

Committee recommends residence fee raise

By Paul Lantz

Some residence fees on campus could increase by twelve per cent next year. The proposed increases are included in recommendations adopted by the Residence Budget Committee. The committee has members from C.Y.S.F., the

college residences, the York University Tenants Association (U.U.T.A.) and the University.

York has stated that it needs an overall increase in residence revenue of seven per cent to meet increased costs. The increase required is somewhat less than the

rate of inflation only because mortgage payments, which represent about forty per cent of residence costs, will remain constant.

The University has eight college residences and five student apartment buildings which

together house more than 3000 people.

The proposed increases reflect both the need for an overall increase in revenue as well as a restructuring of residence fees.

That restructuring would increase the rent for most student apartments in relation to the college residence fees. The largest increases would be for two bedroom apartments.

Undergraduate fees, excluding food charges, would increase by five to six per cent. The rates for some rooms, including those in apartment units in Bethune College would increase by smaller percentages and in one case slightly decrease.

The rent for bachelor apartments, which account for more than one third of apartment accommodation, would increase by six per cent.

Rent increases for larger apartments range from seven per cent for regular one bedroom units in Atkinson Residence to more than twelve per cent for pent-

houses. The restructuring is based on an evaluation of the different types of accommodation on campus carried out by a committee of four students and two university representatives. The committee considered both physical characteristics such as floor space and washroom facilities as well as less concrete factors including privacy.

George Skene, a member of the Residence Budget Committee from Founders Residence, said that he felt the proposals were fair and should be implemented next year.

Tom Gorsky, chairman of Y.U.T.A., an association of students living in campus apartments, said that he felt the increases for larger apartment units were excessive. He stated that the tenants are already subsidizing college residence dwellers and that the proposed restructuring would result in more subsidization.

Mr. Gorsky suggested that any restructuring be introduced over a period of at least three years.

Conference celebrates children

By Patricia Smiley

Last week the Winters Art Gallery was the home of York's celebration of International Year of the Child, 1979. The conference included discussions on current political, educational and sociological issues surrounding childhood, display of children's artwork, performances for and by children, a benefit concert by singer Beverly Glenn-Copeland, and a screening of W.O. Mitchell's "Who Has Seen the Wind?"

The purpose of International Year of the Child is to stress the importance of the child. As Mrs. J. Bradshaw Provincial Chairman of UNICEF, pointed out, children are both a marvel and a resource for the future. Greater care should be taken to ensure that the next generation of adults are protected.

York Professor David Bakan stressed two recent trends in the child's changing status: The greater awareness of child abuse and the interference of the state in what have traditionally been functions of the family, lessening the importance of family relationships.

Those family relationships can be substituted by day care centres, said Marie DeWitt of the York Day Care Coop. DeWitt added that this situation can be good for the child if the parents are involved in and cooperate with the centre.

Friday afternoon, representatives from CIDA, UNICEF, CUSO and the Canadian Red Cross spoke on Canada's response to the children of the world. UNICEF and the Red Cross in particular were originally founded for the purposes of emergency relief. All four speakers stressed the trend to developing versus emergency aid to countries of the Third World. They further emphasized the

general public's ignorance of the real needs of these countries.

Several colleges sponsored fund-raising events. The proceeds from



these events and the concert will be donated to UNICEF to aid in these development programmes.

Both the movie and the concert were well-attended, but the discussions were not. Those who did attend found the talks informative and enjoyable. "I'm really surprised to see more education students didn't come," said Ian Faulds, a second year ed student. "They should be interested."

For those interested who did not attend, CJRT-FM has taped the Wednesday and Thursday night talks for later broadcast.

Labour leaders on women at work

By Kim Llewellyn

Speakers from various women's unions gave extensive, and sometimes heart-rendering accounts of problems faced by *Women in the Labour Movement* last Saturday in Osgoode's Moot Court.

The 100 spectators, were treated to pro-union views on labour issues by representatives from Organized Working Women, the United Auto Workers, the Confederation of Canadian Unions and the York University Staff Association.

Interspersed with the speakers were films and videotapes. The symposium, sponsored by Osgoode's Women's Caucus and Law Union, raised \$250 for strikers of the Puretex Knitting Company in Toronto.

Labour lawyer Michele Senarchuk, who spoke on the role of lawyers in the organizing process of a union, said:

"Only 29 per cent of workers in

Canada are organized into unions. This is a clear indication that unionizing is made legal but difficult."

She said employers oppose the union in every situation she has known, and calls the procedures of forming a union difficult.

"The employer has a great deal of opportunity to intimidate people," she said, a view the other speakers echoed.

Madeleine Parent, of the CCU, in an emotional address which earned her spontaneous audience applause, told of the plight of women at Puretex Knitting.

"Our main issue is the removal of the 'spy' cameras by which the company president monitors the workers. This is a violation of their human rights."

"It's a strike by women workers, women fighting back for better conditions. These are factory workers, most of whom speak very poor English. They are saying we

as human beings deserve these rights. It is important that they can hold their heads high and be a part of Canada."

Al Seymour, UAW staff member, spoke on the recent strike of the women workers at Fleck manufacturing Ltd in Centralia, Ontario.

