

Possibility still exists to bring 1996 Olympic Games to Toronto, says the TOOC

By JAMES HOGGETT

York professor Dr. Bryce Taylor returned home for an International Olympic Committee (IOC) conference in Lausanne, Switzerland last week feeling optimistic about Toronto's chances of landing the 1996 summer Games.

Taylor, York's Program coordinator in Sports Administration, is one of the five members of the Toronto Ontario Olympic Council (TOOC), which is hoping to bring the Olympic Games to Toronto for the Games' 100th anniversary.

The sole purpose of the TOOC attending the meeting was to observe how each country has planned their campaign bid to host the 1992 Games. "We were just flies on the wall," Taylor said. "We met the members of the IOC and observed each country's procedure of bidding for the Games. We examined what each country did or did not do to win the IOC's vote."

At the meeting the IOC announced their decision on who will host the 1992 winter and summer Games. The countries chosen were Barcelona to host the summer Games and Albertville for the site of the winter Games.

Taylor and the other members of the TOOC also learned that the IOC is made up of a number of affluent persons. "The committee is made up of many Dukes, Kings and other very influential people," Taylor said, "and all are very committed to the Olympic ideal."

Countries seeking the 1992 Games have spent millions of dollars on

exhibits to promote their country and winning and dining members. They even gave out hats, t-shirts, posters, pamphlets and other gadgets, in attempt to appease the IOC.

In the future, the IOC hopes to avoid cities spending exorbitant amounts of money vying for the Games to woo IOC support.

"The IOC is cracking down on this type of overspending," Taylor said. "The only time a country will be allowed to promote their city will be at the next IOC meeting in Japan in 1990 to announce the site of 1996 Olympics. This should cut costs by at least 30 percent."

The TOOC will be inviting the IOC members to visit Toronto in the next few years and to see what venues and facilities Toronto has to offer.

Athens, which is said to be Toronto's major competitor, began circulating a slick colour pamphlet earlier in the week. The pamphlet claims that Athens is the natural site for the 100th anniversary of the modern Games.

Feeling optimistic about Toronto's chances of landing the Games, Taylor feels that it is not an early jump. "We are not going head to head against Greece," Taylor said. "We are saying that Toronto is a good alternative site for the Games."

Taylor, however, does not see Athens as the only competitor Toronto must beat. "I'm sure the other countries who lost the 1992 bid will be vying for 1996, and stand as equal a chance of landing the Games. It all depends on the emotion of the IOC towards the 100th anniversary. No matter the decision, we will respect the IOC's decision and thereby are leaving it up to them to decide," Taylor added.

The only problem facing Greece right now is that it may not be ready for the Games by 1996. It could cost Greece almost 40 percent of its national budget to stage the Games, the Toronto *Star* reported.

With this and the increase in terrorism the IOC may see Toronto as the best site for the 1996 Games. With most of the needed venues already built and its location away from terrorist acts, Toronto just may win out.

New help for sexual harassment victims

By GEORGE MATHEWSON

A liaison has been hired to handle student complaints at the Sexual Harassment Education and Complaint Centre, according to Gill Teiman, coordinator for the Centre.

Daryl Webber, the new appointee, will begin her duties on November 1. She has experience with the Women's Centre at Glendon College, and most recently worked for the Ministry of the Solicitor General of Canada preparing a youth kit on crime prevention.

Teiman said the arrival of a student liaison will allow her to concentrate on the educational aspect of sexual harassment. Teiman believes there will be less harassment only when people stop turning a blind eye on the problem. "Peer pressure is probably the greatest force we have," she said. "If it were more socially unacceptable . . . it would happen less often."

A victim of sexual harassment will find a sympathetic ear at the Centre, Teiman said. "The first thing I do is listen to the person. Then I will talk through with them what has happened [to find out] whether it is some form of harassment," Teiman explained.

The Centre defines sexual harassment as unwanted sexual attention that may be either repetitive or abusive and which the harasser ought to know is unwanted. Occasionally it is accompanied by an implied threat to an individual's grades, status or job. Harassment can occur between students or between teachers and students of either gender.

If a victim wishes to proceed with the case after consultation, every effort is taken to resolve the problem informally within existing university channels. If all else fails the Centre can assist the victim in laying a formal charge.

Teiman stresses that legal charges are rare, and only a last resort. "What people really need to know is there is a place where they can come and just talk," Teiman said. "A big



BUSY AT THE CENTRE: A new student liaison will allow Gill Teiman more time for public education.

part of the problem is the sense of helplessness, which can lead to stress in a victim."

The Centre, established in 1984, was the first of its kind in a Canadian university. While the Ontario Human Rights Code (1981) was affirming a person's right to study and work in an environment free from sexual harassment, a York Presidential Advisory Committee was

investigating the problem. The Sexual Harassment Education and Complaint Centre was formed on its recommendations.

The Centre is open weekdays nine to five (736-2100 ext. 3500), and is located in 140A Central Square, Ross Building, at the east end of the corridor between the bookstore and the library. All consultations are strictly confidential.

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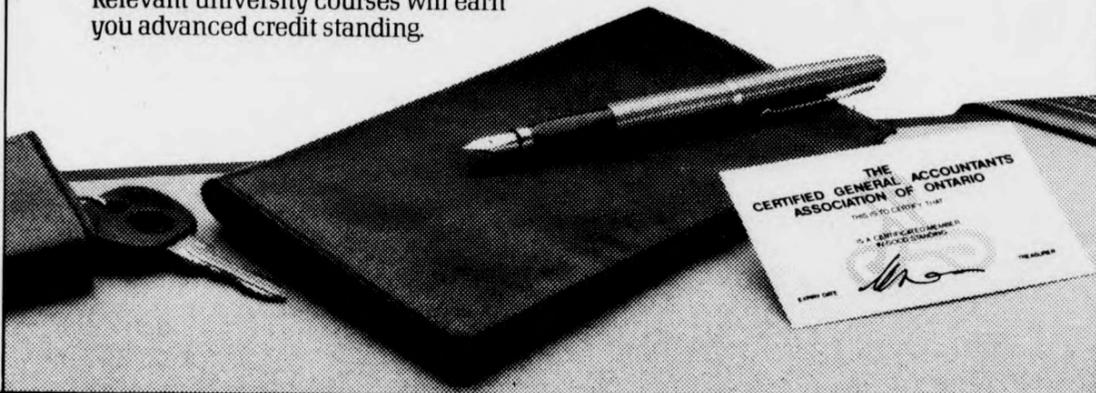
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