

Challenge senate ruling

Faculty of Arts supports Halpern

By BARRY LERNER

The arts faculty has questioned a senate committee's decision that its granting of a petition to allow a student Howard Halpern to take his courses on an ungraded basis is invalid.

In a letter to the Committee on Examinations and Academic Standards chairman T.K. Olson, arts faculty council chairman Hugh Parry says granting the petition was within the faculty's rights because it only "suspend(ed) the form, but not the spirit of the existing legislation."

Parry's letter says the decision "was not made lightly" by the council and questions the committee's reasons for making its decision.

The faculty feel the "appeal to

'common law' practice" basis on which the decision was made is very unclear and not in keeping with the "York assumption that everything is petitionable!"

The dispute between the faculty and the committee will probably have to be resolved by the full senate. There is nothing on the agenda for the meeting to be held today at 4:30 in the 9th floor senate chambers. However, some members of the senate, including Arts Dean John Saywell have indicated that they will press the matter. If no final decision is made, none will be made until the senate's next meeting late in March.

As for Halpern, he feels the whole problem is silly. He says that he and his professors have assumed all year that he was taking courses on an ungraded basis and thus no grades have been kept. Any grades assigned to him would be totally irrelevant.

The arts faculty is now confused as to whether it may grant certain petitions or not and Howard Halpern is no further along in his attempt to take his courses on an ungraded basis even though his department and faculty have approved of it.



York student Harvey Rotstein, seen here tossing a Ryerson opponent, took second place in the lightweight class of the Ontario Intercollegiate Athletic Association's men's judo championship Feb. 20.

photo by Sandy Cormack

Residents offered new meal plans

By JIM SMITH

York University Food Service this week presented campus residents with six choices to set up a "revised Food Service meal plan" for 1971-72.

According to the news release "In the coming fiscal year, it will be necessary for the University Food Services to realize a contract income of \$608,000 in order to operate without incurring additional losses."

Although six choices are offered to the residents, the Food Service notes that if too many people choose the "10 meal plan" then the residence will not meet the necessary minimum income. The food service reserves to itself the right to make adjustments in order to make the plan break even financially.

The residents may choose ten, fifteen, or nineteen meals in either of the two groups offered. Students in the first group must eat all the meals themselves while those in the second category may exchange their cards with others up to a maximum of ten, fifteen or nineteen meals.

Factors such as missed meals, and meal ticket exchange and unlimited portion of food are taken into account in order to arrive at the cost.

Residents will be allowed to make their choices separately, this year, rather than all being subject to the same rules regarding meal allotment.

The price of residence will be going up next year partly as a result of continued losses by the Food Service.

Consequently meal prices will rise next year and according to the figures proposed by the Food Service, the average price of the plans offered is \$506 for 1971-72.

Students demanding parity

Waterloo Lutheran plans for strike

Waterloo Lutheran students may strike for parity tomorrow.

At a general meeting of the Student Union on Feb. 12, students voted almost unanimously in favour of a motion calling for parity on committees which decide upon the renewal or non renewal of professors' contracts. The demand, if not met by tomorrow is to be followed by a two-day student strike to show support for the motion.

The decision demanding parity came in response to the defeat in the university senate of a proposal requesting minority student representation on such committees.

Students had been organizing since November to insure the rehiring of professors whose contracts had not been renewed. Students Administrative Council and the eight student members of the university senate had exhausted all normal channels before deciding in favour of a two day boycott of classes to show student solidarity for the motion.

John Buote, president-elect of the SAC and a member of the parity committee stated, "It seems inconceivable that decisions of contract renewals are made by people who never enter a classroom to observe the professor's teaching methods, but up until now, teaching ability has been very low on the list of priorities of contract renewals. Obviously at a small university

which prides itself on its teaching it is most important that teaching ability have the highest priority. There is no question that the best judge of teaching ability is the student who benefits from or is hindered by the teacher's ability or lack of it."

Michael Parker, a member of the university senate, says of parity, "Anyone who has ever been in a parity situation can see that

when two definite interests are involved, the only way to achieve a compromise based on reason is through parity. When one side is over-represented decisions invariably favour their interests, whereas with parity, both sides must present a rational and reasonable case and count upon someone to cross the line in favour of the stronger argument. Someone usually does. It might take a bit

longer but reason usually prevails over self-interest."

