

Glendon gets huge computer centre grant

By DOUG LITTLE

A grant of about \$358,000 for the installation of a micro-computer learning centre at Glendon College was one of three federally-funded projects Solicitor General Robert Kaplan announced at York last week.

The MP for York-Centre said the micro-computer centre would create 19 jobs. A Glendon College spokesman said the aim of the centre is "to increase computer literacy at Glendon and to help the community realize the computer's "great potential in creating jobs."

Kaplan also announced the approval of more than \$52,000 in funding from the Unemployment and Immigration Commission to encourage women in the sciences through a diversity of programs at York. The science programs will run the course of a year at York in an attempt to expose pre-university female students to the physical sciences and the career opportunities the field offers.

"This project will provide some encouragement to women who are interested in pursuing a career in the sciences and have difficulty

finding the necessary experience to establish themselves in that milieu," said Kaplan.

"The most promising aspect of this project is that, as a program designed for those individuals who would otherwise be dependent on unemployment insurance, it may open doors to future employment," he said.

The last project Kaplan announced was a \$99,000 grant to Urban Construction Ltd. for the manufacture of hoisting elevators. He said 12 jobs would be created and would generate some \$2 million in domestic and foreign sales.

Residents harassed: NFB film

By FAY ZALCBERG

Metro police harass residents of the Jane-Finch corridor on a regular basis, according to a film shown at Osgoode Hall by the Law Union and the Student Christian Movement.

Bev Foulkes, coordinator of Carribean Outreach, and Elspeth Heyworth, of York's Community Relations, spoke to a group of 30 last week in an attempt to expose what they claim is an "unhealthy" relationship between the multi-cultural community of Jane-Finch and the police.

The area residents live primarily in Ontario Housing complexes and apartments, whose rent is subsidized by the provincial government. The film, *Home Feelings*, made by the National Film Board, shows how residents are victims of their poor environment and are treated unjustly by the police because they live in the area.

(The Jane-Finch corridor is one of the most densely populated areas in Toronto. Many of the residents are unemployed and belong to visible ethnic minorities.)

At a recent panel discussion of police

relations in the Jane-Finch area, 18 police officers showed up—twice the announced number—and residents saw that as an attempt to intimidate them, according to Foulkes.

Adrian McLennan, Metro police director of information, said she was disappointed that "from the 20 hours of film footage that was shot (in producing the film), a good deal of positive police action didn't appear in the film."

The film "didn't show the considerable positive interaction between the police and the community," she said.

In the past, York's involvement with the Jane-Finch area has been with research surveys and the Osgoode-sponsored Community and Legal Aid Services Program (CLASP).

Residents receive free legal aid from CLASP. CLASP also provides services such as tenant protection, civil litigation, family law, immigration, workman's compensation and criminal divisions, and absorbs the "overflow from other clinics such as the Jane-Finch Legal Services," said A. Asmus of CLASP.

Women sprouting says feminist

By VALERIE MACIOCE

"Men are still the root and trunk of society but lately we have seen female branches sprouting," said *Toronto Sun* columnist Laura Sabia in a talk on "Women in Politics" Tuesday in Curtis L.

"Although there are a few women perched on the upper branches, there seems to have developed heavy bunches of female twigs," said the women rights advocate.

Sabia's talk is one in a number of events scheduled for the two-week celebration of International Women's Day, which takes place today. "Choice, jobs and peace are this year's themes, with major issues being the right to abortion, daycare, equal pay for equal work, and affirmative action."

Sabia gave statistics on female representation in government: there are only two female deputy ministers in the Ontario government and only one in the Federal. She said there are six women politicians in Ontario government "out of a possible 135" and that the Federal government contains 13 women out of a possible 285. "Women won't get anywhere unless we demand our place in the political world," she said.

"We don't even have to work together, we can be splattered throughout the House as Liberals, Conservatives, and New Democrats, not necessarily having the same political ideology," she said.

"Women are also at fault because of their lack of participation in politics. They seldom read the legislation and are not informed of what is going on," said Sabia.

She believes that women in our society are not challenged to enter politics or any other traditionally male-dominated field. They are instead geared to follow "Harlequin Romance" lifestyles, she said.

"Legislation is being passed every day on women's issues and if we want change we must be there ourselves. We must have more representation," said Sabia.

Other York festivities celebrating International Women's Day included a lecture by Norma Joseph of Concordia University Monday on "A Feminist Hermeneutics of the Bible." On Tuesday, Rela Geffen Monson of Gratz College in Philadelphia spoke about the impact of feminism on Jewish university students.

Toronto feminists gathered for a gala celebration Tuesday night and have planned a rally-demonstration this Saturday. The rally-demonstrations begins at 11 a.m. at U of T's Convocation Hall.



