



Doing the bar scene p.9



Hockey squads
0 for 2 p. 11

MONDAY, NOVEMBER 26, 1990

VOLUME 25, ISSUE 30

excalibur

YORK UNIVERSITY'S COMMUNITY NEWSPAPER

We're Sorry

Excalibur wishes to issue an official apology to the York community for an editorial cartoon which ran in Monday's newspaper.

The papers, which have been removed from the stands, featured a cartoon depicting Andrea Shettleworth and Jean Ghomeshi in racially stereotypical terms.

The cartoon was run, ostensibly, to show the two individuals as being in opposition to each other and a wrestling analogy was employed to this end. At *Excalibur* we are aware of the oppression and discrimination that follows in the footsteps of stereotypes. However, what we failed to acknowledge was that "professional" wrestling itself relies heavily on racial stereotypes.

We, at *Excalibur*, can give no excuse for our grievous error. And we thank the student body for making us aware of their feelings about the cartoon and stress that their input is always a priority.

This type of controversy, if anything, has served to make the staff at *Excalibur* more aware of the insidious nature of institutional racism. We learned an important lesson regarding the connotations of these types of depictions.

We have strengthened our commitment to be more sensitive to these issues in the future. We are embarrassed by our oversight and hope that we will be able to regain the trust and respect of the student body.

Security to receive constable status

by Jessica Goldman and Brent Poland

Within a matter of months, York students and staff could be legally arrested and handcuffed by university security officers.

If the bid for special constable status is passed, some security officers will have the power to arrest and detain suspects for criminal charges.

This special status, which has been under assessment for two years by the Security Advisory Committee would allow security officers to arrest and escort suspects to 31 Division and handed over to the police.

Presently, security officers are only able to hold suspects and wait until Metro Police arrive. However, 31 division is often so busy trying to patrol the Jane-Finch area that security problems at York are put off by police or simply not attended to at all.

Executive director of safety, security and parking services, Pam MacDonald,

feels that constable status, "enables security staff to be more effective in bringing to justice persons behaving in ways which disrupt the university."

She added that the constable status would allow security to take action quickly and effectively. This MacDonald felt, would be beneficial to the York community and the safety of the officers themselves.

It was these considerations which the Security Advisory Committee took into account when they approved the special status.

"Handcuffs would be used as a defensive mechanism," said Caroline Winship, YFS representative on the Security Advisory Committee.

Winship explained that security were disadvantaged when trying to restrain someone and that using handcuffs would allow security officers to detain someone safely.

continued on page 3

Enrolment and space problems for York U

by Patrick Follens

York University students are fed-up.

Over the past few years, they have been faced with overcrowded classrooms, hallways and cafeterias, and they want to know if there is an end in sight.

According to the 1989/90 York University Fact Book, enrolment of undergraduate students at York has increased by just under 4,500 students, or by 14.5 per cent between 1986 and 1989. During the same period of time, full time faculty at York had increased from 1,131 to 1,200 members, an increase of 6.1 per cent.

The number of part-time faculty at the university in 1990 was 1,417, outnumbering the full time faculty by 217 people.

Peter Merrick, student representative on the Board of Governors, feels that overcrowding at York is the result of the university trying to meet the enrolment "corridor."

This level which was set by the former Liberal government, will increase the university's government funding when it is reached. "York can't service the students it has now," Merrick said. "And they're trying to put more students in the crowded hallways."

Also according to Merrick, the university is accepting more students at a time when York has

“ York can't service the students it has now ”

one of the highest student-to-teacher ratios in the province.

Sheldon Levy, vp institutional affairs, has stated that while York's student-to-teacher ratio is higher than the provincial average, the difference is negligible.

"If the government is going to continue funding the university as it has in the past 10 years, it's going to be very difficult to pretend this ratio is going to decrease," Levy said.

Tim Jackson, president of the Ontario Federation of Students (OFS), feels that the problem of under funding is not exclusive to York. "I think that York is probably one of the worst, although not the very worst," Jackson said.

Jackson also felt that Ontario, in relation to the rest of the country, has been lagging in assistance to its universities.

"Ontario ranks ninth in student funding out of the 10 provinces," Jackson said.

According to Norman Crandles, director of housing and food services, the situation at York is not new. "We've been

straining at the seams for 10 years now," Crandles said.

Crandles assured that by next year with the new buildings going up on campus, York would be in much better shape.

"The fact is that up until now we have been doing as well as we could, but obviously that isn't enough," said Crandles. "Central square is the embodiment of that."

"I would say that the problem is worse this year than last year," said Simmi Sakhuja a second year political science major. "Paying your fees takes for-ever and getting into prerequisite courses is often a struggle."

Sakhuja suggested that increasing the number of courses and extending the hours of administrative offices should be part of the solution.

Jean Ghomeshi, president of YFS, had no comment.

"There's something fundamentally wrong with the fact that students going to York are getting an inferior education because they're not being properly serviced," Merrick said.

Merrick insisted that the university was accepting students to meet corridor requirements without having the infrastructure to handle them.

Fortunately, according to Levy, the increase in enrolment for the 1991/92 academic year will be approximately one per cent.

Levy also points out, however, that "all the new space coming upstream still isn't enough."

According to York's draft Green Paper on enrolment, (which outlines York's policies for the next 20 years), the increased enrolment, and the extensive construction on campus are the result of the university's long term master plan, adopted in 1988.

The plan calls for growth and diversification at York, to reach the ultimate goal of "York as a comprehensive university."

The Green Paper states that for York to become "comprehen-

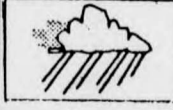

sive," it must expand its programs. Of the 10 largest universities in Canada, nine have engineering schools, eight have medical schools, six have architectural schools, six have all three, yet York has none of these programs.

Likewise, the paper states that 8 per cent of York students are enrolled in science-related programs while of the group noted earlier the average is 24 per cent. Similarly, York's percentage of undergraduate students to total student population is 91 per cent, as compared to an average of 80 per cent.

This, according to the Green Paper, contradicts York University's original aspirations to be a large, multi-faceted university.

According to Merrick, part of the increased enrolment can be traced back to the recent influx of students (46,000) coming out of high school since grade 13 was abandoned.

Weather Swammy

<p style="text-align: center; background-color: black; color: white; margin: 0;">Monday</p> <div style="text-align: center;">  <p style="font-size: small;">mostly cloudy, showers</p> <p style="font-size: x-small;">High 11 Low 1</p> </div>	<p style="text-align: center; background-color: black; color: white; margin: 0;">Tuesday</p> <div style="text-align: center;">  <p style="font-size: small;">mostly cloudy, showers, windy</p> <p style="font-size: x-small;">High 4 Low -2</p> </div>
--	--

