

Tuesday referendum abandoned by CYSF

Councils to hold 'opinion poll'



photo by SANDY CORMACK

You can't tell what they're doing but it really doesn't matter. In a way it was like Council of the York Student Federation and the college councils getting together for the first time on

Thursday: they knew they could do it and feel things out but it took the right kind of atmosphere. The future looks good.

Joint venture next Tuesday

After a seven hour meeting with the college councils on Thursday, Council of the York Student Federation has agreed to scrap the Tuesday Nov. 30 referendum.

Instead, the councils and CYSF decided to hold an opinion poll next Tuesday, Dec. 9 as a joint venture. This, they said, would give a constitutional committee guidelines to operate on.

What began as an eleventh hour confrontation on Thursday between CYSF and the college councils, ended on a high note of cooperation by Saturday. The two groups spent about 8 hours over the weekend hammering out the questionnaire.

The results go to the constitutional committee which has six votes for the CYSF and six for the college councils. The committee must approve the constitution by a two-thirds majority and then it is binding all student governments.

The opinion poll, the representatives said, was "a litmus paper reaction from the student body on the issues."

CYSF agreed that the issues at stake with the referendum were already lost in a yes or no attitude towards CYSF and college councils. The colleges described the scrapped referendum as "a unilateral decision by CYSF to redo the constitution."

CYSF and college council reps met Friday and Saturday to draft a questionnaire that would reflect student opinions on specific issues and not a polarization of CYSF and the college councils. CYSF President Mike Flether said, "We've all been saying 'this is what the students want' for four years. The poll is an attempt to find out."

Voting begins Tuesday, Dec. 7, and runs until Thursday, Dec. 9 for day students and all week — until Dec. 14 — for Atkinson students. (See questionnaire Page 3.)

Swastika band sold at Oasis

Nobody wants to take the blame for it, but the Oasis has sold at least one headband with a swastika design.

United Cigar Store district manager William Rooney says the York store is the only one that has complained about the headbands. Although responsible for purchasing, Rooney said the headbands were in the store when he took over in May and he doesn't know where they came from.

The headband, with an elastic back, sells for \$1.98. Two swastika-like symbols are on either side of a beaded design. One opens up at the right as in the original Hindu cross, and other opens up at the left as in the Nazi symbol.

York student David Rumak said he saw the headbands last week and complained to store manager Susan Steinberg. A recent check showed swastika headbands no longer for sale in the store.

Survey shows few were concerned with referendum

By ALAN RISEN

Do you have any personal gripes about anything that is going on at York? If you have comments or opinions about your university that you would like to make public, send them along with your name, college, and phone number to this reporter c/o Excalibur.

Confused about the proposed student referendum? Not sure what it was about? Well, don't feel that you were alone. An Excalibur poll of 60 students taken on Thursday and Friday showed that 77 per cent of York students rated the referendum from "little or no importance" to "I

couldn't give two shouts," or something to that effect. Only five per cent felt that it was very important.

Add to all this the fact that 60 per cent of the students indicated that they would refuse to vote and you can see that the referendum would have been anything but a tumultuous success.

For these reasons it is hard for anyone who is concerned about what is happening to York to be unhappy that the referendum was changed to a detailed questionnaire. It will give students a chance to voice their opinions on several issues.

Question: How do you feel about the referendum being dropped and a detailed questionnaire being used in its place?

Campus Comment



Hershel Switzer
The questionnaire will make the opinions of the students more strongly felt.



Norm Levine
It's a good idea only if the colleges and the CYSF do what the majority of the students say in the questionnaire.