

Crooks on campus

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Excalibur

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In the Crease No. 3, by Bill Featherston. An exhibition of his work is currently in the York Art Gallery.

Olympic boycott divides athletes

Greg Saville

While recent Soviet activity in Afghanistan has made an Olympic boycott by Canada likely, Olympic hopefuls at York are divided in their support for such a move.

Recently, Prime Minister Joe Clark declared that Canada will boycott the 1980 Olympics if Soviet troops are not withdrawn by February 20.

Janet Nutter, an Olympic diver from Ottawa, Greg Joy, a silver medalist in the '76 Olympics, and Jerome Drabton, a world class marathon runner, have all been vocal in their opposition to a Canadian boycott of the Olympics.

Danny Gaudet, a York gymnast with his sights set on the Moscow Olympics agrees. "I think a lot of people might end up hating their sport if there was a boycott. Even if there was an Olympics after 1980, there might be the feeling that it isn't worth all the work," said the OUAA champion and Paris International Gymnastics Competition gold medalist.

"The way I see it now, you may not have the Olympics and thereby take away a lot of athletes' dreams, or you may have the Olympics and they may not be worth having at all."

Other aspiring Olympians from York have showed strong feelings of nationalism in voicing support for the boycott.

"I wouldn't go to the Olympics because I'm a concerned citizen of Canada," says Dave Steeper, last year's Yeoman of the year. To the outstanding gymnast who won 7 medals at last year's CIAU, "it's a question of world peace and the Russian's actions right now. If the boycott is a deterrent to their actions, then I think we should be behind it."

Steeper went on, declaring, "If the Soviets are making military advances, we should do everything short of war, to stop them. If the alternative to war is boycotting the Olympics, then we should go ahead. I don't think we have to sacrifice much as Canadians. We're not called on to sacrifice much to maintain our democratic system. If a boycott is what it takes, I'm for it."

York gymnastics coach Tom Zivic agrees with these sentiments.

"I'd like to see an alternative to Moscow because I support the government's position," he said. "We are proceeding in our training as usual, but we will do what the government decides."

Another Olympic hopeful from York in agreement with the boycott is Marc Epprecht, CIAU national champion for the past three years and finalist for Canada at the Pan American Games. To Epprecht, as with many other possible Olympians, this Olympics will probably be a once-in-a-lifetime shot.

"Well, I'd like to go to the Olympics and if the Canadian Olympic Gymnastics teams decided to go, I personally wouldn't boycott. But I don't like this attitude that makes it sound like athletes are such pampered children and that we're so selfish that we're willing to sacrifice the well-being of the rest of the country, or the world, just for our own sakes to go to Moscow," he states.

Bethune debates fate

Michael Monastyrskyj

Should Bethune College join the Council of the York Student Federation?

To put the question into perspective, Bethune held a debate on Tuesday with college master Griff Cunningham, college council chairperson Andrea Doucet and CYSF President Keith Smockum going to bat for the amalgamationists. Former master Ian Davies argued against the proposal.

Cunningham began his statement by listing the arguments commonly made against the possible union. Speaking on the issue of financial autonomy, he referred to a board of governors decision which requires that \$12.50 of each student's \$40 activity fee support "central student-run services and activities," even if his college does not belong to the central body. "The BOG solved the problem for us last year with the new procedures...except that you can choose which central services you want to support more."

Doucet agreed with Cunningham's opinions on financial independence, adding that too much time is wasted negotiating over the distribution of funds for central services. She argued that it would be different if Bethune had "any particular ideology

which is radically different from other students on campus."

She also believes that by being independent, the college loses its voice in the control of the CYSF's lobbying activities. She argued that the present college council members do not have time to lobby themselves and in order to do its own lobbying, the council would need more volunteers. "Where are all these people who preach the ideology of autonomy?"

Davies, however, contends that the problem of student apathy would not be solved by joining the CYSF, an action which he described as one weak body uniting with another. He said that in "times of crisis, people generally ask for centralization and that it isn't unusual for Bethune to look to the 'big sugar daddy on the ninth floor' or to 'see the CYSF as a godsend.'"

He compared the present debate in Bethune to the situation in Newfoundland, before that province's entry into Confederation. After declaring bankruptcy, the colony was given the choice of joining the U.K., the U.S. or Canada. "Great Britain said 'we don't want you,' the United States said 'we're too embarrassed to have you,' and Canada replied 'if that's the case, we'll take you.'"

Keith Smockum emphasized

the lobbying powers of the CYSF. He claimed that regardless of Bethune's independence, outside groups see the CYSF as representative of the whole university. "When we go to see Bette Stephenson, she doesn't ask what Bethune College thinks." He also pointed out that Bethune would benefit from the soon-to-be opened used bookstore and the new typing service.

The Bethune referendum will be held Feb. 7 and 8.

Rape decision pending

Mark Monfette

A decision on whether to discipline a Faculty of Arts faculty member for allegedly raping one of his students has yet to be made by the administration.

According to John Becker, Assistant Vice-President for employee and student relations, the administration is still in the process of collecting relevant information. "The investigation - the sorting out of the facts - is still taking place," he said.

Mr. Becker stated that Vice-President Farr had an informational meeting with the alleged assailant on Jan. 23 and

that further questions arose from that meeting. The alleged rape occurred on Nov. 16, 1979.

Asked if he thought the administration was proceeding quickly enough with the investigation, Mr. Becker stated that their response was measured and reasonable.

He added that they have not "revealed, step-by-step, what we are doing" because of the serious nature of the charge and the necessity of protecting the names of both the assailant and the victim.

The decision on whether to discipline the faculty member will be made by Vice-President Farr alone.

The procedures being used to arrive at a decision are still being criticized by the Council of the York Student Federation. Jenny Gonsalves, Vice-President for Women's Affairs, said that she is "not pleased that Becker and Farr are making the decision."

Gonsalves would like to see a more representative body set up to handle cases of sexual harassment on campus, including representatives of the various union and student groups.

Gonsalves pointed out that CYSF are no longer petitioning the administration on behalf of the victim. "The girl felt that our harassing might be detrimental to her cause," she stated.

Bryon Johnson