250 protest Syria's poor treatment of Jews

By STUART MOSCOE

"Is none still too many in this country?"

This was the cry from Naomi Jacobs, national chairman of the North American Jewish Students Network, at Queen's Park Sunday in a Syrian Jewry rally to protest the living conditions imposed on Jews in Syria.

An estimated 50 of the 250 in attendance were from York.

The rally began with a funeral procession from the Bathurst and Sheppard shopping plaza and ended at Queen's Park. The procession was held in memory of Lilian Abadi and her two children, who were murdered and disemboweled in their home December 28, in Aleppo, Syria.

Jacobs told the crowd that External Affairs Minister Allan MacEachen was briefed on the severity of the conditions plaguing Syrian Jews before he left on his recent Middle-East tour but chose not to raise the issue with Syrian President Hafaz Assad.

"If MacEachen feels that he cannot assert a strong Canadian position on this flagrant violation of human rights, then that is a matter which should be discussed within the House of

Commons," said Jacobs. She called on MacEachen to go back to Syria and "return here with exit visas for the Jews of that country."

"We are outraged at the recent cold blooded murder of the Abadi family and we implore freedom-loving people around the world to join us in transmitting this message in the hope of preserving the universally-accepted value of human life."

Other speakers at the rally included Rabbi Dr. Gunther Plaut, chairman of the Central Council of American Rabbis, Milton Harris, president of the Canadian Jewish Congress, Moshe Ronen, the vice-chairman of the world union of Jewish students, and David Rotenberg, a conservative member of the Ontario Legislature.

Rabbi Plaut gave a eulogy and spoke as if he had been the victim. "I was killed because I am Jewish and for no other reason," he said.

Harris made the familiar cry of "Let Our People Go," while Rotenberg called on U.S. Democratic leadership candidate Jesse Jackson, the "great human rights leader" in the U.S. who went to Syria and returned with



Queens Park rally for Syrian Jews

Marine Lt. Goodman, to go back to Syria and plead for the release of the Jews there.

The rally was organized by Alan Feld, national chairman of the North American Jewish Students Network and Sarah Anne Levy, Toronto coordinator of National Syrian Jewry Week.

Other Campuses

"NO BLACKS"

Humber College student newspaper *Coven* this week carried a front page apology to the school's black population after President Dr. Robert Gorden ordered a press halt last week.

Gorden ordered the stop after the black and ethnic students became enraged over an advertisement which appeared in the February 23 issue of *Coven*. The ad appeared with the line "NO BLACKS," which followed a classified advertisement for a Progressive Conservative Youth wine and cheese party.

Jim Smith, the newspaper's publisher, refused to place the apology on the front page of the newspaper as requested by the students. Instead, he offered to place it in the same classified section it first appeared.

Late Friday afternoon when Gorden was made aware of the outcome, he summoned a meeting with the Applied and Creative Arts Dean, before calling the printers to stop the press to place the apology on *Coven*'s first page.

—Contrast

B.C. band-aid

Student Aid grants for B.C. students are no longer.

Last year the provincial government spent \$14.6-million on student aid. This year only \$2.5 million is being allocated.

"If students don't protest now we might be the last generation to have democratic access to education," said University of Victoria student president Brian Stevenson. "Education will be based on the right to know as opposed to the financial ability to know."

—Martlet
University of Victoria

USSR attempts to break "deadlock" rule

By CARLA CESTA

Some members of the Soviet leadership are determined to break the deadlock position which was produced by years of Brezhnev's immobility, according to Stanford University professor Alexander Stromas in a talk on "Politics in the USSR Since Brezhnev."

Stromas began his lecture in Curtis Lecture Hall E Monday, by talking about Russia's desperate attempt to move society from its "deadlock" position since 18 years of Brezhnev's rule.

He said Brezhnev's death in November 1982 was seen as a stepping stone to the members of the leadership who wanted to start the Soviet system moving again from "its ossified position."

According to Stromas, the quality of life and the structure of society in Russia started to disintegrate in the mid-1970s. He said there was a rise in the infant mortality rate because of insufficient medical facilities.

He said in terms of policy proposals and decisions, Brezhnev made the office of General Secretary of the Central Committee party meaningless. He said Brezhnev came to power to hear what the people had to say. "Autocracy to oligarchy had occurred under Brezhnev."

Stromas went on to say that the last 15 months have been "a history of failure, but not total failure."

Stromas, who taught at the University of Moscow and later forced to leave the Soviet Union, also spoke of the current Soviet leader Constantine Chernenko. He said Chernenko has "failed" to project an image of strong leadership. "Chernenko's promotions have been a reversal back to the old ways of Brezhnev."

Stromas, who's a political science and intellectual history professor at Stanford, was introduced to politics at an early age and was able to view Russian politics from within.

The professor's speech was sponsored by York's Political Science Students Association.