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CYSF backtracks on OFS withdrawal issue

By LAURA LUSH

A "change of heart" by the Council of York Student Federation (CYSF) on Monday has resulted in the annulment of the motion to withdraw from the Ontario Federation of Students (OFS), said CYSF President Reya Ali.

Although Council had voted 11-7 in favor of withdrawing from the federation in a special meeting on October 24, Ali said there was a consensus among executive to annul the motion because "a lot of constituencies were unhappy with the decision." When asked how Ali felt about the reversal of the motion, he said, "Legally, there is not a question in the book that the Council can't leave OFS by holding a vote, but after hearing a lot of constituencie's complaints over the motion, we had to reconsider the move."

Ali had been pushing to withdraw from the federation since September, because of his discontent over their high fees, service and overly centralized sysstem. The federation lobbies on behalf of more than 200,000 students throughout Ontario on such critical issues of funding, accessibility, and student increases. Ali hoped to use the \$30,000 membership fee to set up his own research team that would lobby on behalf of York students.

The major opposition to the Council's OFS withdrawal was not the withdrawal itself, but the method of the pull-out. At least three constituencies had threatened to leave CYSF because they thought the Council should have held a campuswide referendum first. McLaughlin and Vanier colleges have since reconsidered their positions to stay in CYSF because they thought such moves could jeopardize restructur-

ing plans for the new student government.

The most recent discontent expressed over the OFS withdrawl issue came from former Environmental Studies Students Association (ESSA) president, Colin Lachance. An October 31, 1985 memo to his council states Lachance's proposed motion: "Should CYSF pull out (of OFS) ESSA will hold a referendum of ESSA students to pull out of CYSF." The motion was tabled, and a Fact Sheet and a petition was placed in the Lumbers Building to gauge the opinions of ES students on the issue. ESSA President Paul Murray presented the memo to Reya Ali last Friday.

Before the executive meeting late Monday afternoon, the OFS withdrawal still wasn't official. Ali said he had to "send a letter to the federation informing the federation of the Council's decision to withdraw.

Murray said he thought the Council's decision to annul the withdrawal was "fantastic," adding that, "now things should be back to normal (in the Council)." Murray added that now there won't be any need for ESSA to hold a vote on the referendum issue.

Murray said he is a "strong supporter" of the restructuring plans for the new student government in January. "I look forward to the new constitution and being a part of it."

Ali said a referendum asking students if they want to leave OFS will-probably be held in January. Ali said he "likes to think students will vote in favor of the withdrawal." When asked if he thought the reversal decision to leave OFS would affect restructuring plans, Ali said that the New Model would probably be implemented by then and it would deal with the issue accordingly.

Anti-apartheid leader says group deserves funding

By DONOVAN VINCENT and KEVIN O'NEILL

The York Student Movement Against Apartheid (YSMAA) has recanted on a threat to hold a sit-in in the Council of York Student Federation's (CYSF) offices.

The threat was made after YSMAA was told it would not receive financial support from CYSF this year. David Himbara, organizer of the YSMAA was under the impression that under CYSF's constitution they were considered political and therefore ineligible for club funding.

"We were shocked," he said. "We needed to get a strong response ...

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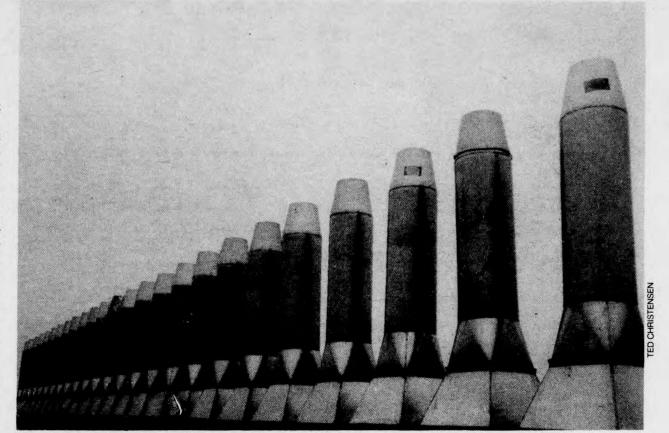
and a sit-in was a good way to get one." But Himbara withdrew the threat after CYSF President Reya Ali told him the reason they would not be funded was because they had not submitted a budget, a requirement of all CYSF affiliated clubs that seek money.

Himbara said his group did not submit a budget because they thought that an association had to be affiliated with CYSF before submitting a budget. He has since submitted one.

