

Bethune council chairman quits

By DOUG TINDAL

Bethune council chairman James McMurdo last week submitted his resignation to the council, effective immediately. McMurdo gave as his reason the feeling that "too much was being done by too few people."

McMurdo was in his second term as council chairman. He was asked to step in this past summer when Alex Andronache (also last year's vice-chairman) resigned from the post.

As a secondary reason for his resignation, McMurdo referred to his frustration in trying to organize united action during the recent plan to boycott the Commercial Caterer's cafeteria serving Stong and Bethune colleges.

Bethune strongly supported CYSF's plans for a boycott, with McMurdo serving as the major link between the two.

With the announcement last week that Commercial would terminate its operations on April 30, 1976, the boycott plans ended, and McMurdo felt that much of his work was also finished for the year.

"With only a month remaining in the term, and much of the council's concluded, I felt that a slightly dramatic move might encourage more people to be active in the council."

The response, he says, has been promising.

"Some people who had not really been involved in the food issue are now seeking more information."

McMurdo will use his time over the next few weeks to research and write a detailed study of food services. In particular, the study will explore the feasibility of providing non-profit food services administered by members of the university community, and will refer to the food services provided at the other Ontario universities.

The study will be presented to the University food services committee and the department of ancillary services.

Election '76: Candidate Smith isn't worried by opposition

By ANNA VAITIEKUNAS

The stage is almost set for the CYSF elections in the spring. The candidates, four at last count, are busy behind the curtains preparing their lines for the play that will determine York's student president next year.

Ironically, the last announced contestant for the presidential drama is a fourth year theatre student, Kevin Smith who doubles as Vanier Council chairman after classes. Though dramatist by academic pursuit, Smith appears to be a bread and butter man when it comes to university politics.

His platform for his candidacy, he says, is still developing but Smith maintains that he already has a few personal priorities that he wants to establish at the outset. University cutbacks ("of course that will be a major issue"), housing, internal university spending are a few.

SUCCESSION STUDY

Smith's latest political endeavour as chairman of the Vanier College Council has been the CYSF succession study in collaboration with the other Complex I councils.

"I'm not sure yet about running on the succession platform because I still have to examine the concept closely with the other colleges to see what the pros and cons are and whether it would be viable at York."

Smith decided he'd run for the presidency after he saw who the candidates were.

"This Curtis Thomas person... if that's the type of guy who's running... well." (Smith announced his candidacy shortly before Excalibur reported that Thomas had allegedly misappropriated \$216 from the Founders College Council during the summer.)

He doesn't appear to be worried about the other candidates either. Even Jay Bell, the strongest presidential hopeful doesn't mar his political aspirations.

"Jay Bell's an intelligent person, he'd make a good college man but I don't know he'd work as president."

The current CYSF, in his opinion, has been good but not great. He thinks that Dale Ritch has been "very good", though he doesn't agree with his confrontation politics approach.

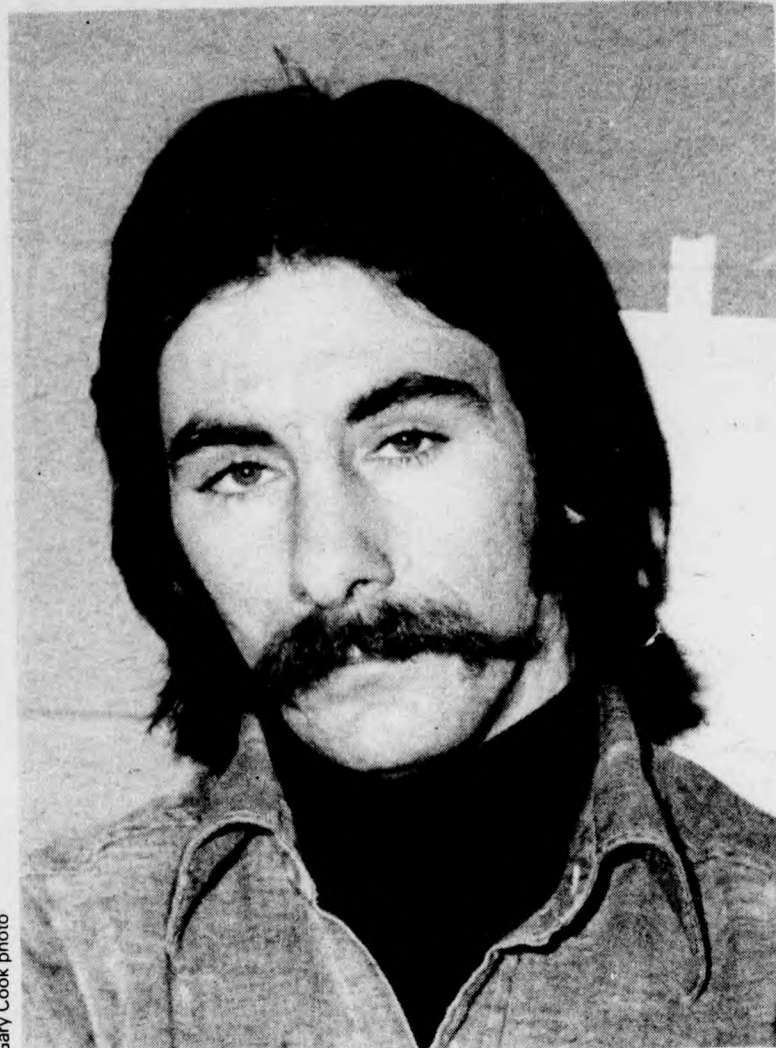
"There is a place for confrontation politics. If everything else fails, then there is a need for confrontation, as a last resort." As president, Smith contends that he'd work with the administration because "I'd be dealing with intelligent men who know what they're doing".

