

# COU sub-committee calls for \$800 tuitions

By ANNA VAITIEKUNAS

A sub-committee of the Council of Ontario Universities has recommended that tuition for Ontario universities be increased by 25 per cent within the next three years.

This would push tuitions to approximately \$800 by the year 1979, about \$200 less than the increase recommended by the Henderson report for the same period.

The report prepared by eight university presidents and senior officials including York president H. Ian Macdonald was presented to COU last Friday, outlines a series of goals and objectives for Ontario universities for the next four years.

Other recommendations in the report include suggestions for decreasing the maximum student grant from \$3,200 to \$2,200 and increasing the loan portion from \$800 to \$1,800, the current maximum under the Canada Student Loan Plan. It also suggests that Ontario negotiate with other provinces to replace the existing student loan programme with an all-loan plan with repayment provisions based on subsequent earnings.

The report goes on to suggest that the ceiling for government funding should be frozen and with any additional costs to be borne by the student.

Other noteworthy recommendations in

the report include the following:

- that the ceiling for government funding to universities be frozen

- that any additional costs be borne by the student

- and that universities be free to set their own tuition fees and that government grants become independent of the level of fee income.

The rationale behind the recommendation that students bare the brunt of increased tuition fees falls in line with the rationale given in the Henderson report released last October, which resulted in student resentment, culminating in a rally

and march on Queen's Park by some 3,000 students in January.

The COU sub-committee report states: "Since now and in the foreseeable future students will represent a minority of the population, it is particularly important as recognized by the Special Program Review (the Henderson Report) that they as beneficiaries, pay a share of the total cost".

Through many of the recommendations deal specifically with financial matters directly facing Ontario universities, the report also calls for a national examination of all post-secondary institutions to determine their financial and academic future.

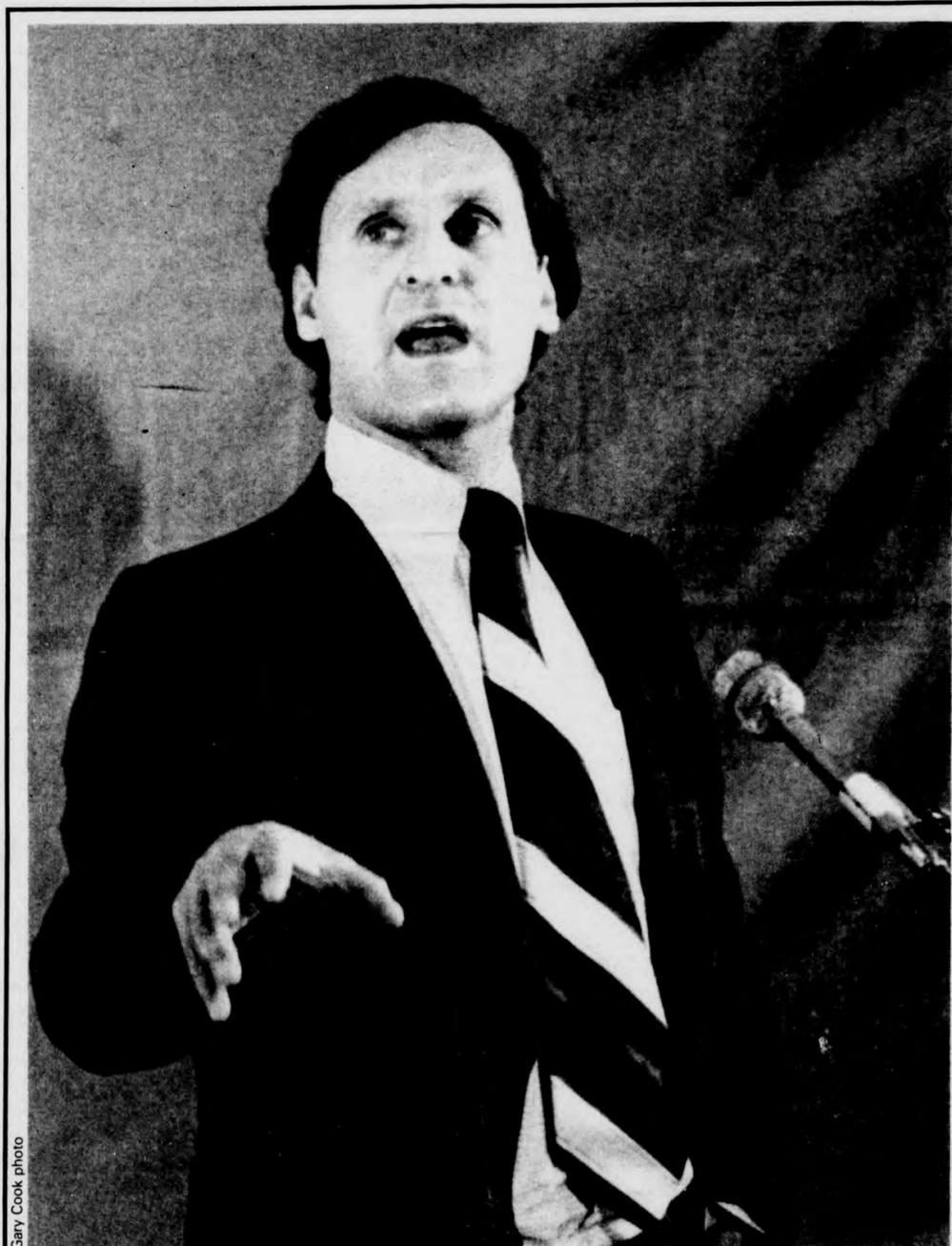
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# Excalibur

