

# Excalibur

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## Presidential election called off

Michael Monastyrskyj

Today's CYSF presidential election has been cancelled and it looks like it may not be held until the fall.

In a council meeting held last night, the CYSF voted "to endorse in principle the appointment of an interim president until an election is held for president in the fall of 1980."

The council's meeting was called because of a decision by the CYSF's Election Tribunal to cancel the election, following a complaint by David W. Chodikoff that Andrea Doucet is ineligible to run for president.

In a communique issued on Monday the tribunal supported Chodikoff's charge because the constitutional amendment, upon which Doucet's eligibility rests, "is not a solid piece of legislation according to the letter of the law."

Under the constitutional amendment in question, any member of the CYSF would be eligible to become president. Although Doucet belongs to Bethune College, which has never joined the CYSF, she would be able to run, because her status as student Board of Governors representative gives her a seat on the council.

However, the tribunal felt that another piece of legislation, the Resolution to Govern the Conduct of Elections, takes precedence, because the constitution declares it "the governing document for the Federation Election procedures."

At the same time the assenting members of the tribunal believed that "to deny Ms. Doucet is to deny the spirit of the true wishes of the council." However, if the tribunal was to

allow Doucet to run, it would be going beyond its authority and thus would open itself to possible legal action. According to Chief Returning Officer Robin Carter, "The real crux - when you get down to it - is the risk of going to court. There is no way anyone should be taking us to court for the mistakes of others."

Chodikoff told *Excalibur* that if "the decision of the tribunal was not judicially responsible I felt strongly enough about the principle involved that I would have pursued the matter further."

David Young opposed the decision of fellow tribunal members Carter and Dan Durst. Young argued that the election should proceed on March 13, as originally scheduled, but that Ms. Doucet's nomination should not be allowed.

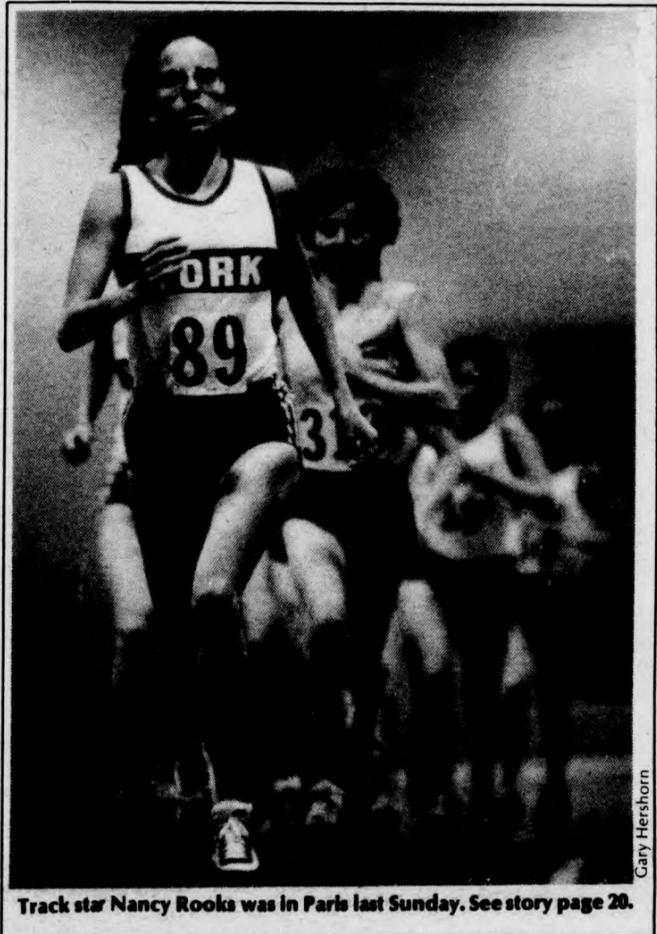
Doucet described the situation as "really sad" and "to the detriment of the council." However she added that "I think the council made the right decision."

One of Doucet's opponents, Donald Sugg stated that "The whole thing is a series of poor decisions and non-decisions. I am prepared to go on record as saying the tribunal's cancellation of the election is a non-decision. The issue is whether Andrea is an illegal or legal candidate. She is a worthy opponent and I am quite prepared to run against her."

