

Final YUSA mediation underway

By Ted Mumford

The university and York University Staff Association (YUSA) negotiating committees met in mediation yesterday as the deadline for a settlement for the support staff union's 77-78 contract draws near.

The outcome of the meeting was

unknown at press time. If no agreement was reached yesterday (or in a possible second meeting tomorrow) faculty and students will be greeted by YUSA picket lines Monday morning.

Although YUSA executive members were hoping for a university offer they could recommend

to their membership at press time, tentative preparations for a strike were nevertheless underway.

All union members were canvassed to determine to what extent individual members would participate in the strike. YUSA executive assistant John Lang told *Excalibur* that area memberships (i.e., by building) are solidly behind the strike.

Of a turnout of 689 members at a strike vote on October 20, 513 members voted in favour of striking in rejection of the university's offer to that date. YUSA has about 910

members.

In the event of a strike, YUSA members will camp out at all entrances to the university, maintaining a 24-hour picket. The union is also looking for a nearby off-campus location for a strike office.

The most contentious outstanding articles in YUSA's contract are wages and benefits. At last report the university was holding to their offer of a 6.5 percent wage increase and payment of 50 percent of a dental plan. YUSA's counter offer was 10 percent or \$1,000 (whichever would be the greater for

individual members) and 75 percent of a dental plan.

Lang indicated to *Excalibur* that the rock-bottom offer the YUSA negotiating and executive committees would take to its general membership for a vote would be a package that amounted to eight percent (the AIB ceiling for annual wage increases).

At press time it was unknown whether other campus unions (including YUFA, GAA and a CUPE local) would support a YUSA strike. It is unlikely that TTC drivers would cross a YUSA picket line.

Guyanese leader

Jaggan speaks

By Norman Faria and Geoffrey Da Silva

The nationalization of the Guyanese holdings of Alcan Aluminium Ltd. of Montreal and the taking over of some other firms do not equal socialism, said Dr. Cheddi Jagan, General Secretary of the People's Progressive Party of Guyana (PPP).

Speaking at York last Friday, Jagan said that the party responsible, the People's National Congress (PNC), is pursuing policies of "co-operative socialism", a line which has resulted in stagnation in growth and grave financial problems for Guyana.

Jagan explained that although Guyana, an English speaking South American Republic whose main exports are bauxite, rice and sugar, face with other Third World countries the problems of world price fluctuations when selling its products, internal factors must also be taken into account.

"Because the PNC leadership cannot solve the problem of production", Jagan said, "they cannot get enough money to balance the budget. As a result, social services have been cut back while the cost of living has sky-rocketed". To remedy this, Jagan said that Guyana must have changes whereby people will have meaningful involvement at every level.

The first change would be the overhaul of the present Government bureaucracy which Jagan said is not only overpaid and overmanned, but has attained power through fraudulent electoral practices. Secondly, there should be democracy at the social level.

As it stands, now, Jagan told the more than 250 students present, social institutions are hamstrung by the ruling PNC control. The employment agencies are infested with PNC supporters who deny qualified people jobs on the basis of party affiliation.

He pointed out that, as a result, a

large number of skilled and valuable Guyanese have emigrated, leaving occupations which are filled by incompetents. He noted that the prominent historian and government critic Dr. Walter Rodney, has been searching for over two years for a position at the University of Guyana.

Finally, he said, what is needed in Guyana is democracy at the workplace, that is, workers democracy.

Jagan, who was among the many PPP members imprisoned for their participation in the fight for political independence from Britain in the 50's and early 60's, said that after Vietnam and Angola, "US imperialism is using more subtle means to ensure effective control of the Caribbean region. Ms. Carter, while touring Jamaica recently is calling Prime Minister Manley a model leader of the Third World, but at the same time Jamaica is having to promise a clampdown on the left in return for aid from the International Monetary Fund," he said.

In the case of Guyana, imperialism cannot make use of the PPP to establish a more pro-US government. "But at the same time there is still the danger that the right wing leadership of the PNC will turn even further to the right.

It is significant that recently the army leadership pledged loyalty, not to the government, but to the PNC.