Though he wants to decrease the present scope of the outward-looking CYSF to deal with more pertinent issues at York, he pauses for a little ideological interlude and says, "the university though, plays an important role in the outside community. It is up to us to prove to that community that the university needs funds to operate".

Among other issues to deal with as student president, Smith includes the belaboured food issue. He likes the idea of student-staff-faculty control over food services but until that time, he plans to investigate the decision making process by the administration vis-a-vis the catering companies.

ANOTHER WRINKLE

Smith wants to iron out another controversial wrinkle — inadequate campus security — and is exploring the possibi-



Gary Cook photo

CYSF Presidential hopeful, Kevin Smith.

ty of an inter-college student security system.

Smith thinks that his presidential support is diffused throughout the campus with a main power bloc in Complex One. "I've worked with a lot of people in Complex Two though, as well as being actively involved in the CYSF for the past two years."

Day students, he says will be the major sector that he'll appeal to in his campaign. "I'd try to get the Fine Art students to

vote as well. Art students aren't too interested in politics."

When asked why he was interested in politics despite his academic background, he chuckled and said, "I guess I'm not your typical theatre student."

Apart from his Vanier college membership, Smith is a CYSF delegate and a member of the Food Action Committee that was instrumental in the expulsion of Commercial Caterers.

York's pension fund drops \$704,000 in one year

By PAUL KELLOGG

The York University Pension Fund, reorganized in 1971 so that it would increase in value at a faster rate, realized a net loss of \$704,122 in the fiscal year ending June 30, 1974.

Invested in bonds, equities and mortgages, it's net rate of interest was negative 3.818%, for which service, the administrators of the fund were paid over \$70,000.

When questioned about the loss, Alan Leach of Canada Permanent Trust who manages the fund, blamed it on the market conditions.

BEAR MARKET

"The whole market lost money that year. As a matter of fact, the York pension fund did better than most. I'm quite proud of the way we were able to cut our losses," he explained.

He made the point that 1974 was the middle of the recession we are just emerging from. The fund, which now is valued at just over \$22,000,000, could have done much worse.

PAPER MONEY

Steve Ferguson, YUSA member responsible for the fund concurred with Leach. "We have a very good pension plan. There was actually no money loss in 1974, it occurred only on paper. That year, the only pension fund that did better was Canadian National's."

Both YUSA and YUFA members contribute to the fund, their contributions being matched dollar for dollar by the administration. Last year, the in-

vestments of the fund realized a gain of close to 11 per cent.

Commercial polls eaters

By IAN MULGREW

"Look before you eat" is the advice offered to students who buy sandwiches at the Commercial Caterers' outlets on campus.

Commercial has put small questionnaires inside all of their sandwiches in the hope that people will provide them with an idea of how they like the services offered.

"This is just part of our normal program. Twice a year we conduct a poll of our customers to see how our services compare with the customers expectations," explained Commercial's vice-president Paul Farkas. "We printed 10,000 copies of the questionnaire and expect them to last about three days."

A transitor radio will be raffled off as a prize to all those who return the slips.

"This is to offer an incentive to the consumer so that they will return them," said Farkas.

The whole idea of conducting this questionnaire at this time implies that all of the complaints and talk of boycotts, and general discontent with the service offered by Commercial is coming from a small minority and this questionnaire is going to show that there are a majority of students on campus who like the food and the service.

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