



Dan Wong

## Thieves hit libraries

**Berel Wetstein**

A disturbing incident this week brings to attention a problem which has plagued York since the opening of the Scott Library. The theft of valuables, including money, wallets and clothes, has become commonplace in the York library.

Last Friday a witness to a recent theft reported that he had spotted the alleged thief roaming through the stacks. Security was alerted, but a floor-by-floor search failed to uncover the suspect.

"The guy obviously knew his way around and out of the library," said John Thompson, Circulation Co-ordinator of the Scott Library. "It was very unusual for someone to actually spot a thief. The number of thefts in the library is quite high, reaching as many as ten to twelve a week.

"And these are only the reported ones. We don't have any idea how many go unreported, but we believe at least as many as those that we are alerted to."

The prime targets, according to Thompson, are purses left unattended. The thieves quickly

go through them, removing the wallets. Large sums of money have been reported stolen, including tuition fees.

Money is not the only object of thieves. A fur coat, worth three thousand dollars, as well as leather coats and jackets have been reported missing.

"It is easy to steal in here," stated Thomson. "People are not watching what is going on around them or who is sitting next to them. If people see anything suspicious they should report it to the circulation desk immediately."

Books are no longer a problem since the libraries on campus installed an electronic security system. "People are not going to risk suspension for a twenty dollar book when they can photocopy it for a nickel," says Thomson.

The problem is compounded by York's not necessarily deserved reputation as being weak in security. Apparently many people from off-campus view the libraries as easy pickings.

## They could strike

# CUEW talks deadlocked

**Marcia Johnson**

Very shortly, we will all know if we have tutorials to go to. This Saturday, the Canadian Union of Educational Workers will have decided whether or not to strike. Although the union can legally strike on Sunday, it has agreed to wait until the end of mediation sessions, scheduled by the Ministry of Labour for October 23-25.

Both the union and the administration understand each others demands and both are immovable in their positions.

Except for College Tutors where the demand is a hundred per cent increase, the union is proposing a twenty per cent increase for all categories of its workers. "This is not an extravagant package," writes CUEW member Michael Michie. "It is a survival package. Teaching assistants provide

essential services and, as graduate students generate income for the University they must be paid adequately for the years spent in graduate school."

William Farr, York's vice-president in charge of employee and student relations, believes the union's demands are excessive. According to Mr. Farr, a twenty per cent increase is radically high because Ontario universities do not receive a sufficient grant increase to handle inflation.

Mr. Farr says CUEW is refusing to negotiate under twenty per cent and believes the union is being inflexible. "A twelve per cent offer is out to CUEW that is bound to go higher. It's almost a joke, at university, to never take the first offer seriously."

Mr. Farr believes that the union's second demand, which is for a limit class size

is more of an obstacle than the issue of salaries. The union argues that presently, classes are too large and this is interfering with students studies. "Students aren't getting their money's worth if their class size is too big," says Olga Checimestro, co-steward for Humanities. "A discussion isn't possible when there are more than thirty in a tutorial."

CUEW refers to the issue as academic quality, but Mr. Farr says it is no more than a job security demand. He states it would call for an increase in the number of jobs and universities do not have the financing to do that.

Mr. Farr also states that there are more jobs this year because of the increase in enrolment. The union admits this may be true but believes there are still threats to their jobs. Michie states, "Even though enrolments have skyrocketed, we are still faced with an attack on our jobs."

Another area of disagreement is the CUEW demand that graduate students not in the priority pool be given preference for all teaching assistantships. According to union literature, "Few graduate students can complete their studies at York without their financial income in the form of teaching assistantships to the end of their degree."

Mr. Farr calls another CUEW demand irrevocable job posting and says, "CUEW is asking that the University give up the right to withdraw job postings under any conditions...Although most jobs posted for CUEW appointments result in CUEW hirings, in some cases staffing and enrolment circumstances change, and it makes sense to withdraw the posting."

However, CUEW negotiator Leslie Sanders says that if the administration has its way, some union members would be forced to prepare for courses without any guarantee they would still have the jobs when classes started.

Concerning cutbacks in staff, CUEW is asking that they be made only in the case of declining enrollments, and that the proportion of teaching assistants to part-timers be kept constant.

In Mr. Farr's opinion, more students would have to be accepted in order to acquire enough money to maintain the current staff. This, he says, would lead to an increase in class size and this would cause problems in another area of dispute.

Both the administration and CUEW do not want a strike. The union feels it would disrupt the lives of university students. The administration agrees, but thinks a strike would be less disruptive than an agreement with the union's present demands.