Seymour related incidents on the picket line of women being thrown into snowbanks by policemen when they put themselves in front of a busload of 'scabs' in order to talk to the vehicle's passengers.

He said the police resorted to this action without first advising the picket leaders on how to conduct a picket.

Most of Saturday's speakers complained of harassment and physical violence inflicted by the police during a strike.

"In every case I know," said Parent, "the police have been charged for obvious brutality and



YUSA president Lauma Avens

then let off in a most flagrant show of contempt for the union."

UAW lawyer Len MacLean, said policemen are difficult to bring a conviction against.

"The defense is that 'it is purely a matter of performing our duties as police officers'. It's a real problem," he said.

President of YUSA, Lauma Avens, spoke briefly on the staff union and the university.

Avens criticized the university's plan to add a fourth vice-president to its already top-heavy administration.

"He will cost us approximately \$200,000," she said. "And it will be a he. \$200,000 is two per cent for our members."

Secretary files grievance against bookstore boss

By Lydia Pawlenko

A grievance against bookstore manager Rafael Barretto-Rivera has been filed by secretary Ingrid Degas following his request that she bring him coffee.

"I filed a grievance not only against getting coffee, but as a general protest against what appears to be a widespread practice at York—secretaries having to run personal errands for their bosses," said Degas.

She was aware of a clause in the new YUSA contract which states: "If an employee is required to perform any duties of a personal nature not connected with the approved operation of the university, he/she may file a grievance."

When Barretto-Rivera asked her to bring him coffee, Degas refused.

"To me this is work of a personal nature. I had a talk with him, and he suggested that I file a grievance with the union," Degas said.

Such duties as writing personal letters, handling service representatives and getting coffee, not to mention walking the dog, were not tabulated in her job description. After the new clause was added to the contract, Ingrid Degas felt there became a unique opportunity to do something about it.

"In the informal step, Mr. Barretto-Rivera said he was going to fight it all the way to the top. In

effect he is saying that his secretary should provide personal services. The union has also made it clear that we are going to fight," said YUSA president Lauma Avens.

The grievance has gone to the Director of Personnel Services D.J. Mitchell, and is now awaiting arbitration by the Ministry of Labour, a process that could take three to five months.

Lauma Avens explained that this is a "black and white issue" that

has been brought up in YUSA for the past three years.

"Mitchell says that any order given by a boss is by definition an approved operation of the university," she noted.

Ms. Avens strongly objects to the expectations that secretaries are to fill a "mother role".

"Ingrid is the first to dispel this whole myth. It starts with the thing that women don't have to work. Attitudes towards secretaries need

to change," she said.

Lauma Avens said that in terms of university cutbacks, secretaries already have too much work and shouldn't be expected to carry out extra duties on top of their specified jobs.

Bookstore director R. Barretto-Rivera refused to comment. "It is a personal matter that I am not prepared to discuss. It will be handled legally as it should be," he said.

letters

All letters should be addressed to the editor, Excalibur, Room III Central Square. Letters must be typed, triple-spaced, on a 66 stroke line. Letters are limited to 300 words (seven column inches). Name, address, or phone number must be included or the letter will not be published. Excalibur reserves the right to edit for grammar and length.

Deadline Monday 4 pm

Disappointed in our Yeomen coverage

After reading the sports section of Thursday, January 18th Excalibur, I was quite disappointed in the paper's coverage of the recent York Yeoman/Toronto Blues hockey game.

From this lack of extensive coverage am I to assume that the paper does not consider the following facts important enough to merit more coverage than the nine lines buried in another sports story? To begin with, this is the second year in a row it has been the Yeomen who have broken the Blue's winning streak and secondly when faced with the possibility of not making the playoffs, the Yeomen show that they

are capable of defeating the number two nationally ranked university.

Besides the fact that it was a well played hockey game between the two Toronto university teams, the game should have had better coverage to show that the school newspaper does support the team.

I hope that in the future this newspaper and the students of this school will show more support for their school teams through better coverage and attendance at the games.

G. Wellwood

Note: Your letter raises a good point... However: The game was played on a Tuesday night, after our sports deadline was past. We had to reserve space for 24 hours; since this entailed the risk of stiff overtime fees from

our typesetters, a large article was out of the question—more coverage would have meant more work and, probably more money—which we haven't got.

Body Politic case an "attack on freedom"

Your article on the *Body Politic* trial was an honest attempt to cover the issues in such limited space. Unfortunately, the author did not confront the very important issue raised by the caption included with the photos of the defendants:—"What does it mean to you?" B.J.R. Silberman did not explain that the trial is not merely a confrontation between religious fanatics

and the Toronto Gay Community. As she acknowledged, the *Body Politic* article was an intelligent effort to deal with a controversial issue. The fact that the Ontario government could be railroaded into wasting our tax dollars on this attack on freedom of the press should outrage everyone.

Moreover, this attack is only the first of many to come. The Renaissance group is behind a massive censorship campaign across Canada which, to date, has involved taking books such as *The Diviners*, *Surfacing* and *Catcher in the Rye* off high school reading lists.

No one knows where this insanity will stop. We should all realize that this attempt to suppress a gay newspaper is a threat to a fundamental democratic right to freedom of the press and as such should not be tolerated.

Osgoode Hall Gay Caucus