But Dr. Jagan stressed that the situation should not be seen in terms of who gets the most votes: "What we have to face up to is the problem of unity, the solving of which can move Guyana forward against imperialism and towards progress. This is why we recently put forward the proposal that there be a National Front Government composed of the major parties and all progressive organizations. But this was rejected by the PNC hierarchy who simply do not want to give up their privileges," he said.

finances. There have been amendments to the constitution governing the station, reflecting a more down to earth positive realistic approach to Radio York.

Radio York is no longer dreaming of an FM license; first and foremost is the station's concern to rectify its administrative and financial position. These items have changed the perspective of Radio York and are reflected in the very high morale of the staff. There are more staff members seriously involved now than ever before. Radio York has changed from a poorly run business into a well organized club of over fifty members.

However, the past cannot be forgotten and it will be up to the CYSF to continue its probing into the expenditures of later years. The CYSF must find the answers to questions that have placed a dark shadow over the operation of Radio York. At the present time, Radio York is considering their future plans. One can only say that if the positive leaps and bounds that have been made in September and October continue Radio York will be made into an appreciated and once again respected club.

David W. Chodikoff
Chairman of Board of Directors
Vice-President of Communications
and Student Services (CYSF)

Vanier takes residence title in the first cafeteria olympics

By Bruce Gates

The balmy temperatures and clear sunny skies of Indian Summer last weekend provided the perfect setting for the first annual George Tatham Inter-college Residence Competition. And judging by the turnout of about 900 from the six participating college residences, it was successful.

Originally nicknamed the "Rill Olympics" after Warren Rill of Rill Foods, one of the co-sponsors of the event, along with the Physical Education Department, the real name was kept a secret until the end as a surprise for George Tatham, McLaughlin College master, who retires this year. There's even a cup named after him to present to the winning college.

The idea behind this competition was to encourage students to participate in college activities, says Candy Millar, the event's chairman. "It really turned out well; we were really excited about it," she says. "The whole thing ran smoothly."

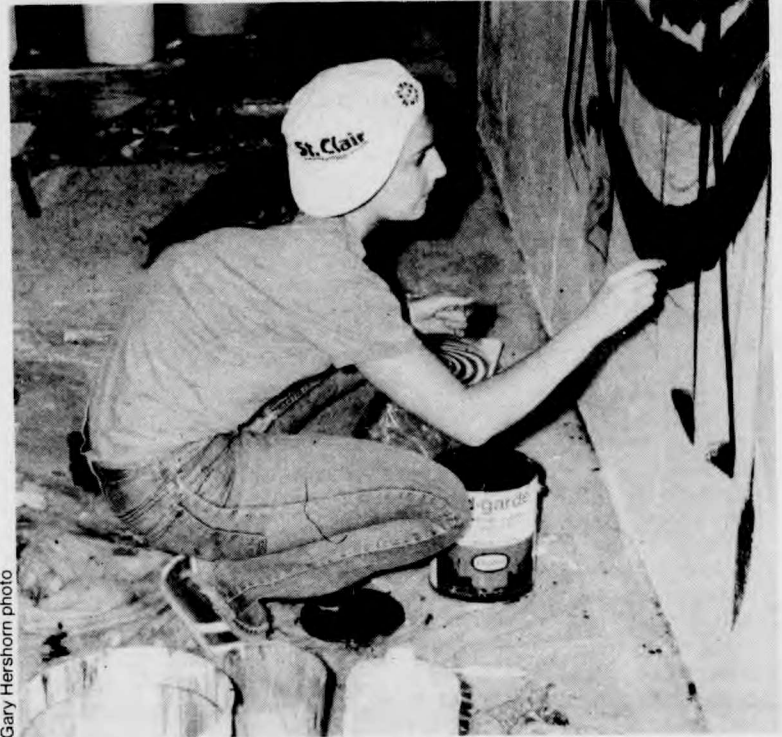
Points in the competition were awarded for both the number of participants in each event and the team's finish in each, which meant the team that won the most events didn't necessarily win the competition.

