

The TTC slows down Yorkites

By Laura Brown

The crowded halls of central square seem to indicate commuter students are relying on friends and passing motorists to get to campus as the TTC strike continues.

As Excalibur goes to press, little has been done at York by way of helping commuters get to the campus.

Only the Council of York Student Federation has taken some steps to aid the students. The council has posted two makeshift bulletin boards in Central Square, in an attempt to help arrange car pools. There are no changes in the York

bus service. The buses continue to run to the Islington and Finch stations, where no further connections are available.

Hitch-hiking students are making use of the signs naming specific destinations, which have always been along the university's main entrance running to Keele St.

If you're one of the lucky ones to have a car but are without a York parking decal, you won't be fined if the car is restricted to an outside parking lot.

This has nothing to do with the strike, but is part of a policy made this summer, according to parking supervisor H. Larkin.

It had been planned to allow students to park without fines until September 25 which would allot new students and faculty sufficient time to get their parking permits.

It is not yet certain if this will be continued after the 25th, even if the strike is still on.

"We'll have to play it by ear then", Larkin said, "although during the 1974 transit strike we backed off the parking lots".

A last resort for a small number of commuters is the residence bunk rooms. However, even during the school year accommodations are sometimes insufficient to meet

commuter needs. Bunk space is limited to 6-12 beds per college. Bunk rooms are available in only 4 colleges: Stong, Founders, Bethune and MacLaughlin.

Since Monday, the waiting lists have been long and any student depending on last minute overnight accommodation will be disappointed.

The colleges have not officially opened their common rooms as extra sleeping space to students who may otherwise have to miss the crucial first week of classes because of transportation problems.

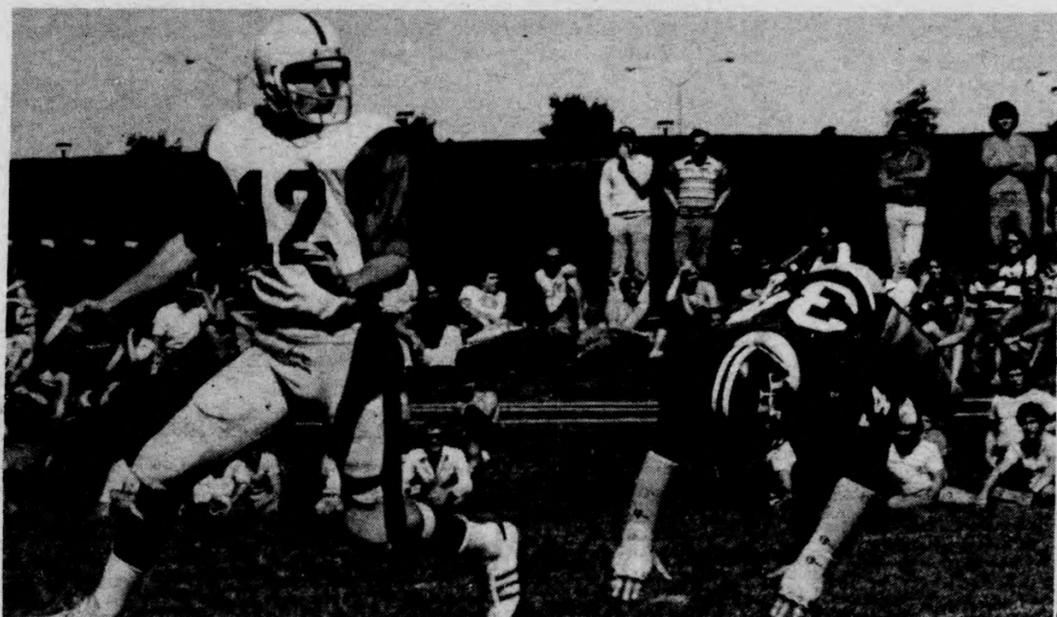


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Yeoman quarterback Mike Foster steps out of reach as U of T player lunges through the line last Saturday in Yorker's football field. The game marked the season's opening for the football Yeomen as they were squelched 20-0 by their cross-town rivals, the U of T Blues. (See pg. 16)

York staff may strike

By Paul Stuart

The university could be facing a strike by 1,000 clerical and technical workers in the York University Staff Association as early as Tuesday, September 19.

The association's members include secretarial workers, library technicians, payroll clerks and computer operators. According to Lauma Evans, YUSA president, a staff strike would "be absolute chaos. Libraries won't function, students trying to switch classes won't be able to do it, telephones wouldn't be answered."

YUSA members voted to authorize a strike 391 to 74 (84 per

cent in favour), at general membership meetings held August 30 and 31, on the main and Glendon campuses. The YUSA negotiating committee will meet with administration representative, D.J. Mitchell, director of personnel services, and mediation officer Jean Read on Friday, in a last-ditch attempt to work out an agreement on unresolved areas of the new YUSA contract, including wages and job security.

