



TWENTY YEARS OF QUALITY FISHWRAP: *Excalibur* is celebrating its 20th anniversary next week and to mark the occasion there will be a special fishwrap edition with next week's paper.

Globe trotting Chancellor retires

By GEORGE MATTHEWSON

After travelling an estimated 50,000 miles a year for the past 40 years, retiring York chancellor John Tuzo Wilson is finally ready to sit down and write his autobiography.

It won't be an easy task to squeeze Wilson's history into one volume. His three year stint as chancellor was only the latest in a long list of varied pursuits: geologist, teacher, mountaineer, faculty head, soldier, and director-general of the Ontario Science Centre.

In 1930 Wilson was the first to graduate in Canada with a degree in Geophysics, which led to 14 years of wilderness exploration "in canoe and under canvas," according to Wilson.

In World War II Wilson was part of Operation Muskox, the overland expedition which, by travelling on

tank-like snow machines, helped to open up the Arctic. He also was a Canadian observer on the first US Air Force flight to the North Pole.

Yet Wilson's travelling days are far from over. As a recent winner of Encyclopaedia Britannica's Britannica award—given for skill in the dissemination of learning—Dr. Wilson is heading to Japan in October to lecture. The Japanese, among others, nominated him for his work in continental drift theory and for promoting "hands on" science at the Ontario Science Centre.

Wilson describes the role of chancellor as "a useful anachronism." (The chancellor receives no official powers or salary but as the titular head of the university sits on the Board of Governors, the Senate, and is involved in numerous committees.)

Because he is free from the internal politics of the University, Wilson is in a position to view its operations objectively. And he likes what he sees.

"There are great advantages in [York] being a young university. It can adopt new ideas as well as keep some of the old ones," he said. He believes York has done well to maintain high standards in traditional areas, while branching into new fields like ethnic studies and space research.

Wilson also noted that because York is land-rich, it's in an excellent position to collaborate with industry on any new developments. "It is the tempo of the times," Wilson said. "Developments could be suitable to academic research while at the same time have an eye to the training a future citizen is going to need."

Consistent with his view that universities are part of the "real" world, he welcomes today's emphasis on high technology, citing connections between a nation's technology and its accomplishments. Portugal, for example, led European exploration, according to Wilson, because Henry the Navigator had assembled "better ships, better charts, and better means of navigation."

Similarly, the British defeated Napoleon "much to his surprise, because they had an industrial revolution."

But does Canada lag in research and development? Wilson believes it doesn't. In fact, he said, in certain fields such as medicine and space technologies, Canada is leading the way. He cautions, however, against a union between universities and industry that is too inflexible.

"The high technology of today isn't necessarily the high technology of tomorrow. The university has to lend itself towards making the things that are really needed. Maybe the high tech we need is something that will tackle the environment rather than producing more chips," Wilson added.

Overall, Wilson is satisfied with his term, which ended last month. "The chancellorship is a great job, and it should be rotated. There's a need for completely new people," he concluded.

Computerized voice to greet off-campus push-button callers

By MARK WINSTON
and JAMES FLAGAL

York telecommunications will be experimenting with a new computerized answering service as part of the 3.5 million dollar Rolm telephone system installed on campus last May.

According to Alan Smith, manager of telecommunications, the centralized attendant service which goes into effect October 20, will have more capabilities and be more efficient than the previous Bell Canada System.

Smith explained that off-campus calls coming into the main switchboard will be greeted by a computer which will request the caller to enter the four digit extension number of the party's touchtone phone they wish to reach. (If calling from a dial phone one will have to wait for the operator.) If the caller does not know the extension number, a human operator will follow the computerized message to assist the caller.

Smith admits that the callers may find relating to a computer "a dramatic change, but that's the way technology is going."

The one major advantage Smith points out is that with the new system everyone has their own separate extension. Before, with the old system, many faculty were forced to share lines. Now faculty can call off-campus and receive calls without delay. Also the new computerized system will decrease volumes on the main and department switchboards.