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Gary Cook photo

Ontario NDP leader Stephen Lewis spoke for about an hour to a packed house in Curtis lecture hall L, yesterday. At times hilarious, and eloquent throughout, Lewis dealt mainly

with cutbacks in Ontario health care. He condemned the government's Henderson report as "a piece of Conservative, rhetorical baggage".

## Curtis Thomas held in Don Jail pending immigration charge

Excalibur Staff

Curtis Thomas, prospective candidate for CYSF president and leader of the fledgling Progressive Students' Movement, will probably not be running for office this year after all.

He's in jail.

Thomas, the subject of an article in Excalibur last week which made a vague reference to his shady American past, is currently incarcerated in the Don Jail as an illegal immigrant.

Excalibur has also discovered that there are two warrants outstanding for Thomas's arrest in St. Louis, Missouri — one for theft under \$200; the other for armed robbery.

Although neither York security nor the Metro police nor officials at the Don Jail were especially helpful, Excalibur has managed to piece together some of the bizarre events which led up to Thomas's arrest.

Shortly before one a.m. this Saturday a York security guard apparently caught Thomas wheeling a \$102 swivel chair along Niagara Boulevard toward the University City apartment complex. The chair had been removed from the Ross building. Metro Toronto police were summoned and Thomas was taken into custody. Subsequently, a routine check of Thomas's record produced the Canadian immigration order and the two American arrest warrants. Thomas has been held without bail in the Don Jail since his arrest.

Excalibur was unable to reach Thomas by phone at the Don Jail. But staff-sergeant Axford, duty officer at the Metro police department on Tuesday evening, told a reporter that Thomas is currently faced with a choice between appealing the Canadian immigration order or returning voluntarily to the States.

He was unable to say when a hearing on Thomas's case would be held.

Although Thomas's arrest came only two days after Excalibur printed a story suggesting that his status as an immigrant may be questionable, York safety and security director George Dunn denied that there was any connection.

"It was sheer coincidence," he said. "No one was more surprised that I was to find out that the man picked up was the one in the story."

Dunn denied that his department's handling of the case was in any way irregular. He stressed that it is normal procedure for security to summon the Metro police in cases of theft.

Dunn refused to commend any further on the case, adding that he was highly critical of Excalibur's coverage of crime on campus this year.

"I am not prepared to discuss the case at all," he said.

Staff-sergeant Axford at the Metro police department was unable to provide any details of the immigration order against Thomas but Colin Campbell, senior tutor of Winters College and a practising lawyer, told Excalibur that the order could have resulted from one of many different things: Thomas may be in Canada without any immigrant status whatsoever; his student visa may have expired; or he may be violating a previous deportation order.

Last week, Thomas announced that he was holding a campus press conference this Tuesday in order to defend himself against allegations (printed in last week's Excalibur) that he had misappropriated funds as president of the winter-summer student association last year. The press conference, to be sponsored by the Progressive Students' Movement, did not take place. In fact, although Curtis claims that the PSM has 40 members, Excalibur has been unable to identify a single one — apart from Curtis himself.

Excalibur will follow Thomas's case closely and will report on new developments as they occur.

## York's stadium all but finalized

By EVAN LEIBOVITCH

Plans for the construction of an indoor/outdoor track facility for York have been all but finalized, York Director of Development Orval McKeough said Tuesday.

In an interview with Excalibur, McKeough said that only minor details had to be ironed out before a contract can be signed with Metro.

Plans for the complex include indoor and outdoor tracks, as well as facilities for javelin, shot put, high jump, broad jump, and other events.

According to David Smith of the Physical Education department, York asked for use of the stadium from about 9 a.m. to 3 p.m. during the week, as well as three fall and three winter term Saturdays, when competitions could be held.

Tentative plans call for York to share the use of the facility with both Metro and the Ontario Track and Field Association. The OTFA originally asked to be a third party in the negotiations, but was overruled by Metro.

According to Smith, "The status of the OTFA at the complex will

be that of tenant. After all, when Metro got together with an outside interest to create a sports facility at the CNE, the Argos weren't consulted."

The OTFA will probably have use of the centre after York is finished in mid-afternoon, while Metro will use early morning, nighttime, and weekends.

One of the major stumbling blocks, according to Metro parks commissioner Tommy Thompson has been the sharing of costs. Thompson maintains that since

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