



David Himbara

Gloves off at candidates' meeting

CYSF vote today

Lydia Pawlenko

For CYSF candidates, this has been a busy week of tough, last-minute campaigning, made especially difficult by the overshadowing threats of possible union strikes.

But the handshaking, speech-making, debating and canvassing will end today, as York students go to the polls to elect their new CYSF leaders.

Peter Mednis was acclaimed for the position of Vice-President (External), after his opponent Chris Savvas lost his appeal to be included on the election ballot before the Election Tribunal last Friday.

Savvas is not registered as a York student, as he has not yet paid his tuition fees. He was therefore declared to be ineligible for candidacy in the CYSF elections by Chief Returning Officer Robert Steadman.

In addition, one of Savvas's nominators, Voula Vlahakis, was not found to be a "student of a constituency of the CYSF."

At an all candidates meeting in the bear pit on Wednesday afternoon, the contenders for the positions of President and Vice-President (Internal) positions of president and vice-president (internal) battled for votes in front of a volatile crowd.

There were few surprises as the candidates followed within the safety of their platforms like

seasoned politicians, even on the occasions when they were challenged by emotional questioners from the audience.

Presidential candidate Jenny Gonsalves stressed her support for the OFS. Also, as current Women's Affairs Commissioner on campus, she spoke of the importance of recognizing the problems of women living in an academic community, specifically referring to the problem of sexual harassment.

Malcolm Montgomery stressed the importance of leadership. "The CYSF is also the game of brokerage," he said. "You have to be able to orient yourself to more than one issue." Montgomery also showed his determination to make course evaluations available to students.

Presidential hopeful James Boyle dwelt upon the issue of "the continuity of power surrounding the CYSF." He attempted to appear as "someone definitely outside this power clique."

A tense moment arose during the question period when Board of Governors representative Peter Brickwood accused Malcom Montgomery as having "sat on the Board of Governors for six months." "And he has yet to open his mouth and say a single word."

Montgomery responded by saying that "often I couldn't get

a word in edgewise." He feels that "confrontation politics" do not accomplish anything. "The first thing you have to do is know what you're talking about."

One angry participant from the audience asked all three presidential candidates whether or not they would vote in support of the Student Strike Committee.

Boyle completely avoided the issue by claiming that he did not have the opportunity of voting, because he was "not on the CYSF."

Montgomery's mention of a "pro-student stand" won some cheers from the crowd. "I see a Student Strike Committee as being negative," he said. He did not seem to support the concept of interest-free loans extracted from student funds in order to help grad students on strike.

Jenny Gonsalves responded to the question by commenting that "strikes are reflective of the kind of administration we have here." This won her some applause. She felt that because graduate students are also members of the CYSF, the CYSF must represent their interests. She was thus very much in favour of supporting the Student Strike Committee.

Montgomery retorted, "I would like to remind Jenny Gonsalves that we're running for president of the CYSF, not shop steward of the CYSF."

OFS joins labour march

Reg Hunt

Representatives of the Ontario Federation of Students and the Canadian Union of Educational Workers were among the 10,000 angry demonstrators who rallied at Queen's Park last Saturday.

The rally, organised by the Ontario Federation of Labour to protest lay-offs, plant closures, and increasing unemployment in Ontario, drew trade unionists and labour supporters from all over the province. Many came bearing coffins labelled with the names of plants that have closed in the past year.

The protesters represented auto workers, teachers, civil

servants, steelworkers, construction workers, electricians, printers and journalists. About 175 buses had been chartered to bring some from as far as Sudbury and other northern mining towns.

Their major demands were for more government action to halt the growing trend of plant closures, and lay-offs, for retraining programs for the young employed, day-care, more job opportunities, and better job security.

According to the OFL, 65,000 Ontario workers have lost their jobs since January, 1980.

Apart from NDP leader

Michael Cassidy and 22 members of the NDP caucus in the provincial legislature, there were no representatives from the provincial government present.

The speakers included OFL President Cliff Pilkey, who said government leaders should recognize that full employment is the top priority in Canada and Ontario. He drew loud applause when he demanded that Prime Minister Trudeau and the provincial premiers "ought to get the hell off the constitution and begin to worry about jobs in this province."

