

Riot cops save students

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low. The majority jeered the police. Others, about 400, supported the students. Fist fights erupted continually, at least five people were arrested throughout the day, and the police, as they moved in to quell the fights, used billies to break up knots of people, injuring several.

One police van was set aflame but the fire was quickly extinguished.

By 1 p.m., it was clear the computers were being destroyed. The riot squad was given orders to move in and started breaking down the barricades.

At that point, the occupiers smashed the remaining computers and set fire to the barricades.

Flames shot out 15 feet and the police drew back. The blaze was visible for three city blocks. Thick black smoke filled the corridors and at least five policemen and firemen were overcome with smoke and rushed to hospital.

The students, ringed by fire, stayed in a back room near an open window. Out in the corridors, newsmen and other students fled the area to get away from the smoke, unbearable even two floors away. Dozens retched in nausea.

The fire began to move in on the students. The riot squad managed to put out the fire and get the students out before they were all either burned or overcome by smoke.

The police seized 79 and kept them lined up against a wall for two hours as they put out fires and awaited instructions.

Only a few of the occupiers managed to evade arrest.

At 6 p.m., they were shoved into nine paddy wagons and taken away to be processed. The university will press charges against all of them — one official said: 'We'll hit them with every criminal charge possible'.

The students have been charged with conspiracy, arson and public mischief. Arson alone carries a maximum sentence of life, a minimum of seven years.

At least 20 of the 79 arrested were women. The group is almost equally mixed, black and white.

The damage: at least a million dollars worth of computers. The Centre itself won't be functional again until next October.

The whole ninth floor of the hall building is gutted. Walls are down, floorboards torn up, windows smashed.

Water damage has wrecked at least five other floors.

Valuable research projects were destroyed.

Animals in psychology experiments on the 11th floor all died.

Some academic records and exam marks are forever lost.

Total damage is estimated at \$8,000,000 and 79 students now face severe criminal charges and lengthy sentences.

The university will be shut down at least until Monday and may take months to get back to normal operation. And of course, the Anderson case may never be properly handled.

It's a sad story of frustration, rigidity, weakness, absurdity and betrayal. An administration roundly scorned by students for mishandling the affair finally came to grips with the situation and lost out to the faculty.

The students, who had taken such delicate care of the computers for two weeks, finally destroyed them and lost any chance they may have had of legitimacy.

The faculty, never militant throughout and at no time the leaders in the affair, raised its hackles at the worst possible time.

And everybody loses — over a dispute about the composition of a committee.



Smoke billows from the computer centre at Sir George Williams.

Second time around, Mac joins YSF

by Grant Carter

Paul Koster, the newly elected president of the York Student Federation Council (formerly the York Student Council) says he is very happy.

Koster should be.

His council, after being installed in office for a little more than an hour, gained a new member — McLaughlin College.

After two referendums surrounded by political back-stabbing, and in-fighting among the Mac councillors, the Mac students voted 177 to 154 in favor of joining the YSF as a full member in a referendum Tuesday.

The voting turnout was 41.4 per cent.

The second referendum was ordered by Mac council after it learned of several improprieties surrounding the first referendum held in January. In that vote the students opposed joining a university-wide student government.

Shortly after the results of the vote were revealed councillor Tim Delaney announced his resignation.

His fellow councillors tried to persuade Delaney to remain on council until a new college council takes over in early March.

Delaney, an opponent of joining YSF since his election to Mac council, said he didn't have any choice.

He said his purpose in running for council was to prevent Mac from joining with the YSF.

It was Delaney's fourth attempt to resign from office.

Mac will hold elections for three college representatives to YSF on Feb. 27.

Koster, who was attending his first YSF meeting, said:

"I'm optimistically awaiting the election of their representatives to YSF. I'd like to meet with their college council chairman within the next week to discuss joining the presidential committee."

Koster has proposed establishing a presidential committee composed of the presidents of the college councils to improve communication between the college councils and the YSF.

Yanks screwed

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dations, and educational background.

MacEachen said Sunday he took "a dim view of the impersonation tactic used" by the students, but confirmed that his department was investigating why nearly all deserters were and still are turned away at the border.

He said his department hopes to make it easier for deserters to get into the country.

The five students charged that official directives were the reason for their rejection. Three said they met sympathetic border guards who turned them away because they had been instructed to, and not because of personal views about deserters.

One of the students, Chris Wilson, was asked immediately what his draft status was, and when he informed the official he was a deserter, he was told there was "no way" he could get in, and not to bother applying.

All the others were given similar run-arounds and two were rejected after hasty conferences between border officials and their superiors.

When they were rejected, all were immediately seized by American immigration officials, who already knew they were deserters.

Apparently, they were told that by Canadian authorities. (Although the Immigration Department requires its people to inform the Americans of rejections, they are not permitted to divulge reasons.)

All five had destroyed their American documents before returning to the American side, but the Americans called them by the name on the draft card, and knew precisely the circumstances of their return.

Graham Muir, one of the students, was refused permission to talk to his attorney.

He had earlier been told that he was rejected because "there's a difference between evaders and deserters. We're under instructions not to let deserters in."

All were threatened with arrest until they were able to substantiate their claim to be Canadian citizens. They were held for at least a half hour, and threatened by RCMP action when they returned to Canada.

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