## Homecoming:

# A four-year tradition

**Stuart Roebuck**

Steve Dranitsaris, assistant director of Alumni Affairs, doubts he will ever "encounter any serious problems with seriousness entering into the homecoming celebrations."

The fourth annual Homecoming 1981 celebrations will fall on the 16th and 17th of October and promise to be the largest and most fun-filled of any in the short history of this event. Sports, dinners, dances, prizes, forums, contests and new events such as the virgin voyage of the Homecoming Parade (with floats) are all part of the festive Homecoming '81.

Homecoming began in 1978 as the brainstorm of a group of students who felt a campus-wide occasion, bringing together faculty, students and alumni, would be an opportunity for all three of these groups to meet informally and have a super time.

they have now come to view the Homecoming celebrations as a tradition." A tradition that, judging by the increasing support it receives annually, seems well worth preserving and attending.

So what can this four-year tradition offer students that's enough to bring them up to campus or rouse them out of bed on a Saturday?

Well, if you're into indoor sports there's the annual York Invitational Red n' White

basketball tournament featuring a field from such exotic cities as Guelph, Hamilton and Mexico City. For those who prefer to eat while watching their favourite Yeoman athletes there is the York Hall of Fame Dinner. A Red n'White High School basketball tournament and a co-ed swim meet round out the indoor sports.



## HOMECOMING 1981 YORK UNIVERSITY

Despite their high hopes and the quality of the idea, the first few Homecomings were disappointingly lacking in the expected student involvement; partially due to a lack of experience in organization and promotion. Nevertheless the number of participants has increased significantly each year and so has the size and number of activities.

This year the participation by faculty, alumni and students is expected to be at an unprecedented high due to an increased number of alumni, a better advertising programme and a greater interest in the Homecoming festivities by the students at York.

Dranitsaris explains the increased student interest in Homecoming. "Students presently in third and fourth year B.A.'s entered the school after 1978 (the year of the first Homecoming) and therefore they have witnessed a Homecoming every year they have been at York. Consequently

Junkies needing a football fix can watch the Yeomen battle the Gryphons of Guelph on the gridiron. If you enjoy the hitting, but the idea of equipment turns you off, there's the York vs. Brock rugby match.

Other events in Homecoming 1981 include the highly successful Homecoming Queen contest. Following the lead of the innovative cardboard-beer-bottle-in-a-pick-up-truck float, entered by Founders College last year, other colleges have decided to enter floats this year. All of these can be viewed in the first annual Homecoming Parade, scheduled to commence at 1:00 p.m. in Parking Lot 'A' on October 17th.

In addition to the sports, dinners, contests and parade, there is a plethora of events and programmes offered individually by each college. For details, times and information check one of the many yellow Homecoming posters around campus, or call 667-3154, or drop in at 004 Administrative Studies. Be there and have a good one!

## Mednis dumped again

**Michael Monastyrskyj**

This is not Peter Mednis' year. This Tuesday, two weeks after losing his position as CYSF director of External Affairs, Mednis has been removed from the presidency of the York Young Progressive Conservatives, amidst charges that the Y.P.C. election had been "rigged".

Angry over last year's elections the Y.P.C.'s declared Tuesday assembly an annual meeting and held a new vote. It was suggested that a new election be postponed to allow absent members to vote.

During the debate that followed some club members gave their versions of last year's elections. Dan Holland, who is now the club president, and others charged that Mednis arrived at the last annual meeting with friends who had joined the Y.P.C.'s for the sole purpose of installing Mednis as president.

"Anybody who was in the club last year knows we had an unfortunate rigged election," says Holland. "Many of his (Mednis') friends who are supposedly members of the executive aren't back in school this year...Their entire membership in the club lasted half an hour."

In another reference to Mednis' companions, a club member shouted out, "One of them stood up and said 'I'm a Liberal'. If that isn't a traitor I

don't know what is." Holland describes Mednis himself as "a pretty irresponsible guy. He's been booted out of almost everything he has ever belonged to."



## Business person Gayle Rempel CYSF hires new business manager

**Elliott Lefko**

The coffers of CYSF are under close supervision, once again now that Gayle Rempel, 23, has been appointed interim business manager.

A Winnipeg native, Rempel will earn \$1,000 a month and will hold her post until December 8, when a full-time business manager will be chosen. The salary for the year is \$16,000.

Rempel is "looking forward to working with fellow students." Also she hopes to use the job as a means of gaining practical experience.

Tom Thomas, CYSF's previous business manager resigned last week because of an illness in his family.

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