

## There are no cutbacks, Davis tells PC meeting

By David Saltmarsh

Ontario Premier William Davis said on Sunday that his government has not reduced its commitment to post-secondary education.

Speaking at the closing luncheon of the Ontario Progressive Conservative Campus Association's (OPCCA) annual meeting, Davis said, "Any suggestion of cutbacks, any suggestion that the government of Ontario is not honouring its commitment to post-secondary education is total, unadulterated nonsense."

Davis went on to say the colleges and universities of the province were receiving their share of provincial revenues, that similar restraint was being practised in all sections of the government.

On the anti-cutbacks rally at Queen's Park to be held today Davis said, "Dr. Parrott (Minister of Colleges and Universities) will be at the front steps to welcome the students who will visit on Thursday." He also advised OPCCA members not to display their party membership cards too prominently, and made reference to when he was Minister of Education in the late 60's and protest rallies at Queen's Park were a fairly frequent part of his job.

Much of Davis' talk focused upon there being no need for OPCCA members to apologize for the Ontario government, that a lot of very positive actions have been taken by the Davis government. "Your province has made more progress in social and economic programmes than almost any other jurisdiction in North America," he said.

Davis explained to the audience of 150, mostly university students, that the economic circumstances of the



Premier William Davis

50's and 60's had changed, and that the Government of Ontario was adapting to meet these changing circumstances. He said it is necessary to encourage permanent job creation in the private sector. Government must conserve its own appetites, to make the province economically competitive in today's world.

Davis also touched upon student summer employment, pointing to 60,000 summer jobs created by the Ontario government, claiming that they were not work projects.

Davis said the OPCCA members have a message to take back to the campuses. "The Progressive Conservative Party is not the kind of party that will take the easy way out," adding, "We want to live with ourselves."

## BOG elections may be off

By Paul Kellogg

The two student positions on York's Board of Governors may not be elected by the York student population, depending on the outcome of a poll being conducted of members of the student senate caucus.

The two positions have been democratically elected since 1975, when Anhelyna Szuch became the first student to be elected to the position. Previous to Szuch's election, student BOG reps had been appointed by the student senate caucus, which has the official mandate to suggest student reps to the BOG.

Caucus chairperson Bob Cash told *Excalibur* that the caucus members were being polled to decide whether the BOG positions should be decided in a campus-wide election, or simply be open to nominations from every student on campus, the final selection to be made by the caucus.

"I think campus-wide nominations are the best idea," said Cash. "I personally tend to take a look at it feasibly, money-wise, etc. I think for this year, we have to have open, campus-wide nominations, with the final selection being left to the Student Senate Caucus."

Cash pointed out that since BOG elections involve students from many different constituencies, it is unclear who should pay for holding the elections. "Personally, I think the way the BOG elections were done in the past was an adultery of the way it should have been done," said Cash, commenting on the lack of clarity as to whose jurisdiction BOG elections fall under.

Harvey Pinder, currently one of the two student reps on BOG told *Excalibur* that as far as he was concerned it was "campus-wide elections or nothing".

The suggestion to not have elections was "incomprehensible"

said Pinder. "The best way of gauging students' opinion is by having open, direct elections. The effect of having the positions chosen by the caucus is to bureaucratize that decision. It eliminates a fundamental form of democratic control by the students over their BOG rep."

"Even if we have to wait till next September, we have to have open elections," he said.

The other student rep. on BOG, Jay Bell, was unavailable for comment, but Pinder said that in conversations with him, Bell had indicated that he favoured campus-wide elections.

Student president Paul Hayden disagrees with Pinder and Bell and favours leaving the decision up to the caucus. "I think I would entertain the thought of all nominees approaching the caucus

and the caucus using its mandate to send a nominee to the Board," he said.

Whichever method is decided on, the final decision as to what students will sit on the BOG is up to the BOG itself. The BOG, which is primarily composed of corporate representatives, and which is the highest decision making body at York is a self-perpetuating institution subject to no democratic control.

Another election whose status is uncertain is to the Student Senate Caucus itself. "I think the term of the present caucus doesn't end till June 18th, or 12th or something," Cash said. "With all the ruckus going on right now about the CYSF elections, I haven't had time to think about it. The elections will happen either at the end of this year or the beginning of the next. It's something I'll have to look into."

## Snare setters threaten wildlife

By Laura Brown

The scarce wildlife living on campus is endangered by an unknown person or group of people illegally setting snares.

*Excalibur* received a call Monday morning from Theresa Quigley, a concerned and angry member of the Osgoode Hall Law Library staff. The library overlooks a small grove which shelters small, wild animals, such as squirrels and pheasants. Quigley said someone has been setting snares in this area. A few staff members investigated the land and found an injured squirrel, an injured pheasant and one dead cat.

Mary Washburn, also an employee of the library, contacted the Ministry of the Environment last week to file a complaint. Last Wednesday the snares were removed, but they were back Monday morning. The Osgoode employees were told the snares were set specifically for the wild pheasants.

There are no notices or bulletins on the trees giving warning that the use of snares is illegal. The concerned employees will put signs up warning poachers away.

Quigley claimed that the ministry of the environment is not taking effective steps to stop the poachers from further maiming and killing of the animals.

