

# Health plan rumours false



Patricia Hutcheon

CYSF vice-president (internal) Caroline Winship is confident the health plan will be successful.

by John Andrews

York University's health plan will cost students more in the future, but only as inflation dictates. Rumours about possible health plan price hikes have been circulating, but this scare is false. York's Blue Cross health plan will be implemented in September 1990.

The University of Ottawa (UofO) experienced large health plan price hikes this past year but this was due to poor initial plan negotiation, said Caroline Winship, CYSF vice-president (internal). She said the UofO student council had a broker get an extremely low first year price, which caused a substantial price increase this past September.

Andy Allan of Blue Cross said that the increases York will face will be caused by rising inflation and rising drug costs. Winship

informed *Excalibur* that the plan evaluation is based on the number of claims. On average, females make the greatest number of claims so if there are more females than males the plan will cost more. At York, however, the female population makes up about 54 per cent of the student body and such plan overuse would not be an issue.

Winship said York has the option to negotiate the price-per-student rate at the beginning of the second year and also has a 30 day opt-out clause if the plan runs into trouble. Ryerson has implemented the same plan this year and has not experienced any major problems.

Winship said she has a lot of faith in this plan and with a full-time person being hired to administer it, she is confident of precedent setting success both for York and other universities.

# Islamic Week attracts hundreds

by Morley Conn

The York community was given an in-depth look at Islam, compliments of the Muslim Students Federation (MSF) last week. The MSF presented Islamic Awareness Week from January 22 to 24 in the west bear pit, closing out the week with lectures at Osgoode Hall on January 26.

The purpose of the week was twofold: "To provide a basic understanding of a variety of topics on Islam and to clear up misconceptions about Muslim religion and its people," said MSF president Faisal Kutty.

The well organized programme was divided into three theme days offering displays, films, videos and books on Islam. The January 22 'Introduction to Islam' provided a general overview of the religion, the people and way of life.

In Arabic, Islam means "submission to the will of God." Kutty explained, "A Muslim person submits to the will of God."

A Muslim person also submits to some delicious food. Foods from different parts of the Muslim world were offered during the week and were especially enjoyed by this reporter.

The second day's theme of 'Islam Around the World' showed the plight and struggle of the Muslims in the Philippines, Ethiopia and Afghanistan.

"These are touchy subjects," said Kutty, "but they are our concern." Of particular interest were shocking photographs of the

Mujahadeen resistance in Afghanistan which included a shot of young Muslim boys (8-10 years old) toting AK-47 assault rifles.

References to current problems in Israel were minimal and limited to the second day. Kutty explained that the MSF had considered having a fourth day concentrating on the Israel issue, but decided against it.

"If someone comes to argue, we don't want to cause a fuss," said Kutty. "We will turn away from people who come to debate."

The third day, 'Women in Islam,' offered insights into the role of women in traditional and modern day Islam, with emphasis upon progression while retaining important customs.

The week culminated with lectures on Friday evening at the Moot Court in Osgoode Hall. The lecture series was attended by a full crowd of 300-400 people from the York and Muslim communities. The three lectures were presented by Muslim and community leaders and dealt with Islamic Contributions to Science (Abdullah Hakim), Women in Islam (Ahmad Kutty), and the plight of Afghanistan refugees (Khatija Haffajee).

The MSF received positive feedback from a number of organizations on campus, including Student Affairs, regarding the programme.

"It was very successful," said Kutty, "we're planning other activities, but nothing is definite yet."

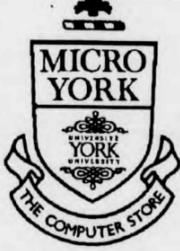
## Important dates you should never forget

March 27, 1860:	First corkscrew patented.
April 6, 1956:	Sheppard and Herdsman Day in Bulgaria.
May 18, 1916:	Prohibition begins in Canada.
June 19, 1902:	1/3 of Canada covered by trees.
July 7, always:	Beginning of Saba Saba Peasant Day in Tanzania.
Aug. 30, 1974:	The Brady Bunch is cancelled.
Sept. 7, always:	There are 2784 hours until New Years.
Oct. 27, 1937:	Dupont invents nylon — the stocking industry takes off.
Nov. 1, always:	There are only 4,665 seconds till Christmas.
December 13, 1917:	Soot Sweeping Day begins in Japan.
January 2, 1934:	First U.S. liquor stores open.
Feb. 6, 1990:	York U. Night begins every Tuesday at Billy Barroo's.

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 \* This Week: \*  
 \* Chili and Garlic bread \$2.50 \*  
 \* (good for the buns) \*  
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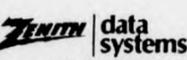
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