Smith also added that the extensions in the 5000 series will still be reachable from off-campus without going through the main switchboard.

An option which will depend on the successful review of the system before implementation, according to Smith, is "phase two" of the "phone mail" system. This will be a new capability for students to obtain announcements on current events by entering

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York student indecently assaulted on campus

By ZENA McBRIDE

An Atkinson student was robbed and indecently assaulted at knife-point on her way to a tutorial in the Administrative Studies Building on the evening of September 23rd.

According to Police Constable Alexander Zaychuk of 31 division, the student left the Ross Building by the Post Office exit. While crossing the dimly-lit underpass, a man approached her from behind, put his arm around her shoulder, and pointed a knife into her side. They walked some distance in this manner to a treed area west of Atkinson College, where he removed his victim's jewellery. "He wanted her purse, but she had left it in her car," said Investigator Eric Pond, of Safety and Security Services.

"He forced her into the wooded region south of Osgoode and attempted to rape her," continued Pond, "but was physically unable to do so."

According to Zaychuk, "(the attacker) then called her a 'fucking bitch' and ran away." The woman fled to her car and drove home, where she called the police.

The attack occurred at about 8:40 p.m. The victim told police that several people walked by them, but took no notice due to the manner in which the assailant was holding her. Because he was armed, the student made no attempt to struggle, and as Pond stated, "She did the best that she could in that situation."

The woman sustained only minor physical injuries as a result of the ordeal, consisting of scrapes and bruises to her arms and face. However, police believe the suspect to be violent: "he slapped her several times," said Zaychuk.

The suspect is described as a Caucasian male in his 30s, 5'7" in height and weighing 170 lbs. He had straight, light brown hair and was clean shaven. He wore jeans, a new jean jacket, and possibly cowboy boots. He spoke without an accent.

While it is difficult to tell whether or not he is a student at York, according to Zaychuk, "he knows the area well." Police are currently investigating several similar incidents that have occurred lately in the Weston Road area that may have involved the same suspect.

Res student mugged

By ZENA McBRIDE

A resident of Winter's College was mugged last Thursday outside the north entrance of Central Square.

Mike Gencher told an *Excalibur* reporter that he was on his way to the Green Machine when he was accosted by two men who were sitting on the steps outside the building. One of the assailants grabbed Gencher's arm from behind, twisting it into his back, while the other seized him by the throat and demanded his wallet. When Gencher replied that he didn't have it with him, they slashed him in the arm and repeated their demand. This process occurred five times, according to Gencher, until one of the men searched him and found no wallet.

The attackers then punched him in the ribs, and when he fell to his knees, kicked him in the head. They ran off towards the East Office Building.

After several minutes, Gencher

regained some strength and returned to Complex I, where he informed the resident tutor, Ann Yoeman, of the incident. The police and campus security were then contacted. Gencher received medical attention, but required no stitches.

One of the assailants was described as a Caucasian male, 6'7", and weighing 210-230 lbs. He had long, blonde, curly hair, and wore a black canvas jacket and old scruffy jeans. The other man was also Caucasian, 6' in height, and weighed about 200 lbs. He had black, curly hair, and an acne problem. He was wearing a jean jacket and bleached white jeans. Both men were estimated to be their 20s.

According to Investigator Eric Pond of Security and Safety Services, the suspects "didn't fit any descriptions that we're holding right now in connection with other campus crimes."

Assault sparks rally for better York security

By JULIE ROBINSON

A rally was held in the bearpit on Monday to call attention to the need for improved security at York after a woman was assaulted on campus on September 23.

The rally organized by the York Women's Centre and the Director of Women's Affairs, Catherine Lake, was held to protest against assaults on women.

Volunteers circulated posters and petitions outlining demands for increased security, foot patrols and advertising of emergency telephone numbers and locations. The petitions also called for better lighting and access to information regarding campus assaults.

The organizers will approach the Administration and Security and Safety to press their cause and offer aid in implementing the measures demanded.

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