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Centre may open by September

Sects applaud new chapel

By WARREN CLEMENTS

If the design is approved and if construction proceeds smoothly, York's elusive chapel may finally see the light in September, 1975.

At a meeting on November 22, representatives of the major campus religious groups met with the president's committee on the chapel, and approved a low-slung, uncluttered preliminary model presented by architect David Horne.

The building, to be constructed on the amphitheatre directly above Central Square, will have as a working title, Scott Centre.

"People realize it's not just for the use of one particular group or faith," Paul Scott of the York Christian Fellowship commented. "They're not calling it a chapel, because the

word has a more or less Christian connotation.

The building will be paid for by a \$250,000 donation earmarked for a chapel and left to the university in 1964 by the late William Scott, member of York's board of governors from 1959 to 1971.

Horne's model calls for builders to gut the interior of the amphitheatre, while retaining the existing outside steps. The structure would fit into the resultant hole, with glass walls rising to a low, sloped roof, possibly of slate, sliding down on top of — and the same angle as — the steps.

The largest room in the building would be the "chapel" itself, an octagonal room with no permanent furniture, a red carpet, and vines hanging from a ledge below a

mirrored, peaked skylight.

"Everything on the human level remains warm," explained Horne, "with the wood and red carpet. But above, everything is indistinct — it goes on to infinity."

An organ would be hidden behind the slatted, wooden walls; folding chairs would be stored in a surrounding sequence of rooms, separated from the octagonal room by a circular passageway. Those rooms would include washrooms, maintenance rooms, an office, a lobby and two vestries.

Originally one of the rooms was set aside as a "meeting room," but some religious representatives objected at November's meeting.

"I'm rather concerned that there will be no place for quiet," said Catholic chaplain Gerald Tannam.

"If it's called a meeting room," agreed Jewish Student Federation member Lou Garber, "the next move will be to drag in a blackboard."

The room was quickly designated a "meditation room".

STAIRWAY TO HEAVEN

There was talk, pending future donations, of constructing an indoor stairway to the chapel from the store level in Central Square; but since this would involve a certain degree of havoc — not the least of which would mean knocking a hole in the bookstore roof — the idea was set aside temporarily.

The centre has still to pass the York board of governors' building and property committee, as well as the executors of the Scott estate.

In the event that no hindrances arise, the chapel will open in time for the next school year.

"I just hope," remarked JSF member George Waverman this week, "that it doesn't end up covered in posters."



Doug Tindal photo

Ottawa Gee-Gee's forward Frank Papai (24) rebounds while a teammate successfully blocks York's Yurij Pelech (55) out of the play, in last Saturday night's basketball game at the Tait McKenzie gym.

Rebounding told the tale as Ottawa defeated the Yeomen 51-01. Behind Pelech is bearded Gee-Gee Merv Sabey, the biggest man on the court (6'7") and on the scoreboard (17 points).

Ted Galka, with 16 points, was the top scorer for York.

Special meeting of senate to challenge tenure policy

By OAKLAND ROSS

A special meeting of the university senate has been called today in order to hear debate on the controversial issue of tenure and promotion.

York's traditional policy of linking the granting of tenure with promotion to the rank of associate professor came under intense fire at last Thursday's regular senate meeting.

The report of the senate committee on tenure and promotions reaffirmed the traditional policy and was accepted, without discussion, by a close vote.

The fireworks began toward the end of the meeting, however, when Fraser Cowley, chairman of the philosophy department, attempted to introduce a special motion proposing "radical" amendments to the committee's report.

According to the report, the "decision on tenure should be considered a much more crucial decision than that on promotion to associate professor". Thus, the granting of tenure "means that the candidate is considered sufficiently meritorious to be promoted to the rank of associate professor".

Cowley's motion, circulated in printed form shortly before the meeting, argued that "the effect of the present practice of linkage is to devalue the rank of associate professor to the point where it has no distinct significance."

Cowley managed to attain the two-thirds majority vote necessary to have his motion recognized by the house. But before the motion could even be seconded, a senator moved to challenge the authority of the chairman in allowing Cowley's motion to be heard. This motion was soundly defeated.

Several minutes later, Robert Lundell, dean of science, challenged the chairman on the same issue. And once again, the chairman's authority was upheld.