## Drinking at York a big business

By Paul Stuart

Humourist James Thurber mentions somewhere the case of a drunk at a party who believes he has discovered "the secret of the universe": *everything merges*.

Some people would say that's a religious attitude, others would ascribe it to alcoholism. But it's the sort of idea which the patrons of York's pubs should be in an excellent position to evaluate, because they're among the biggest drinkers in Toronto. They've made booze a quarter of a million dollar a year campus growth industry.

That's how much the university spends on the stuff each year. The imbibing takes place at 16 or 17 different outlets and Peter McKenzie, who purchases alcohol for the administration, guesses that the intake is increasing by five per cent a year.

"This is somewhat surprising," he said last week. "Somehow I doubt that the figures for booze purchasing reflect the dropping student population."

McKenzie recently went to considerable trouble to provide *Excalibur* with a statistical breakdown of York intoxication. So without further ado, here's the poop.

The three most popular domestic beers are:

- 1) *Export*. So far this year 121,000 bottles have been purchased at a cost of \$31,000. McKenzie was moved to drop his professional objectivity and called this figure "astounding."
- 2) *Labatt's Blue*. 97,000 bottles in 4,000 cases, for \$24,000.
- 3) *Carlsberg*. 57,000 bottles in 2,400 cases, for \$13,000.

For some drinkers money is no object. For them the administration has ordered 11,000 of



Cheers! Vanier students making merry at the Open End on Monday night. Toasting spring are: (l-r) Mark Stoliker, Donna Sinclair, Greg Barclay (from Oshawa), Carol Lidster, and Brian Storey.

those emerald green Heineken bottles, for about \$7,700.

The most popular white wine is *Black Tower*. 9,600 three ounce glasses from 800 litre bottles, at \$2,800. The champion red being *Mommessin Export* — 7,000 glasses in 800 24-ounce bottles for \$2,800.

Scotch, the favourite drink of the faculty members, has netted York's saloon keepers \$6,700 for the 620 bottles they've poured away so far in 77-78. *Walker's Red Label* is the most popular brand.

*Canadian Club* is the best-loved rye whisky of the year, the university having picked up 600 bottles for \$6,400. 600 bottles of rum have gone for \$5,700.

All this works out to about 18,000 shots of the three aforementioned kinds of hooch. The most popular hard stuff is *Vodka*; the York community has finished off 800 bottles of Russia's favourite passtime, \$6,800 worth, to date.

552 of those quaint little brown Kalua bottles have been emptied

which has cost York around \$5,800.

But everybody's favourite is the workingman's special, draft beer. McKenzie, with a note of awe in his voice, said that York students empty the contents of 1,000 kegs of the stuff a year. A spree which has netted the breweries \$32,000 this year.

These figures are all approximations and any inaccuracies should not be attributed to McKenzie being unable to resist his stock-in-trade. Asked if constantly having to think and talk about booze every minute of every working day was driving him to drink, he replied:

"Occasionally, but there's a private life and there's a public life and the two don't necessarily come together." Obviously a member of an earlier, more self-disciplined generation.

Students are drinking more and starting younger. A recent study by the Addiction Research Foundation has found that 94.8 per cent of Ontario high school students over the age of 18 are drinkers.

Once students get to university, they're drinking a little differently from their counterparts of a few years back. A pub manager, who wished to remain anonymous (for fear of over-zealous LLBO inspectors), recently said that students are getting a little less drunk when they do go drinking, but can go drinking more often, what with bars open every night of the week.

According to this old salt, who's been running around the pub scene for a decade, "most of the good fun was back in 71-72, before we had to run the pubs formally."

In years gone by, if you wanted a drink on campus, you had to wait for the Green Bush Inn to roll around a couple of times a week. And on dry nights tension would build up which led to not a few wild incidents. Like the time when Green Bush was held in the central square cafeteria and somebody bet that he could run from one end of the place to the other, along the tables which were arranged end-to-end, filled with the glasses and french fries of dozens of drinkers. He did it.

Then there was the night a dancer, very much in shape, bet she could stand on her head on every table in a Complex I bar while drinking a bloody mary at every stop. She pulled it off with ease.

A few years back an event known as the Horrendous Tequila Party, was set off by a p.r. man's scheme. A tequila peddler decided it would be good for business if people were introduced to his product. So at 4:00 pm one afternoon a gathering of about 15 York bartenders and waiters had all the tequila they could drink, on the house.

They were pretty good drinkers, but by 7:00 they were sprawled out all over the bar. They'd met their match and five of them haven't touched a drop since.

But this sort of conduct is by no means limited to the student sector. A couple of years ago a college editor told me the following story. One night a couple of students walked into a nearby licensed restaurant and found their college Master having a high old time all alone. The master, (hint: not the one you'd think) fell off his chair twice and had to be lifted back up.

After a couple of hoists, for which he thanked his helpers with an inane smile and a friendly wave, he fell off again — only this time there was no one left to pick him up, his aides being in the process of an embarrassed exit. Apparently he was eventually scraped off the floor and made it back to his college.

Where he remains to this day — just another campus lush. But what has he, or anyone else, got to lose if, as the old graffiti line has it: reality is but an illusion brought on by a deficiency of alcohol?