A general membership meeting will be held at Burton Auditorium on Monday "either to vote on new proposals put forth by management or to finalize agreements for a strike" according to a bulletin released by the association last week.

Evans maintains that the association and the union are divided on a host of issues, among them:

- Job security; with YUSA opposed to the administration contracting out to businesses to do the work of union members.

- Technological change and automation; the staff doesn't want to become 'obsolete.'

- The relationship of supervisors to staffers; the association is opposed to union members being required to do personal work for their bosses (ie. secretaries doing shopping for their executives).

Asked for the administration's stand on this last point, Mitchell responded with a question of his own:

"Are you talking in a theoretical or a practical sense? The union is talking in a theoretical sense, saying, 'this happens' — but I don't know how you'd ever regulate it."

For Mitchell, the YUSA talks center around dollars and cents. "Essentially it's a money contract," he said.

The union is asking for a ten per cent wage hike or \$1,000 per worker, whichever is greater.

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Cutbacks keep on coming

By Hugh Westrup

As the academic year gets underway York University is adjusting to the impact of the province wide cutbacks to education which resulted in a \$3.8 million reduction in its budget.

George Bell, executive president and a key figure in computing the York budget said Tuesday the university's general operating income on a university wide average has been reduced by six per cent.

While provincial grants to universities have officially increased in dollar terms by 5.8 per cent, real incomes have fallen because the increase has not kept pace with inflation.

Since the spring, the universities have been bracing themselves for the effects of budgetary restraint.

Earlier fears of massive layoffs and terminations of essential programs have not been borne out. Nevertheless, predictions are that York's reduced teaching and support staff, working with fewer materials, will mean larger class sizes, increased work loads for employees, less student-teacher contact and paperwork slowdowns.

Here is an update on the cutbacks situation.

The Library System which includes the Scott, Steacie, Glendon, Business and Law Libraries has terminated 14 positions (4

librarianships and 10 support positions) and reduced student casual assistance to make up for a loss of \$228,000. York's book budget is up \$50,000 but due to inflation and the devaluation of the Canadian dollar this still represents a loss of \$125-150,000. Said Leonard Draper from the office of the Director of Libraries, "The quality of our book collection is deteriorating. We are in a very desperate situation because the majority of the book budget is spent on serials. This is a very serious problem affecting all libraries."

Draper also said books won't be shelved as quickly and there will be fewer shelf readings in search of misplaced books. He doubts library hours will be cut, a strategy that was to be implemented last fall until students protested. "There is very little financial savings in cutting hours. It's one of the last resorts," he said.

FACULTY OF ARTS The severest cut of \$930,000, delivered to the faculty of arts, was cushioned by two factors. Dean Harold Kaplan said, "The cuts were painful and obvious in terms of larger classes and the loss of some very good faculty and staff but not as bad as anticipated because by sheer chance a large number of professors went on

leave without pay. We also received one year grant which helped us to keep on many part-time teachers who otherwise would have been let go."

The \$125,000 grant was received following a report last spring by the senate's academic policy and planning committee (APPC) which stated that both the faculty of arts and Glendon College were seriously threatened by the proposed cutbacks. Glendon received \$51,000. Grant money came from miscellaneous income to the university from corporations, private individuals, investments and overhead on research.

ADMINISTRATIVE STUDIES A 12 per cent reduction in the course schedule resulting in a substantial decrease in part time employment has been made to meet a cut of \$128,000. According to Dean W.B. Crowston, an increased enrolment this year has expanded some class sizes to their physical limits.

"Grad classes of size 60 are excessive," he said. "What I'd like to see is not cuts in our budget but an increase. The university would be better off to give more support to growing faculties like our own."

FINE ARTS Dean J.G. Green said, "I think the standard of education will be maintained in our classrooms but the outside quality

of life has been reduced significantly."

ATKINSON COLLEGE. Although fewer courses has resulted in less work for part-time teachers, Dean Margaret Knittl said most of the core of part-timers have been kept on. Those not rehired were mostly "fringe" faculty from other institutions who already have full time salaries. A reduction of \$368,000 has also pared clerical and administrative positions and budgets for publications, student and college affairs, stationary, furnishings and recruitment programs.

FACULTY OF EDUCATION. Dean R.L. Overing said, "We've had to tighten our belts but haven't sacrificed any of the basic principles essential to the nature of this faculty. I don't see any deterioration." To compensate for a \$116,000 loss, courses were dropped, part time and cross appointed positions were terminated, and the staffs at Glendon and York amalgamated.

Finding a living space near York
Is co-op housing the answer?
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