If the YSMAA is granted funds from CYSF it could set a precedent of sorts. According to CYSF by-laws, "A club will not be affiliated with CYSF if it carries on a political function as defined below and/or as deemed by CYSF. 'Political' is defined as having to go with organization or action of individuals, parties or interests that "seek to control appointment or action of those who manage affairs of state."

While Himbara feels his group is no more political than many funded groups on campus, he says the wording of the CYSF by-law is vague. "Maybe Reya and his group should redefine what is political," Himbara said, adding if CYSF does not grant his group any money, other groups have offered some funding.

Director of Social and Cultural Affairs Vicki Fusca said that CYSF would consider any request for funding.



FREUDIAN DREAM: Top of the new Lumbers Building. See feature on pp. 8-9-if you dare!

York parking tickets challenged

By BEN RAFAEL

Parking tickets issued at York "aren't worth the paper they're written on," according to York media maintenance technician Albert Hatch.

Hatch is being taken to Small Claims Court by York University over some unpaid parking fines.

Hatch's defense is based on three points. The first is that York employees, i.e., Safety and Security officers, act as special constables, contrary to and without authority of the Ontario Police Act.

The second point is that York keeps the money collected in fines. This is contrary to Municipal Act 323, which states that the money should go to Metropolitan Toronto.

Finally, there is the point that York uses collection agencies and Small Claims Court instead of traffic courts when collecting fines.

Hatch pointed out that a ticket from York has neither a special constable number nor the municipal bylaw which was violated. "It seems that they (York) can ignore the laws of the land," Hatch said.

Linda Warren, the assistant director of Security and Safety Services at York stated that the parking regulations for York University are authorized by the 1981 Ontario Fire Marshal's Act, as well as by the Board of Governors and the president of the university, who in turn works within the powers granted by the York University Act of 1965.

These regulations are laid down in the Parking and Traffic Services and Regulation Pamphlet. Section 1.3 of the pamphlet reads:

... The University permits parking and driving on campus grounds only upon the terms and conditions set forth in these Regulations. Provincial laws and Municipal bylaws applicable to campus grounds may be invoked by York University at any time for the purpose of preventing unauthorized parking and ensuring access to fire routes.

The controversy lies in the interpretation of the Act of 1965. Hatch contends that small claims courts, which York uses as a last resort for the collection of monies, are not suitable for this matter. "They do

not use points of law or interpretation," Hatch said, adding, "they only decide on whether the 'law' has been broken ... this must go to a higher court." Hatch said that previous cases that went to court were either fought with an improper defence or didn't offer one at all.

However, Warren contends that "We've never lost a case," and that "precedence does not play a role." Hatch said, "the reason they are getting away with it is that people are conditioned or programmed: you press a button and get a response. People can't believe that it actually could be. What York security have is not authority but apparent authority."

A decision is pending in court.



BOOK 'EM, DANO: Is the above no more than windshield decoration?

Counselling group unites with CYSF

By NADINE CHANGFOOT

A joint committee of the Council of the York Student Federation (CYSF) and Campus Connection, the peer counselling centre, was formed at a Campus Connection Board of Directors' meeting November 7.

The accord will render Campus Connection fiscally responsible to CYSF in a way that is acceptable to both parties.

Eric Winters, Master of Calumet College, said, "We (Campus Connection) recognize that any organization that disperses money must have some sense of where it is going." He said the board was concerned that "CYSF, in wishing to have some fiscal responsibility, may find

itself in a position that might not be dealing with fiscal responsibility but rather policy. CYSF said they wished to help us with administration," Winter added, but "it was not clear to anyone in what way that was to be acheived."

The Joint Committee is composed of Jim Gresham, CYSF Director of Social Services and Communications, another CYSF member (not known at present), Associate Dean of Administrative Studies Tom Beechy and Matilda Kentridge, a volunteer student at Campus Connection.

Winter said the committee has not been constituted as yet but hopes whatever conclusions it comes to can be ratified at the next Campus Connection Board of Directors meeting. He said he believes there is "good will on both sides. I don't think CYSF would want to involve itself directly in Campus Connection policy decision-making."

Shawn Hill, Coordinator of Campus Connection, said he is positive about the outcome of the Joint Committee. He said he would like to see a built-in control in terms of the service's autonomy in deciding what programs to run and what areas of counselling to offer.

Hill also said he hopes "CYSF includes some sort of financial commitment to the service. I am looking forward to a closer link between Campus Connection and CYSF."