



Old and new Liberals gathered in Toronto this weekend for the Toronto District Liberal Association Convention. Above, Old Liberal Stuart Smith welcomes a delegate, while below, Toronto's newest Liberal, CYSF president Barry Edson, shares a joke with fellow CYSF executive member Paul Hayden. Edson had formerly been a member of the NDP.



Ian Mulgrew photo

Noon - hour bearpit rally to kick off Feb. 10 activities

By DENISE BEATTIE

The second meeting of the "Moratorium Committee" last Monday at noon, reaffirmed the committee's decision not to attempt a moratorium at York on February 10.

The meeting, attended by five people, felt that student enthusiasm would not carry through a moratorium and that alternative measures would be more effective.

Barry Edson, president of the Council of the York Student Federation (CYSF), expressed disappointment and frustration at the lack of interest shown by the poor attendance of the meetings. A successful moratorium would depend on strong support by students and faculty, Edson said. He stated that, "there is not enough enthusiasm or manpower," to organize a successful moratorium at York.

He said that an unsuccessful moratorium would have harmful effects on "the already admittedly low bargaining power held by students". Discussion with the government on issues such as unemployment and tuition increases would appear ludicrous with a conspicuous lack of interest, Edson feels.

Student at the meeting, Gary Kinsman pointed out that CYSF has hardly publicized the committee meetings, but most discussion centered on alternative actions to a moratorium.

Edson hopes to provide a format for students to attain information on student unemployment, fee increases and other major issues and also to focus enough student anger that the government will reconsider its promises and its problems in the areas of poor financing of universities, poor student aid and the lack of action on

unemployment among students. How students can take action in connection with these concerns will also be warrant major attention.

Edson pointed out that the Ontario Federation of Students (OFS) is trying to mobilize students on a provincial level before the end of school so that they can discuss major issues and that February 10 should provide a format for that goal.

Murray Misken, chairperson of OFS, elaborated that their program is much broader than a simple, large protest on February 10 and that they are encouraging general protest actions or a moratorium only if that action would be appropriate. Appropriateness should be judged by such factors as student and faculty interest. If the interest is present, Misken feels that a moratorium is preferable but he agrees with Edson, that it would be an unsatisfactory means of protesting at York.

Plans for February 10 now revolve around a rally at the Bearpit at noon with perhaps a group walk to the Vanier Dining Room at 1:00 to listen the government representatives as well as

those from the faculty, the Graduate Student Association and CYSF.

The CYSF and Edson have the responsibility for organizing the day's activities but Edson expressed a strong desire to encourage more students to get involved. He stressed that he felt extreme frustration in attempting to deal effectively with Harry Parrot and other government figures about student concern with these issues and then having the student's show a complete lack of interest.

Attendance at the past two meetings has been dismal, especially the most recent one. Edson stated his dissatisfaction with the fact that the United Left Slate provided highly vocal criticism at the first meeting but at this one few members attended.

Another meeting is planned Monday at noon and Edson hopes that more students will show an interest by attending and getting involved. He also wishes to encourage anyone with interest or ideas to visit him in his office or come to the meeting.

Around the province

OTTAWA (CUP) — Ontario campuses are gearing up to plan activities to demonstrate their opposition to the recently-announced tuition fee hikes for the province's colleges and universities, preliminary reports indicate.

As of January 27, seventeen student unions have reported plans for some form of action on or about February 10, according to reports from the Ontario Federation of Students (OFS) and member papers of Canadian University Press.

Most are seeking, or have already received, support from students for a half-day class boycott, in response to a call from OFS member unions and supporters at a strategy meeting on the tuition hike January 15.

At Algonquin college in Ottawa the annual general meeting of students January 26 overturned their student union's decision not to hold a referendum on the boycott which if passed will be held in mid-February.

The University of Ottawa students rejected a proposed class boycott last December, but a march on the university senate chambers February 7 is planned.

The University of Windsor students union had already found strong support from students for a class boycott in a referendum a week prior to the OFS strategy session, and has now set the boycott for February 10.

The University of Guelph has not ruled out a boycott, but so far has planned a mass meeting February 3, while Lakehead University in Thunder Bay has an ongoing poster and button campaign in the works, according to OFS.

The student union at the University of Western Ontario in London, where students voted to drop their membership in OFS last October, dismissed a proposed boycott referendum at its regular meeting January 26 and plans no other action, according to sources in the National Union of Students.

The campus-by-campus activities were planned along with a four-pronged publicity campaign by OFS aimed at student, the non-student community, politicians and the media, as agreed to at the January strategy session.

