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Election rocks ULC, moderates receive record mandate

By JULIAN BELTRAME

York University students turned out en masse last Wednesday, and delivered a severe setback to the re-election prospects of the United Left Coalition, the controlling force in this year's central student council.

"It is the beginning of the end for the ULC on campus," said a jubilant Shelley Rabinovitch, who, along with Jay Bell, easily defeated the ULC-backed candidates (Robert Kasher and Hemraj Ramdath) for the two student positions on York's governing body, the Board of Governors.

Bell and Rabinovitch collected 811 and 751 votes, respectively, compared to Kasher's 393 and Ramdath's 348.

The Board of Governors by-election was the first time the ULC had gone to the polls as a party since last spring, when Dale Ritch and the then ULS swept the CYSF elections.

Both Bell and Rabinovitch said they depended heavily on an anti-ULC backlash for the lop-sided win and the large voter turnout (nearly 1,200 students voted in last Wednesday's by-election, compared to only 1,300 in last spring's CYSF elections).

"About 95 per cent of the campus thinks the ULC is the United Left Circus," Bell told Excalibur, Monday, explaining his surprisingly easy victory. "People are fed up with the coalition."

"I think a lot of people were anti-ULC, getting them out to vote was another matter," continued Bell. He credited his 50 or so canvassers, "who cared enough to knock on doors and distribute leaflets" for the large turnout.

Claiming support from the NDP, the Liberal and Progressive Conservative clubs on campus, Bell said his and Rabinovitch's election showed that students were fed up with "radical confrontation".

Ritch, who was in an unusually sober mood Tuesday, said he had considered carefully the results of the election over the past four days and dismissed Bell's and Rabinovitch's statements that the election results pointed to a shrinking support for the ULC on

campus. He did, however, admit that the anti-ULC backlash played a role in the election of Bell and Rabinovitch.

"It wasn't too important an election," Ritch said Tuesday. "I'm not too worried about the results because basically students voted for the ULC programme."

"They (students) voted for Jay (Bell) and Shelley (Rabinovitch), who posed themselves as 'serious candidates' running on a left programme, but in time the students will realize that they are not serious at all," predicted Ritch.

Responding to Ritch's analysis, Bell called the differences between his platform and that of the ULC, "significant". "I would say that the ULC, as usual, are being quite selective about the truth," he added.

Paul Kellogg, a leading candidate to represent the ULC in this spring's presidential election, dissented from Ritch's view of the election, and said the results spelled trouble ahead for the coalition.

"In the minds of some people, and the handbook helped in this, the ULC are a bunch of bleary-eyed radicals trying to blow up the university," he said. "We've got to talk, and talk to students and patiently explain what we're trying to do."

"If the ULC is defeated in next spring's elections, it will represent a very large setback for the student movement at York, and in some ways, for the student movement in Canada," he concluded.



Peter Heu photo

It was closing time at the Orange Snail and the guys were stumbling out. "Heh!" mumbled one. "Anybody here want his car dumped in Stong lake?" "Yeah, mine," mumbled another. "She ain't been running so hot." So, they all put on their coats and lumbered out to the parking lot

and pushed and yelled and got the damn thing shifted into neutral (she wouldn't start). And that's how the car above got dumped. Security director George Dunn was angry at first but he sent over a security guard who waded out and ticketed the car, so now everyone's happy.

York lands \$2.5 million stadium

By IAN MULGREW

York University was named as the site for a new \$2.5 million indoor-outdoor sports complex by the Metro Parks Commission, last Thursday.

The Commission said 'yes' to the proposal put forth by Orval McKeough, York's director of development, on the condition that the Commission and the University can reach an agreement on conditions before January 31, 1976.

The motion, passed by the parks commission last Thursday, will come before Metro Council for ratification next Tuesday. If it receives ratification at the council meeting, the proposal will then go before the municipal board for funding.

York's chances of being picked as the site were almost totally eliminated last month when the Commission had decided to save money by improving existing facilities in East York. But when the municipality decided not to

accept the offer, York was again in the running for the stadium.

The combined indoor and outdoor track and field complex will be one of the finest in Canada. It will be one of the few stadiums equipped with an indoor 200 meter tracks, as well as an 8-lane outdoor track.

