

## Debts, overcrowding

# York daycare situation is far from healthy

By FRANK GIORNO

The York day care centre is in better shape than it was last year, but despite improvements, the picture is far from rosy.

According to Maria de Wit, spokeswoman for the centre, heading the list of woes is a \$33,000 debt to the University.

"The debt is not attributable to irresponsible spending as some people have tried to make it seem," she emphasized. "Most day care centres lose money."

The debt arose because of excess spending due to the rise in the number of children enrolled. This increase necessitated the purchase of extra cots and play material, plus other capital equipment needed for the adequate care of the children.

To help pay off the debt the centre which receives an average annual grant of \$2,000 from CYSF, will approach the Council for a larger grant this year.

De Wit said that since 60 per cent of the children must be from student

parents, CYSF has an obligation to see the centre through its crisis. She pointed out that the day care centre provides jobs for York students as part time help and has been a virtual classroom for students of child psychology, since it provides children for experimentation and research.

These privileges are also extended to the early childhood care courses at George Brown and Seneca Colleges. Neither college is required to pay a fee for this on-the-job training.

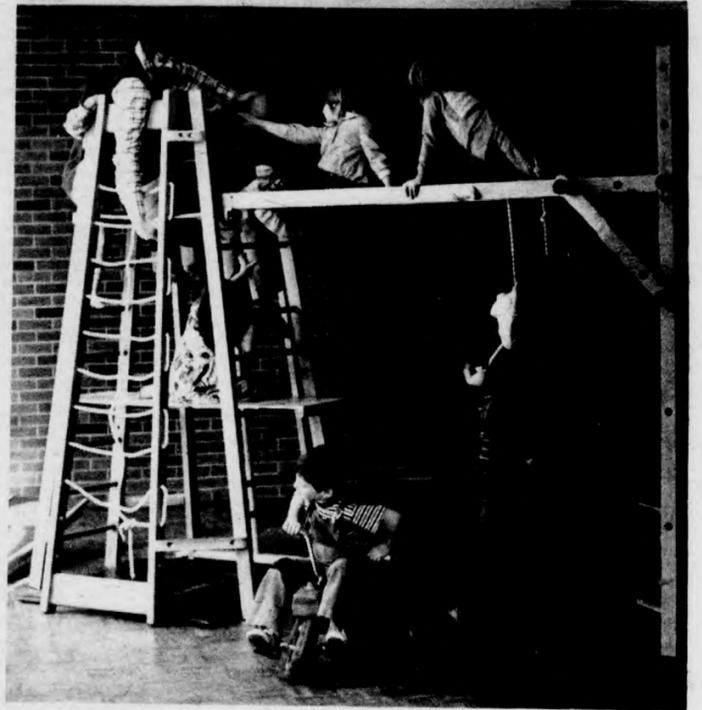
Overcrowding is another point of concern. The centre, which was designed to accommodate 70 children, now has to make room for 100 children.

De Wit reports that the situation will not improve in the foreseeable future. Although the centre is booked solid for the next two years, it still receives up to 20 calls a day asking for placement.

That facilities have not suffered greatly despite the crowded conditions is mainly due to the efforts to a handful of concerned parents and volunteers.

The centre has recently added an improved playground to its facilities with parents' help in its construction. The \$2,000 playground was subsidized by Bethune College (\$1,500) and the Legal and Literary Society, Osgoode Hall's student council (\$500).

The centre's next project will be to convert their playroom into a fully functional gym. Equipment now in the playroom consists solely of a multi-purpose structure named the



Children at the York daycare centre clamber over the "clamberworks", a multi-purpose structure designed by fine arts faculty member Ted Bieler. This toy is currently the sole equipment in the playroom.

"clamberworks", designed by fine arts faculty member Ted Bieler.

Bieler apparently approached the centre asking permission to display the clamberworks and used photographs of the centre children to help promote his invention. Recently one of his associates approached the centre asking \$300 payment for the clamberworks, which could conceivably mean that the centre would lose its sole piece of playroom equipment. The situation is still unresolved.

Meanwhile the day care centre's negotiating committee is to meet with the administration on Monday to discuss the gamut of problems which they face.

Any volunteers who might help the centre in planning or building, or who can donate equipment, are asked to call the centre at 3273 or contact Maria de Wit in Room 108, Atkinson Residence.

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## Clubs policy amended

By ANNA VAITEKUNAS

A series of revisions to existing CYSF governing criteria for funding student clubs were made last Thursday night by the Council's executive committee.

Clubs and organizations may still appeal for funds from the council's annual operating budget, but only if they meet four specific requirements.

The organization must be recognized as a York University club by the council, and membership in the club must be open to every member of the York Student Federation; it must prove that funds have been actively solicited elsewhere; it must be able to produce a copy of its constitution and statement of purpose, as well as a list containing the names of its officers; and it must present a detailed budget with invoices or

receipts before the club can expect to receive any financial aid from the council.

The meeting's agenda was briefly disrupted due to an informal appearance by Anhelina Szuch, who is fasting to protest the incarceration of Valentyn Moroz in Vladimir prison in the Soviet Union.

The committee supported the appeals of the hunger strikers, and agreed to send telegrams to the federal external affairs minister and the Soviet ambassador in Ottawa, entreating recognition of "the oppression and denial of Moroz's civil liberties."

A motion to support Glendon College's opposition to the Metro Toronto Planning Commission's proposal to extend Lawrence Avenue east of Bayview through the Glendon campus was also passed.

## CYSF president speaks out

# Scotton wants to be 'accessible'

By STEVE HAIN

'Approachable' is the best way to describe the Council of the York Student Federation's president Anne Scotton.

"I'm accessible, and will attempt to help people on their level, and not on the level of the administration."

Scotton, a fourth year political science major, has a background in student politics which spans the past four years, including three years on the Winters College council, the last two as president.

Due to the existing college system, a previous CYSF debt, and the fact that this year's budget has about the same real money value as the first CYSF budget eight years ago, this year's council will be limited in its spending for special activities. It will try to provide campus events that bring out the most people in relation to the number of dollars spent.

An example of this thinking was the orientation dance thrown by the council, where approximately 2,000 people attended at a cost of \$2,300.

Another event scheduled for this year is the third annual Cosmicon, which showed a net profit of \$43 last year.

Commenting that York is a residence oriented university, where the day students are interested more in vacating the halls by 4 p.m. than in participating in inter-college activities, Scotton cites cohesion as the one element lacking on campus.

"Young people are dominated all through high school, either by their parents or by the school, but when they go away to university the initial discovery is that this is no longer the case.

"If the person doesn't want to get involved, he won't. What I will try to do is to get people involved, through personal push and by informing

them as to what is happening as quickly as possible. This was not being done before."

There are also several facets of campus life that warrant looking into; one of these is the state of Health Services. An inquiry commission is being set up to determine why the level of service is below that of other universities and whether the budget cut was justified.

Also to be studied in this inquiry is whether the problems lie on the level of the university or the provincial government.

On the National Union of Students: "They are still in the organizational stages and do not possess any real power of their own. Also, it can not be said to have a true Canadian representation because, at the present time, there is no participation from universities in Quebec."

On the recent vandalism on campus: "The people who are doing this are the cream of the crop, the best that society has to offer, people who have come to receive a university education. These are the people who in time will be running this country.

"I can't understand how in this community of 'adults' there can be such a lack of respect for each other and each other's property."



CYSF president Anne Scotton

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