 to 40 percent margin, with a voter turn-out rate of 95 percent. The event grabbed headlines in both the US and Europe, despite the fact that the students emphasized the non-binding referendum was a symbolic move to promote disarmament.

—The Cord Weekly

Wilfred Laurier University

Santa Klaus is dead.
—Nietzsche

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