See 'Pilkey', page 5.

Strikes averted

John Molendyk

Strike action was averted last weekend when negotiators for both the Canadian Union of Educational Workers and the York University Staff Association settled their disputes with the university.

YUSA members settled in mediation last Thursday and ratified their agreement Friday. CUEW reached a settlement on Monday and will meet for a final ratification vote next week. A "straw vote" taken Monday morning showed that 60 per cent of the members were in favour of accepting the new contract.

In a telephone interview with *Excalibur*, CUEW Chief Negotiator and Steward Leslie Sanders declared the settlement a "very good one", with significant changes to almost every item in the current contract.

CUEW won an overall 11 per cent pay increase, plus a rebate covering the rise in graduate tuition fees for TAs. The rebate, worth \$200, raises the wage package for TAs to \$4,075 per annum. For part-time instructors, the average wage increase was 9.5 per cent. Part-time course directors will receive just over 13 per cent, to compensate for pay anomalies in the past.

The union won, in principle, on the question of class size. Although no ceilings were set for class size, a committee made up of interested parties and students will be set up to study the question of "pedagogically sound" classes. The committee is also expected to deal with the question of TA overwork as a result of crowded classrooms.

A major CUEW proposal, the amalgamation of the TA and part-time units, was dropped in mediation, but other concessions were made instead. The administration's policy of general job posting will be

replaced by clear posting, in which the university must specify the unit from which the job applicant will come.

On the issue of budgetary cutbacks, no gains were made. The union is hopeful that enough pressure can be exerted on the administration by all segments of the university community to forestall significant cutbacks in the future.

CUEW Chairperson Michael Michie agreed that the settlement was a good one, and said that the union's strength had grown considerably as a result of the agreement. Both he and Ms. Sanders expressed disappointment, however, over the outcome of the amalgamation question. University Kaye MacDonald said that CUEW got a good settlement, and explained that the university recognizes no "community of interest between the two units, and therefore opposes amalgamation."

YUSA members ratified their new contract last Friday, voting 86 per cent in favour of acceptance. YUSA President Karen Herrell called the settlement the "best possible deal" the union could achieve without striking.

York's staff won a 9.9 per cent wage hike or \$1,150, whichever is greater, as well as a dropped the issue of seniority and job-posting for YUSA-exempt employees in exchange for the retention of the current sick leave agreement. The union will now go through the grievance arbitration route for resolution of questions relating to non-YUSA members. Union members will receive a full two weeks off from December 20 to January 5, the longest Christmas vacation of any Ontario university, as well as 90 per cent paid-OHIP premiums.

Glendon nixes OFS fee hike

Eugene Zimmerebner

Students at Glendon college narrowly defeated the proposed Ontario Federation of Students' fee hike last week.

With balloting on Tuesday and Wednesday, October 14 and 15, 57 per cent of votes cast supported the increase of fees from \$1.50 to \$3.00 per student. The proposal did not pass however, because Glendon Student Union by-laws stipulate that at least 60 per cent of the voters must support a proposition for it to be accepted.

that it would pass." She said the student council voted to endorse the increase.

Since key positions on the Glendon Student Union were vacant there wasn't a strong campaign to get the fee hike approved.

By-elections to fill these positions were held with the referendum.

Watson said the OFS fieldworker was also unavailable during the campaign because she was busy working with Canadian Union of Educational Workers.

She said the "no" campaign consisted of only a few posters

put up the day before the vote, reminding the Glendon Students that the University of Toronto voted down the dues increase in their referendum.

Even though the referendum was defeated, Watson said that a 57 per cent "yes" vote "was not too bad." She said another vote will be held in the spring and is confident it will get the required 60 per cent.

Watson said she was not worried that the OFS would reimpose Glendon College.

"Even if the second referendum doesn't pass in the spring the OFS is going to have to reevaluate the situation," said Watson. "They are not going to give up the revenues they are getting already."

In GSU by-elections Marshal Katz was elected Chairperson of the student union, defeating Shawn Marmer 110 to 80. Baudoin St-Cyr was elected Vice President of External Affairs, defeating Laurie Perkins 109 to 104. The position of Vice President of Communications was won by Perry Mallinos, defeating Susan Courtney 108 to 102.