The fee hikes amount to a \$75 increase in fees for the province's 22 government-run community colleges, and \$100 for the 15 universities and Ryerson, bringing fees to \$325 for colleges and \$700 for universities.

Campuses across Ontario initiated petition campaigns last December, collecting 25,000 signatures opposing the hike, which were presented to Ontario minister of colleges and universities Harry Parrott December 10.

York's ice arena is no palace

By WALTER RIGOBON

In last Saturday's hockey game between Queens and York a girl of no more than ten years old was hit with an errant puck in the head at the Ice Palace. The deflected shot did not cut open the girl's head but she suffered a bruised forehead and a few tears for her experience.

With incidents such as this in mind, Ian Wasserman of CKRY-FM has circulated a petition that is being sent to York President H. Ian Macdonald, pointing out that one of the top ranked university hockey teams in the country is forced to play in what many consider the worst university arena in Canada.

The petition asks Macdonald to obtain funds to upgrade the existing ice rink or to transfer at least a majority of the Yeomen's home games to a better facility.

The arena has only a short wire fencing behind both nets which leaves the bleacher seats on the side open to any flying pucks.

When the arena is crowded, as it was in the U of T game on January 18, spectators jam themselves at both ends. The fences are too short giving many of the spectators the opportunity to dodge pucks that often fly at 100 mph.

Frank Cosentino, chairman and director of the department of physical education and athletics commented on the situation, "I am sympathetic to any new facility. The crowds have been overflowing and if there was any possibility of getting a new facility I would. We are presently negotiating with all levels of government for a track and field complex. A Wintario grant is a possibility."

Cosentino remarked that there are no present plans for making the

arena safer.

The Wasserman petition points out, the federal ministry of Health and Welfare announced in a press release December 3 of last year that \$1,775,000 was being distributed to eight universities in Canada to construct new sports facilities or upgrade existing ones. University of Toronto received \$250,000 to build international quality swimming and diving facilities.

York President H. Ian Macdonald declined comment on Wasserman's petition but said he was aware of the grants given out by the federal government. "We have been granted \$2.5 million dollars from the Metropolitan Toronto government for a track and field complex and are currently negotiating with both the federal and provincial governments to cover the cost of the rest of the project," said Macdonald.

Macdonald did not feel that the rink was particularly unsafe, only somewhat precarious along the boards. "We could use plexiglass along the boards and some better quality seating. I have been talking with Frank Cosentino and several other people in the Phys Ed department about charging a small admission fee that could help start up a fund to effect some minor modifications in the arena. I have also asked Frank to consider moving some of the popular games elsewhere."

Macdonald added that he was not sure how many people from York would go to the games if they were held at Centennial Arena for example. "The only way to find out is to try it," Macdonald said.

The present rink was originally planned as Phase one of an arena complex. Its was to serve as a practice rink. Phase 2 would have included an ice structure seating 3500. When the province suspended the building of capital facilities Phase 2 was put in limbo.

Since then York has proceeded with three new structures — a chapel, the new tennis facility and the proposed track and field complex which will be started in 1978. These however were funded by non-conventional means. The chapel received a private donation, the cost of the tennis facility was shared by the Canadian Lawn Tennis Association and the track and field complex will probably be funded by several levels of government.

From here and there

There will be a public meeting and benefit dance for John Damien, fired by the Ontario government for being a homosexual on Saturday, February 5 at The Buttery-Devonshire Place, U of T. Meeting is at 8 pm. dance at 10. There is a \$1.75 admission for the dance.

The Principal's office of Glendon College has asked persons who regularly use the inter-campus bus with any opinions concerning the operation of the bus to contact his office and leave their names and phone numbers at 487-6116

The York Women's Centre is sponsoring a "poetry reading with a different approach", "Wimmin's Words", February 3 in the Atkinson Common Room at 4 pm.

The Centre for Special Services for Handicapped Students has opened and is located in Room 135 of the Behavioural Sciences Building, and encourages students with temporary or permanent disabilities to drop in, especially if they need assistance with academic programmes, career planning or personal problems.

"Landscape — A Women's Poetry Experience", will be held in Toronto in May. Submissions will be accepted until February 15. Focus is on women poets — published, unpublished, ethnic, feminist poets, etc. There will be 100 participants of whom 30 will read, plus poetry hanging of other selected submissions and a publishing workshop. Submit S.A.S.E. to Women's Writing Collective, 331 Wellesley East, Toronto, Ontario.