excalibur

20 September 1984 Volume 19, Issue 3



Perhaps this little fellow has heard that new technology will be replacing YUSA jobs.

Student contests parking fines

By M. NICO KROHN

York may be stripped of its right to issue parking tickets if Atkinson College resident Glen Strazds wins his case against the University's Parking Office this fall, said Strazds'legal advisor James Morton.

"There are a number of ways in which we may win the case," Morton said. York would lose the right to issue tickets if the court decided york lacked the authority under the York University Act (1980) to regulate parking.

Strazds owes \$2,234 for 122 tickets listed in a statement released by York on June 19.

Following a \$10,000 settlement for the destruction of his car on Sentinel Road in January 1982, Strazds was refused a replacement parking decal because he owed \$77 in unpaid tickets.

"I wouldn't pay the fines because I'd been charged under the wrong sections in many cases," said Strazds who didn't appeal any of the tickets, prior to the accident, within the stipulated two week period after their date of issue.

Strazds provided proof of his accident and was given a special parking permit for the duration of the year. York demanded that Strazds pay outstanding fines before purchasing a new decal in July 1982.

Strazds' refusal resulted in the issuance of an additional 107 tickets because he continued to park on campus without the valid permit. He has also collected further University charges for not paying his tickets on time. As a result York has taken Strazd to Etobicoke Small Claims Court.

In a March 1984 court decision, Judge Moira L. Caswell found that York University has the right to imose fines. "Specific powers are granted to the president to regulate students and student activities," said Caswell. An earlier court judgement involving a York student and unpaid parking fines also upheld the University's right to issue tickets.

Strazds conceded that he only appealed six of the tickets he received. "My attitude toward appeals is, if they're going to systematically issue tickets, I'm not going to systematically issue appeals. It's like a one hour shot," Strazds said, adding that, "They're difficult to deal with. I'd prefer the courts to deal with it."

University representatives refused to comment on the matter, as the case is currently before the courts.

CUEW in conciliation

By MARK JOHNSTON

In the wake of the York University Faculty Association's recent contract settlement, the Canadian Union of Educational Workers (CUEW), Local 3, began a conciliation meeting with the administration on Tuesday.

"For the University, it is basically time to seriously negotiate," said Charles Doyon, chairperson of CUEW Local 3.

The conciliation meeting is the last stage of a lengthy contractual dispute involving the University and CUEW, which represents part-time faculty and teaching assistants at York. If a settlement is not reached in conciliation, a "noboard" report will be issued, and CUEW will be in a legal position to strike 16 days later.

Also, Doyon said, a general membership meeting last Wednesday resulted in "a vote to re-affirm the membership's support fot the negotiating team and their proposals." He said cont'd on page 3

YUFA satisfied over outcome of settlement

By DAVE BYRNES

After coming to the brink of a strike last week, the York University Faculty Association (YUFA) won a contract settlement last Wednesday. Although the administration had refused to bargain beyond a five percent guideline imposed by Ontario Treasurer Larry Grossman, they gave in under the pressure of a YUFA strike vote September 7 and offered a 6½ percent raise, which YUFA accepted.

Janice Newson, who chaired YUFA during the negotiations, is less than enthusiastic about the wage settlement, saying "it is not a just settlement in terms of our needs," but she also pointed to other areas in the agreement that break new ground for the faculty members.

The system that governs pension entitlements has been revised in the new settlement to provide for "phased in" retirement. Previously, pensions were calculated on average wage earnings in the last five years of employement, so the reduction in average wage earnings caused by gradual retirement also cost faculty a reduction in pension earning. For the same reason the agreement provides for six months' sabbatical with 100 percent pay during the five years before retirement.

The agreement also contains improved health benefits and provides for the establishment of a joint committee on affirmative action for women.

Newson said YUFA also won some "extremely important" non-monetary issues through the negotiations. She said the administration not only refused to bargain "in good faith," claiming the need to remain in line with the provincial government, but also tried to win "take-backs" from the existing collective agreement between York and YUFA. By preventing the administration's offensive from winning take-backs, Newson believes YUFA "demonstrated that the faculty will not fold under pressure from the provincial government."

One take-back bid the administration demanded was for power over procedures concerning tenure and promotion—territory that

has been YUFA's since 1976. Another demand, which Newson said "had real implications for academic freedom" was for the authority to monitor the external professional activities of faculty. A third demand attempted to win the university the option of extending normal faculty work loads over an 11 month year.

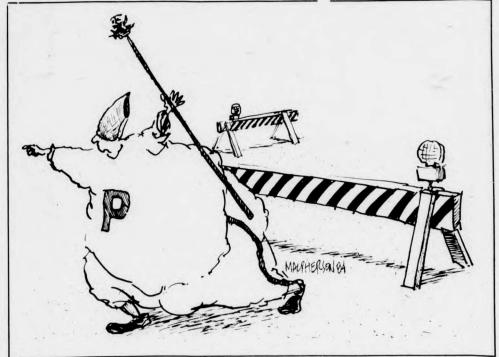
Newson said that by preventing these take-backs and also by forcing the administration to produce a wage settlement "1½ percent over (the limit) they were absolutely determined not to break," YUFA set an important precedent for other Ontario universities. "We were facing a test of the faculty association's (ability) to uphold the collective agreement," she reasoned. "It was a demonstration that the faculty will not be mowed over by the provincial government. We sent a signal to the province that the collective agreement will not fold under the Bovey Commission."

Newson said a plan to massively restructure Ontario universities could succeed unless the faculty unions retain strong collective agreement. "Collective agreements are a way to prevent unilateral movement by the government," she said.

Asked to respond to Newson's charge that the university "did not take a wise position" by using the political/economic situation as a reason for initially refusing to free-bargain with YUFA, Board of Governors chairperson Bruce Bryden had no comment and directed our enquiry to Bill Farr, the university's spokesman on labor disputes. Farr offered no comment aside from calling Newson's ideas "speculation."

YUFA's bargaining unit is expected to ratify the new settlement by secret ballot next week. Last Wednesday the general membership voted to suspend job action and pass the settlement on to the bargaining unit for final approval.

The new contract will expire April 30, 1985. Robert Drummond, who became YUFA's new chairperson this week, said YUFA "is in pretty good shape" to start new contract negotiations in February.



Papal parking project a massive flop

By ELLIOTT SHIFF

Organizers and workers involved with the Papal Parking Project at York University were fully mobilized to accommodate up to 30,000 cars for the Pope's September 15 appearance at Downsview airport. Approximately 300 cars took advantage of York's parking facilities.

As Conference Centre Manager Jack Moore said, "the demand on facilities did not materialize." By comparison the York grounds were utilized more than any of the other large parking lots that were offering shuttle services, including Woodbine, Greenwood, and the International Centre, said Moore. "It's unfor-

tunate, but we weren't the only ones," continued Moore.

Moore said the downpour the evening prior to the Mass caused people to stay away.

The project was not a money-making venture, Moore said. "The operation was successful in that lots of students had jobs," he said.

The university did not receive the public relations it had hoped for. "From a student standpoint, it was impressive; we did not, however, have the volume of people necessary to impress outsiders," said Moore.

Saying the monetary "losses will be substantial," Moore had "no comment" about who would be making up for the losses.