Sugg was even less pleased by the possibility of an interim president. "It violates every point of law I've ever heard of," he charged. Doucet said that she was torn between holding the election in April or next fall.

Stressing that the idea of an interim president was endorsed only to give the candidates and the voters an indication of the council's intentions, Smockum remarked that "I wouldn't really take this as a definitive stand on anything."

At present the CYSF does not have the power to appoint an interim president and such a decision would require changes see *Unknown page 4*



Track star Nancy Rooks was in Paris last Sunday. See story page 20.

## Tuition \$910 next year

Mark Monfette

York students will be paying much more for tuition next year—but not as much as many had feared.

On Monday evening, York's Board of Governors voted to increase fees by \$38.50 (5 per cent) per student, raising tuition to \$910. The decision follows weeks of debate in the administration on whether to raise fees the maximum amount the provincial government would allow—10 per cent. The government has already

increased fees by \$54 (7.5 per cent) in all Ontario universities.

The decision was based largely on the advice of the President's Policy Committee and will result in York offering cheaper tuition than many other Ontario universities. Western, Carleton, Queens and Trent will all cost more than York next year.

President H. Ian Macdonald cited "serious concerns about the potential impact on accessibility and enrolment" as reasons for not implementing the full 10 per cent.

"For many reasons we decided not to go the entire distance," Macdonald told the Board. "There are short term advantages to having lower fees, but we must look at the long term effects as well. We don't want York to become known as the bargain house of education."

Macdonald, worried about the detrimental effects of current educational policy, made four recommendations to the provincial government:

- There should be an immediate review of OSAP and its adequacy.

Macdonald stated that he would be willing to devote a portion of his discretionary fund if OSAP proves inadequate and endangers accessibility.

- No further increases in student fees until a study has examined the impact of increased tuition on accessibility.

- A public debate on whether the Ontario university system should become more restrictive or more accessible.

- A public policy debate on the wisdom of having universities with different fee structures.

In order to avoid budget cuts and to keep tuition from rising higher than it has, the Board also endorsed deficit financing. This is something the board had avoided—and many of its critics had advocated—for years. In the coming fiscal year, York may incur a deficit of \$1.3 million (1.5 per cent of operating expenses).

The decisions of the Board were not unanimous, however. Both student and faculty board members fought for no further increase in tuition. Prof. Gwenda Echard stated that the Board should be willing to gamble and see if substantially lower fees will attract more students. When questioned by a Board member, however, she admitted that she did not know how to raise the difference of \$650,000.

Keith Smockum, President of the York Student Federation, addressed the Board as well, arguing that "we must care for the minority who can't afford to come back." Smockum stated that an increase of \$250 was too much for many students. He received vigorous applause from the handful of students present

see *Students page 4*

## Women nix porno pics

Elliott Lefko

Controversy has rocked the Thursday Night Film Series, leaving former organizer Bob Wales out of a job, and the series with a tarnished image.

The problem centres around two 3-D sex films, *The Playmates* and *Hard Candy*, which the York Student Federation had planned to show last Thursday night in their weekly film series. Although the showings were originally okayed by CYSF, Wales was asked to postpone them after strong objections from the York Women's Centre, who were sponsoring a Women's Wee.

Wales complained that he wasn't advised of the CYSF's reverse decision until two days after the posters were already up. He went ahead and showed the films anyway. Said Wales candidly: "Once the posters



were up, I wasn't going to cancel them."

Before the screening, Wales announced that it was he, and not the CYSF, who was responsible for showing the films. Adds Wales: "After I went

ahead and showed them I knew I had to quit."

There is some question as to whether Wales resigned or was fired. According to CYSF President Keith Smockum, it was both. "On Tuesday, we

asked him to postpone the films," explained Smockum. "On Thursday after he showed the films, we were not too happy. It was obvious we had to ask for a resignation."

When asked to comment on Wales's contention that they had no right to interfere in the showing of the films, a spokesman for the Women's Centre remarked: "It was irresponsible of Wales to screen the films. There should be guidelines regarding offensive films."

The future of the series is a mystery. The audience exists, as witnessed by the packed houses for the *Lenny* and *Luna* Bethune screenings.

As *Excalibur* went to press last night, the CYSF was holding a debate to form guidelines to prevent such an occurrence again. They will also choose someone to replace Wales.