

Excalibur

York University Community Newspaper

Vol. 15 No. 13

Thursday, November 27, 1980



An Italian woman weeps in the wake of the tragic earthquake that killed thousands, and left hundreds of thousands homeless.

Following Italian earthquake

Relief drive begun

Berel Wetstein

This week's devastating earthquake in southern Italy, which has killed 3,200 people and left thousands more homeless, has prompted the Italian Canadian Association of York University to begin an immediate drive for funds for the Southern Italy Earthquake Relief Fund.

The York Italian Canadian Association, with the support of the CYSF, is appealing to all York students, not just the 20 per cent

who are of Italian descent, to contribute towards its goal of raising \$2,000 for the victims of the quake.

A performance of Pirandello's *Il Berretto A Sonagli* has been organized by the Italian Canadian Association. The play will be performed in Italian, on November 28, at C.W. Jeffrey's Secondary School. Admission is \$3 with all proceeds going to the Relief Fund. In addition, the York Italian Canadian Association have set up a fund raising booth in Central Square, with performances of Italian musical groups at the Bear Pit.



Maurizio Bevilacqua, President of the York Italian Canadian Association wants students to be aware that all cheques be made payable only to the "Italy

Earthquake Relief Fund." The Association is the only organization on the York campus

authorized to collect funds by the CYSF and the Italian National

Congress. The National Congress of Italian Canadians will forward

the York contributions along with the rest of the money collected among Metro's half million Italian Canadians, to the Italian Red Cross.

Contributions to the relief fund may also be made at the Toronto Dominion Bank in Central Square.

Council of the York Student Federation President Malcolm Montgomery said "This is an important cause, and it is getting full Federation support and endorsement."

Students turned away

Mas misses, Founders loses

**Ingrid Matson
Jonathan Mann**

While over three hundred fans hummed to the music of Caroline Mas at a recent Founders college dance, the Founders college council, which arranged the event, was anything but pleased.

Mas, originally scheduled to play two shows, dropped one at the last minute, leaving the Council to refund tickets. To many Council to refund tickets to many disappointed students who'd hoped to see the second show.

Just how many students got

refunds, how much money the council lost by giving them; and what they're going to do about it area II still unclear.

The original arrangements were made about one month ahead of time with Mas's agents, Bob McFey of Toronto's King Entertainment

According to Founders Council Vice President Kaspar Verre, the council is now investigating those very questions. "We're looking into what we can do," he told *Excalibur*. "We'd like to recover costs," and Michael Flannigan of New York's APA Records.

A contract was signed stating that Mas would play two shows, said Verre. Then shortly before the concert Flannigan called and said there wouldn't be a second show.

"The guy from New York said he didn't know about the two shows but he did. He called me specifically to ask about the two shows," said Verre.

Founders College Council decided to compensate by extending the first show and admitting more people. But the council is angry because they didn't make enough money to cover their costs.

Verre estimates they lost about \$1500 due to the cancelled show.

Verre who has arranged entertainment before said "I've never had trouble with concerts before."

Adding to the council's anger, on their way out the band broke the dressing room door. "We'd like to recover costs for that too," said Verre.

Study useless?

(CUP) A study that shows education is rapidly becoming inaccessible because of rising costs is "useless", said Ontario Minister of Colleges and Universities Bette Stephenson, November 13.

Speaking at the University of Windsor, Stephenson said a report from the University of Western Ontario was "an invalid, statistically unsupported, inaccurate, unscientific study." The report contradicts Stephenson's statement that student aid helps lower income students.

"One should not look to the country club of universities for statistics," she said.

She said the Ontario government distributed \$85 million in loans and grants last year. She quoted a federal task force study that shows Ontario students receive the most generous financial assistance in the country.

Windsor council president Dave Simmons asked how the government could justify funding an average of \$4,400 to Ontario students while the other provinces average \$5,500.

Stephenson replied that "we must make a concerted effort to live within our means." The minister admitted that financial constraints have been placed on the amount of funding available for education but that this restriction is not more in Windsor than anywhere else.

Stephenson said Ontario taxes pay for 85 per cent of university operations while the student contribution is only 15 per cent.

Technology introduced

But York jobs seem secure

Gary Kenney

York computer and management personnel are developing a new student records system which some University employees fear will affect the security of their jobs. Nevertheless, officials of York's unions remain unworried.

The employees, who want to remain anonymous, said the computerized processing of all student records information will mean less work in certain paper-intensive areas, possibly leading to a reduction in staff.

When asked about this, Noel Berman, First Vice-President of the York University Staff Association, pointed out that in the event of technological change the University must comply with Article 12A.01 of the York University/YUSA collective agreement. The Article states that a reasonable amount of retraining will be provided for any employee whose position is affected due to a change in technology.

"The University has not notified the Union as required by the contract of any technological change concerning the new system," said Berman. "Therefore, we assume that no employee will be adversely affected by the change."

Both Don Mitchell, Director of Personnel, and Sheldon Levy, of the Office of Employee and Student Relations, said they doubted the system will have a negative impact on jobs. Mitchell added that any reduction in staff would be absorbed by normal turnover and attrition.

According to Berman, there are some restrictions on the retraining requirements as defined by the contract, but he doubts they will cause any problems. "I am sure an institution of higher education will do all it can to ensure that its current employees are given the first opportunity to avail themselves of additional job enhancement/development courses and training," he said.

Just to be sure, the Union is closely monitoring the situation. "At least three members of the executive committee are working in areas directly involved in the change," said Berman. "We are keeping our eyes open."

According to Computer Systems Development (CSD) head Israel Aharoni, the new system is not likely to mean a reduction in jobs. By making less clerical work in some areas it will free for work in other areas, he said.

Despite speculation over the new system's effect upon jobs, support staff should learn about the new technology, says Aharoni.

The first phase of the new system is scheduled for completion on November 17. Officials estimate it will take two years for the entire system to become fully operational.

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