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Gael Silzer gets ULC nod

Record number of candidates vie for CYSF

By REX BUCALI

The campaign period for the CYSF elections began yesterday amid a barrage of leaflets, posters and politicking. The excitement will continue until Tuesday, March 16; voting will take place on

Wednesday, March 17.

At the close of nominations on Tuesday, according to an unofficial count, there were a record 43 candidates competing for positions on the council of the York student federation, including five for the

presidency.

The five presidential candidates are Gael Silzer (the United Left Coalition candidate), Barry Edson (York NDP club chairman), Kevin Smith (Vanier college council chairman), Izidore Musallam (Founders college council president) and a dark horse, Blanche Blunkett.

At press time, there were unconfirmed rumours that Blunkett's candidacy may be a hoax. These rumours were given additional credence by the discovery that there is no Blanche Blunkett registered at York.

The presidential candidates may be divided into two distinct factions, with Silzer, the ULC candidate, on one side and Edson, Smith and Musallam — all of whom may be broadly described as anti-ULC — on the other.

Heated conflicts have developed among the three anti-ULC camps as a result of fears that the anti-ULC vote may splinter and give the ULC the election.

Edson and his campaign manager Jay Bell have spent considerable effort trying to persuade Smith to pull out — so far to no avail.

Edson has received formal endorsements from the two student representatives on the York board of governors, Bell and Shelley Rabinovitch in addition to the McLaughlin college council and Winters college council chairman Kelly Allen.

Smith has the solid support of Vanier college, but is relatively unknown in the other colleges.

Musallam was unable to win an endorsement from Founders college council, of which he is president. Founders voted 8-1 in favour of remaining neutral.

"I have very good support," insisted Musallam this week. "Anyway, college councils aren't that effective as a base of support, though I'll probably talk to them later in the campaign period."

Although Musallam insists that he will gain 800 votes, most

estimates fix his support at under 80 votes.

It has been the intention of the college councils in complex 1 to gather their support around one candidate in opposition to the ULC. For a time, it appeared that Edson would be that candidate. However, the staunch refusals of Smith and Musallam to drop out have splintered the complex 1 vote — no one knows how much.

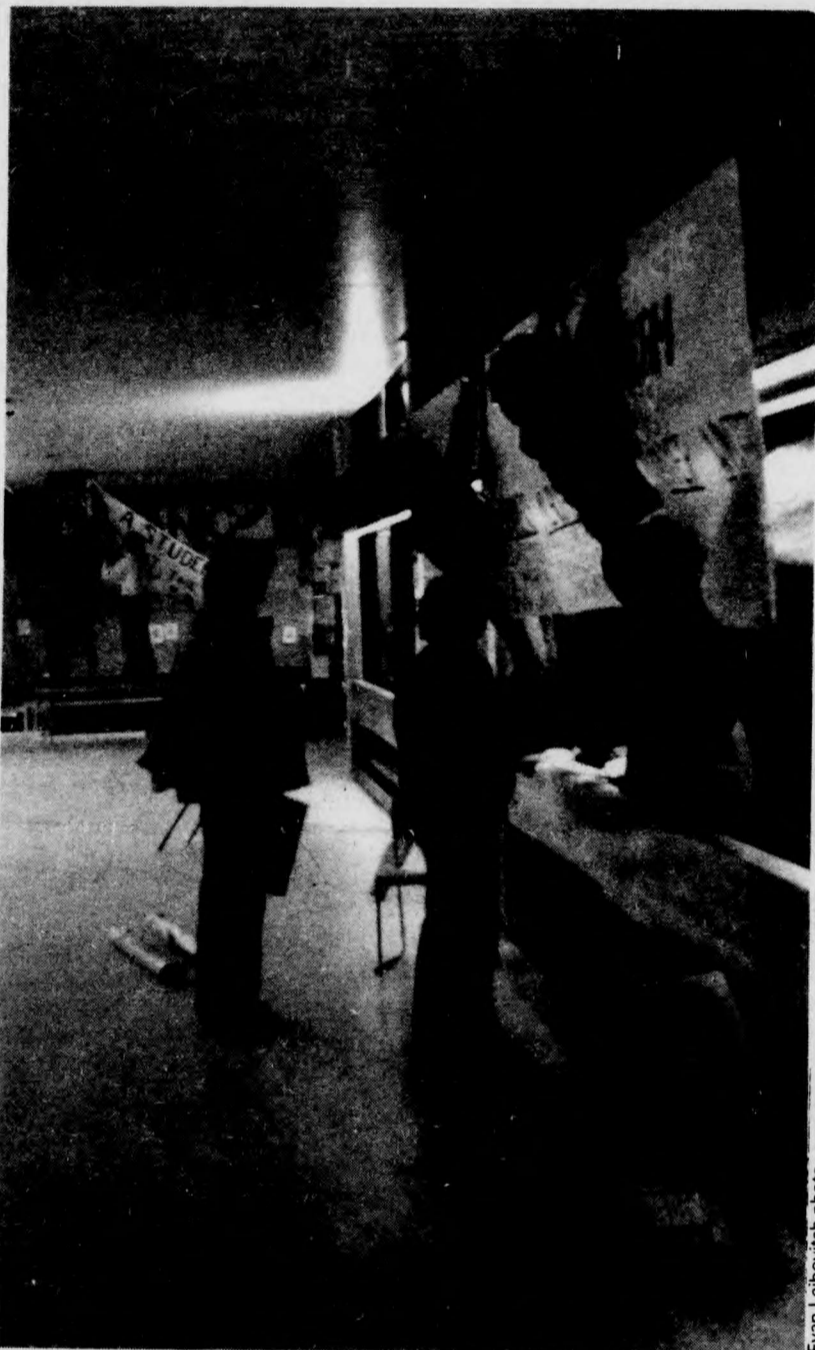
Smith appears to be sticking in the race in the hope that the ULC and the Edson machine will neutralize each other — leaving him, a compromise candidate, with

a clear shot at the presidency.