It then appeared that the senate was ready to settle down to serious discussion of Cowley's motion, but a sudden motion to adjourn was carried almost unanimously.

Questioned after the meeting, Cowley described the behaviour of the senate members as "highly irresponsible". He said he couldn't

understand why they would go to all the trouble of recognizing his motion "and then just decide to go home to dinner."

Richard Pope, chairman of the foreign literature department, said that a vote on Cowley's motion would be very close. "But feelings run so high that no one will debate it," he said. According to Pope, the faction of senate members who were opposed to Cowley's motion "tried to manipulate house rules to avoid debate."

Robert Lundell, who issued the second challenge to Cowley's motion, explained after the meeting that his challenge was purely a point of order. "Ideological considerations had nothing to do with it," he said.

Graeme McKechnie, chairman of the tenure and promotions committee, explained that the 150 candidates for tenure this year have been led to expect that the link between tenure and promotion will be maintained. He said, "This may not be an issue now, but it will become one if Cowley's amendments are passed."

"We'll just have to wait and see what happens."

Whatever happens will happen at 4:30 today in the Senate Chamber, S915, Ross Building. Free tickets are available in S945.

University to close Wednesday

All university classes will be cancelled, and most offices closed, between noon and 3 p.m. next Wednesday, so that students, faculty and staff may participate in a joint study session to discuss York's budget problems, and define alternatives.

President Macdonald, CYSF president Anne Scotton, and representatives of the faculty and staff associations will each make brief statements, after which the floor will be open for questions and discussions. James Auld has been invited to attend the session; at the time of this writing he had not replied.

Transportation has been arranged so that interested parties from Glendon may also attend.

The session will take place in Burton Auditorium.

President reveals his literary lapses

By OAKLAND ROSS

"I'd like to try my hand at creative writing someday," said the well-known economist and university president, Ian Macdonald, who took a short break from the budget crisis last Thursday and dropped by the faculty lounge in the Ross Building to talk shop with members of York's English department.

The occasion was last week's installment of the weekly "lunch-hour critic" series. Macdonald, who is living evidence that a Rhodes scholarship and seven years in the upper echelons of the Ontario civil service do not necessarily a literary critic make, was guest speaker.

"I have no discriminatory taste in novels," admitted Macdonald.

But none of the nine or 10 English professors and lecturers who comprised the audience seemed to mind. They laughed politely when Macdonald said that his chief literary claim to fame was that he had

"possibly the largest collection of unpublished limericks in Canada." There were even a few sympathetic smiles when Macdonald singled out The Masters by C.P. Snow as the best piece of fiction he has ever read.

In a rambling and informal speech, Macdonald touched on several other aspects of his reading interests. He favours 19th century British literature because, he said, "it is so fanciful and absurd". He reads several magazines regularly, among them The Financial Times, Maclean's, and the Atlantic.

However, Macdonald does not read Time magazine.

"I have very little time for fiction," he said, "and I'd rather spend it reading a good novel."

He cited MacLennan's Watch That Ends the Night as his favourite Canadian novel, Foster's Passage to India as his greatest literary disappointment, and Mordecai Richler as "the most pedestrian writer" he has read.

Delivery a problem?

Dining halls liquor up

York's long-awaited canteen liquor licence has finally arrived. All college dining halls have been

designated "dining lounges" as have Le Soupcon, the Deli and the Atkinson coffee house. (A dining lounge is an area within which food must be sold along with alcoholic beverages and must constitute at least 50 per cent of the gross.)

If, for example, an evening pub is held in Founders dining hall, then liquor sales at that function must not exceed total food sales for that day in the Founders servery. And food must be "available" at all times that liquor is being served.

Effective January 1, 1975, special occasion permits for house parties in student residences will no longer be available directly from the LLBO, but through the office of the York beverage manager, with at least 90 days notice.

One potential bug in liquor service on campus is the problem of distribution of liquor stock. The central depot is located in complex one and, as yet, no system has been arranged for the distribution of stock to outlying liquor outlets.

At a meeting of the University Food Service Committee on Monday, chairman Peter Jarvis tried to secure a guarantee from beverage manager John Mitchell that this would not pose a problem.

"I guarantee it," said Mitchell, "under certain circumstances."

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