The building itself will cover one and a half acres. If the stadium is built, it will be the time Metro has shared a facility with a university. Shared facilities are not new in Ontario, however; Laurentian University has a similar arrangement with Sudbury.

Bruce Kidd, head of the Ontario Track and Field Association's (OTFA) Facilities Development Committee, feels that the choosing of York as the site for the complex, was a big mistake.

"At the moment the OFTA uses the facilities that are at the CNE; these are horrible," said Kidd. "They lack proper changing areas and are so overcrowded that they

resemble the subway at 5:00 o'clock. We need new facilities and we will need them full time, 24 hours a day. There is no way we can share it with York.

"We are demanding that York sign control of the land over to Metro," he added. "We will not be able to allow York students or faculty to use the facilities. If they give us the land for the stadium it will be a purely philanthropic act."

McKeough discounted any possibility of transferring control of the York stadium to Metro.

"The only way that York is prepared to let the complex be built here is if it is realized that the stadium will be shared," said McKeough. "This means that York staff and students would be allowed to use the facilities as well."

"It is our belief that an arrangement to this effect can be brought about with the parks commission. This is, and has to be one of our conditions," he added.

Entrepreneurs turn essay-swapping into a business

By MICHELINA TRIGIANI

In 1968, a Social Science student did a survey of plagiarism at York and discovered that over 60 per cent of fourth-year students had either borrowed or loaned a paper to be handed in as an original.

Last week, an Arts student casually said, "Sure there's a lot of borrowing going on. I've lent most of my essays." Another student offers a more detailed description of the practice. "There's an essay circle here. If you're in the market for an essay, there are students around who'll help you out. Everyone knows about it, too. It goes on here and it goes on at the U. of T."

These findings and observations suggest that cheating on essays continues to be a successful practice at this university. Plagiarism, though, has

developed a new "look" in the past five years due to the appearance in the city of at least five term paper services.

R. Goranson, a psychology professor at York and the teacher involved in the '68 study, describes the change as a shift from "an informal arrangement between friends to a business."

Ron Connort, president of Termpapers Service, a Toronto based company, believes it is this open profit-making aspect which upsets people. "There's always been a re-cycling of essays in universities in one way or another. The only difference is that we've made a business of it and have had the audacity to advertise. There is a need for this service."

This new, highly professional aspect of a formerly less than public practice sparks thought and discussion from all sides. And the idea of "need" leads to a

questioning of the structure of the university system. Since term paper services bring out for public scrutiny the problem of cheating in educational institutions, teachers and administrators are among the most affected and troubled.

C.E. Rathé, chairman of the French Literature Dept. at York, deplors the fact that there is a market for term papers. Kathryn Koenig, an associate dean of Arts, finds the idea repugnant. "I'd be angry and sad if I discovered this from a student of mine."

Students voice opposing attitudes. "I think it's fine," says one. "It's only a piece of paper anyway."

Nirvana Valencich, a first year Arts student feels differently. "There's a certain satisfaction in getting back your own work," she said.

Paul Culliton, a Phys. Ed. student agrees. "My own code of ethics wouldn't allow me to do it," he said. "I like to do things myself."

Another student feels there's nothing wrong with the services because they help you buy time if your work load is too heavy. A former teacher, now a student, says, "That's not why I'm here. People who use these services are just looking for an easy way out."

Why do students plagiarise? What drives or motivates them to this practice? All sides offer a variety of explanations and excuses.

The student's most common justification for cheating is his work load. "If I were in a very tight situation," says one student against the practice, "I'd give it serious thought."

Bruce Moran, a spokesman for

Custom Essays, another term paper outlet, explains why students come to buy papers.

"Basically, we get students who are really desperate." Derek Sim started the business when he was at Ryerson. He remembers when his teachers threw on extra assignments "and he just couldn't cope. 'You get some pretty frustrated people in here.'"

But he doesn't place the blame completely on teachers. "The need for our service is due to inadequate planning on the part of both students and teachers."

Margaret Watson, an academic administrative assistant in the Humanities Department does not agree. "I think it's basic laziness," she said. "It's perfectly clear that students can do the work...I've never heard from a student that he's been over-worked."

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