A veteran CYSF member confided to Excalibur this week that this is "the only hope in hell" Smith has of winning.

As the anti-ULC factions squabble among themselves, the ULC continues to iron out its campaign platform which will concentrate on six major issues, including government cutbacks, student unionism, the role of women, the fight against racial discrimination, and the relation between students and labour.

Edson's platform, on the other hand, stresses community issues.



Evan Leibovitch photo

Presidential hopefuls rush to secure prominent banner positions in Central Square, early Wednesday morning.

Self-styled Naxis attack college master, inflict severe eye injury

By AGNES KRUCHIO

Bethune College master Ioan Davies, was attacked last Friday night by two men in their early twenties who claimed to be members of the National Socialist Underground, the organization that claimed responsibility for defacing walls and a statue in Bethune College three weeks ago.

He required several stitches and plastic surgery for a four-inch gash under his left eye.

According to Davies, he was walking toward Bethune across the open field between Steacie Library and the Temporary Office Building shortly after midnight when two men approached him, one hit him in the eye with a metallic object, then both ran away.

Davies calls for tighter security

Davies said that the two had overheard a conversation he was having with a student in the Open End Coffee Shop in Vanier college,

and gathered he had something to do with Bethune College. They joined his table and accused the entire college of being a "Communist-Jewish conspiracy", Davies said.

During the first part of their half-

hour discussion, he "took them to be rational beings". He left, however, when it "became clear that the two did not want to talk, only shout." What really angered the two self-styled fascists, one of

continued on page 10



Bethune master Ioan Davies after eye surgery.

Over the phone

What it's like to be in the Western Guard

Early this week, an Excalibur reporter, using an assumed name and posing as an aspiring recruit, phoned the Western Guard Party office in Toronto. (The Western Guard is an organization dedicated to white supremacy.) He spoke with a Party member who would identify himself only as "Mike".

According to Mike, the Western Guard has 350 supporters in Toronto. It is the successor to the John Birch Society, which originated in 1967. The name change was adopted in 1972.

Mike said that the National Socialist Underground, the organization which claimed responsibility for the beating last weekend of Bethune college master Ioan Davies, is even more fanatical in its beliefs than is the Western Guard.

What follows is a partial transcript of the conversation.

"Hello. Western Guard Party."
(The voice was low, gruff, clipped.)

"Yeah, uh, hi. My name's Stanley Livingstone. And I'm, uh, interested in joining the Western Guard."

(The voice told me that all I had to do was fill out an application form. I gave my address. The voice said a form would be sent out that day.)

"Thanks. And, say, I want to know something about this group called the National Socialist Underground. I've been reading about it in the papers."

"I personally know a couple of them. There are about 20 of them in Toronto. You'd have to do a bit of sniffing to get in touch with them, though. They seem to get in touch with people themselves. They operate on a 'don't call us; we'll call you basis.'"

"Oh, well, uh, do you know anything about them?"

"As far as I know, they work together with a motorcycle gang, up around York University. They had a big fight with some coons out there awhile ago."

"Really? Say, uh, what does being a member of the Western Guard involve?"

"Well, the Party's broken up into cells now. It all depends on what you want. Maybe you don't wanna mix with beer drinkers and motorcycle riders all the time—so you can just join a different cell and maybe sit around at night and have a nice conversation and sip sherry."

"How much does it cost to be a member of the Party?"

"Five dollars for the initiation fee and another five for the magazine."

"What's the magazine called?"

"Straight talk."

"Say, uh, maybe you can tell me. I keep hearing all this stuff about Aryans but, like, what is an Aryan exactly?"

"Caucasians. Aryans are caucasians."

"Are Italians caucasians?"

"Yup. Even riffs are caucasians."

"Riffs? What are riffs?"

"You know the French-Moroccan wars? Well, riffs are Moroccans. Not moors; they don't count. But riffs are African caucasians. We've got people studying all this anthropological stuff."

"Can Chinese people be aryan?"

"Not unless they can pull some miracles."

"Um, say, why do you think—you know—why are negroes the way they are?"

"It's the way they were made, I guess. I've got no use for wogs or niggers. I don't see why the wogs should be in this country. They should go back where they came."

"Well, what's worse—a negro, or a white person who marries a negro?"

"I hate whites who marry niggers. Niggers can't help what they are. But I hate whites who turn against their own kind."

"Say, um, you can't give me any help in getting in touch with these National Socialist guys, can you?"

"Afraid not. But, I'd be careful. They're not guys to fool around with. Most of them are pretty gung-ho. They belong to gun clubs and stuff."