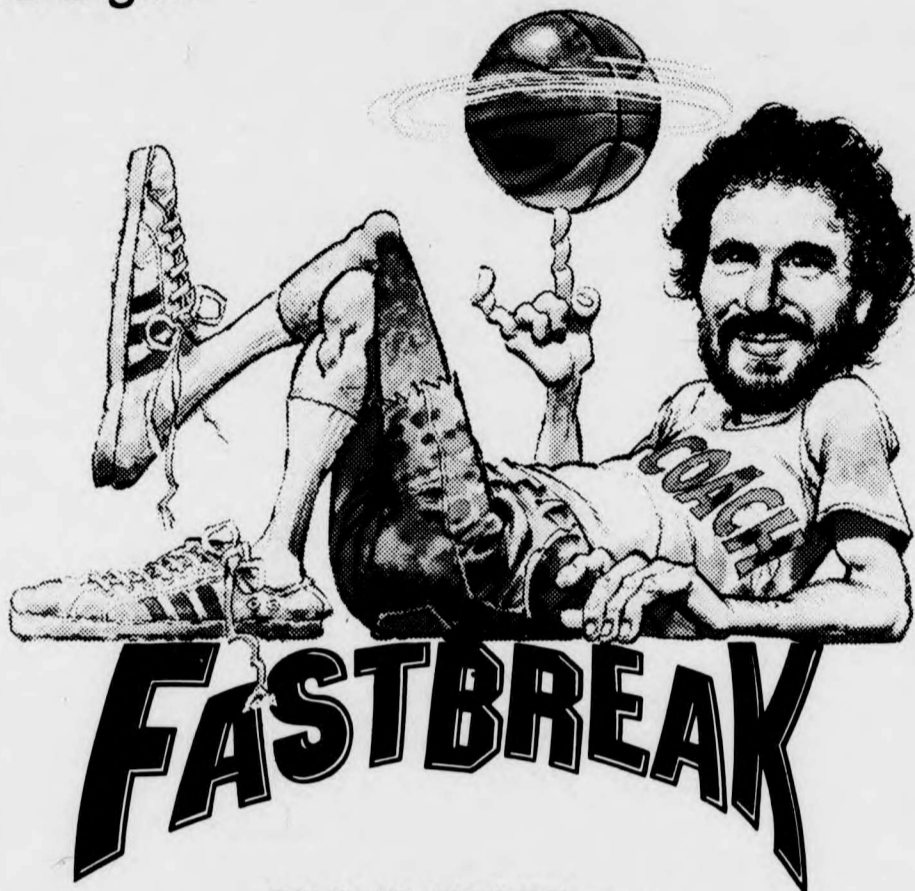


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Harbinger's Column



Spring is in the air. The birds are chirping and the bees are buzzing. Spring Fever is an annual event that affects the young, old and everyone in between.

This phenomenon presents itself on an emotional level. Spring is likened unto an awakening or our emotional drives is at its peak. External frustrations may worry us causing problematic situations in which conflicting interests occur. These conflicts intensify where, more than likely, one's academic studies may suffer (what a hell of a time to have exams!).

A suggestion for anyone who is or will be suffering from this affliction is to relax; the world is not coming to an end. This phenomenon has been around since the beginning of time. It is the one thing that makes us human. It is an experience to be shared and enjoyed. One should however, take care in our sharing. Our drives at this time might be so over-powering that we might do things that we later regret.

Our message, therefore, is to enjoy life...carefully! And if it would help, drop by Harbinger.

Andy, Sandy, Mary,
Susan, Jenny and Janet

President of National Union of Students says York should work for change before it withdraws

By Paul Stuart

If York's central student council doesn't like what the National Union of Students is doing, it should work to change the situation, said NUS president John Tuzyk, on Sunday night.

Tuzyk, a full-time U of T student, was commenting on the Council of the York Student Federation's unsuccessful attempt to stage referendum on whether York should withdraw from the 45 member national alliance of student councils in this academic year to hold a referendum was defeated when the council split in a 6-6 tie vote at its March 6 meeting.

Tuzyk said that York's NUS membership has been approved by "three referendums in the last five years...none of which was even close."

"I'm not sure that CYSF will take 'yes' for answer," he added.

Tuzyk denied the claim of CYSF president David Chodikoff that York students are paying proportionately more than other member universities for NUS affiliation:

"Every student in the country pays \$1.00. There's no differentiation of fees."

On Monday Chodikoff replied that while all students do pay the same fee, York's fee constitutes a higher percentage of the budget of its central student council. He maintained that if CYSF paid what council business manager Doug Wise estimates to be the arithmetic average of total fees paid to the National Union by other Ontario campuses, a savings of \$5,200 would result.

Tuzyk said CYSF has contacted the NUS executive about the way conference fees are paid, "but not in the most appropriate forum" for such a discussion — a conference of the union's member student councils. Tuzyk said that CYSF wants conference fees to be paid out of the \$1-per-student fee, as opposed to the present situation where conference fees are an extra charge. Tuzyk says that the NUS executive "is not empowered" to arbitrarily make this change and that if CYSF wants to alter the system it should bring it up at the March 22 regional conference.

"I'm very much looking forward to hearing York's concerns at the conference," said Tuzyk. "I'm sure the conference will deal with them, we're a very democratic organization."

Asked what the national union

has accomplished this year, Tuzyk painted a picture of an active and successful lobbying operation with the federal government.

He said NUS' efforts resulted in a government proposal that would have made it more difficult for foreign students to obtain teaching assistantships being "shelved for two years." According to Tuzyk, NUS stopped a federal proposal that would have cut back federal grants to post-secondary education which are made through a cost-sharing agreement with the provinces, by 3.5 per cent. He maintained that NUS' efforts resulted in the government adding 14,000 jobs to its Young Canada Works programme and kept it from reducing the amount of federal documents it sends to libraries.

Tuzyk said that in light of NUS' activities "...it is unfortunate that CYSF was even considering making a decision (on a referendum) without having representatives from NUS come to the meeting."

In reply Chodikoff said that he had written the union on November 28 mentioning that a failure to solve the financial problem might lead to a referendum being held. He said he offered his assistance in the letter, but never received a reply from NUS.

Chodikoff added that "there is no doubt that NUS has achieved many of its objectives," but if the NUS fees remained on campus "CYSF would be able to accomplish all of its objectives" According to Chodikoff, the revenue from a NUS withdrawal would make the student bid to take over the central square cafeteria "much more viable," and would permit an increase in revenue to the clubs and allow the council to construct more bus shelters, such as the recently installed one in Front of the Ross building.

On CYSF vice-president George Karayinnes' contention, reported last week that a referendum should be held this year so NUS "won't be able to brainwash the student population," Tuzyk replied that he is "not sure York students would agree they were brainwashed during three referendums." He added that when a referendum on joining NUS occurs on a campus, it is because "students on the campus are taking the initiative themselves... we're not travelling salesmen."

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