And that's exactly what happened: Founders College won more events (10 in all) totalling 562 points, but runner-up Vanier College walked away with the Tatham Cup because it had more participation points than Founders (794 to 634) and was close enough in team points accumulated in competition to slip by its rival.

First-place Vanier received \$350 for its residence council to use on an approved project; and Vanier students Richard Muir and Glen Abbott received \$400 and \$200 respectively for a trip anywhere they choose.

Runner-up Founders received \$150 for its residence council; and Founders student Diana Philp received a \$200 travel prize. All the prize winners' names were selected in a draw.

In addition, each participating



Gary Hershorn photo

One of the events in the Tatham Competition was tunnel painting. For results see the tunnel!

Vanier student received two beer tickets, and each Founders student was given one.

One competition that had aesthetic overtones was the tunnel-painting contest, which took place Saturday and saw competitors display their artistic skills as they livened up the walls of part of the tunnel that runs between Vanier and the Ross building. Some of the artists chose cartoon themes and turned out larger-than-life reproductions of Spiderman, The Wizard of Id, Hagar and The Wizard of Oz. Other paintings included abstracts and a lifelike submarine scene complete with man-eating shark.

Vanier won by out-painting its closest rival, Founders, by 10 points.

Here's a capsule of other events that took place: Vanier out-tugged its opponents in the Friday afternoon tug of war; Founders won the basketball event; volleyball

honours went to McLaughlin; Founders upset favoured Stong to win in floor hockey; water polo went to McLaughlin; Founders took squash racketball, paddleball and badminton; cribbage backgammon and chess honours went to Vanier; ping pong and pinball were won by Founders; the swim meet went to Founders which also out-scavenged its opposition to win the scavenger hunt; and the grand finale, the marathon, was won by Vanier.

Stong, Winters and Bethune were shut out of the winning column, but will surely improve on that performance next time round.

And if all goes as planned, there most certainly will be a next time, and this could be the start of something new at York - perhaps becoming the university's very own Indian Summer Olympics. Says Millar: "We want this to become an annual event".

Stay tuned for the second olympiad.

CYSF A student service

A column submitted by members of CYSF (Council of the York Student Federation). Views expressed are those of CYSF and/or individual members.

This year's CYSF has decided that Radio York's finances, administration, and general operation is going to be cleaned up once and for all. To criticize an organization that last year I was so closely associated with is difficult, but the truth is CYSF has been supporting a losing proposition that has wasted time and money for literally thousands of students. Radio York has got to and is going to change.

Since the Board of Directors has been set up, positive changes have occurred. The Board has decided to pay back all of its debt this year. No longer will the books be mishandled by untrained bookkeepers. The Board has sought and received the help of the CYSF in managing their

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What is to be outlined here are the measures that will be taken by the Ontario Student Federation of Students (OFS) and the Council of the York Student Federation (CYSF), regarding the proposed new student grant programme.

The purpose of these measures is to let the students know what they

can do if they see fit to oppose all or any of the new programme. At this point a brief description of the programme is in order so that the importance of the proposed measures can be realized.

1. Independent status will now be allowed only after three years in the work force.

2. Parental contribution will be higher than the previous OSAP programme, putting a greater burden on the students who do not get home support.

3. The new programme will increase only by 3%, far below the inflation rate.

4. Once you begin your post-secondary education, your eligibility expires after eight consecutive terms whether or not you receive aid or attend school full or part-time.

5. The result of this programme would in effect be to cut off most of those attending graduate or professional schools.

In response to the severity of these

changes the following measures will be taken by the OFS and CYSF, and hopefully, all concerned students.

1. Formation of a committee to oppose the new OSAP programme.

2. Attendance at a mass rally on November 10, 1977, at Queen's Park, to speak to the MPPs about our objections to the new programme.

3. Sending letters of objection to Minister of Colleges and Universities Dr. Harry Parrott.

4. Holding bear pit sessions where questions and objections to the new programme could be raised.

In conclusion, it should be noted that all of the aforementioned measures will be of little use unless acted upon by the students at large. If you want to oppose the new programme, please stop by the CYSF office, Room 105, Central Square, and offer your services to help fight financial discrimination in our post-secondary institutions.

Gary Empey