The "Strike for Parity" Committee, about 60 students from all departments of the school is coordinating activities to take place before and during the strike and to enlist the support of the whole student body. Another general meeting has been scheduled for March 3 to decide whether to continue the strike.

250 attend conference

Homophile talk a success

By JIM SMITH

The Homophile Association of York University hosted the first Canadian forum on homosexuality in McLaughlin College on February 13.

According to Bob Wylie, vice-chairman of the York Homophile movement, "We were trying to provide information on homosexuality so that some of the fears and misconceptions that have arisen could be dispersed through understanding."

The forum began with movies and a dance at Winters College on Friday night. The dance was billed as a Valentine dance and attracted many mixed couples.

According to Bob Wylie, no one was noticeably upset at the intermingling of the two types of

couples. He termed the dance "very successful."

Then on the next day, Dr. Franklin Kameny and Rev. Troy Perry were special guest speakers and spoke on two different aspects of homosexuality.

Dr. Kameny, president of the Washington Mattachine Society spoke on the progress of law in the United States in relation to homosexuality. Kameny is the first avowed homosexual to run for a seat in Congress. He will contest the seat open in Washington D.C.

Religion and homosexuality was the theme of Dr. Hugh Perry. Dr.

Perry attempted to show that there was no divine right involved in heterosexuality.

Interviews with Perry and Kameny were taped by CBC on the weekend and will be televised at a later date.

Although the conference was successful with 250 in attendance, Roger Wilkes, President of York's homophile association expressed disappointment at the prejudice he felt was evident before the forum.

Apparently some signs advertising the Valentine's dance were torn down and rumours of vandalism were circulating before the occasion.

Trudeau's Toronto visit may spark confrontation

Prime Minister Pierre Trudeau will be confronted by the Emergency Committee for the Defence of Political Rights in Quebec when he comes to Toronto Mar. 3, a committee press release states.

The committee is the group which has sponsored rallies and demonstrations involving Quebec activists like Jacques Larue-Langlois, Simone Chartrand, Pierre Bourgault, and others over the past two months. It calls for the repeal of the Public Order Act and the freeing of all political prisoners in Quebec jails.

The spokesman said committee members would be picketing the Royal York Hotel when Trudeau arrives to speak at a Liberal Party of Ontario fund-raising dinner the evening of Mar. 3.

"We're going to demand that Trudeau defend his decision to

invoke emergency measures in October in light of the fact that the courts in Quebec have just thrown out all charges that a seditious conspiracy existed at the time."

(The government passed the War Measures Act in October ostensibly to block a supposed "state of apprehended insurrection". Recently Quebec judge Alphonse Ouimet dismissed charges against five Quebec political prisoners accused of seditious conspiracy.)

"Now that the idea of an insurrection has been shown to be nothing more than a figment of Trudeau's imagination, Canadians must press for an immediate end to the repressive legislation and the freeing of all innocent people in Quebec who have been jailed for their ideas, not for any criminal acts," the spokesman said.

Women march for abortion

VIEWPOINT

By JOANE LYNCH and TERRY FOBERT

On February 13 at 7 o'clock in the morning we, a group of York students, started off reading week in the right direction - to Ottawa. With a group of two hundred people from Toronto, we went to confront our government on the abortion question. There, we met with five hundred more who had come from distances as far off as Vancouver and Halifax.

Dr. Morgenthaler, a Montreal doctor who supports civil disobedience on the abortion issue was in the midst of a press conference at the Ottawa church

where we assembled. The demonstration, despite the snow storm, left from here.

We marched, chanting and singing, to the Supreme Court and on to the Parliament buildings. There we were met by an opposing group, The Alliance for Life, who arranged to debate with us on national TV in the near future.

Government representatives decided at the last minute not only to ignore our presence in Ottawa, but even to refuse us entry into the Parliament buildings. Obviously opposition to the government is not allowed voice. We left it a remembrance of our presence, however, in the form of a black coffin and instruments of illegal abortion.

This day gave us an opportunity to meet with the women of Canada to work out a national strategy for future Women's Liberation actions. Three plans were decided upon: March 8 - International Women's Day; May 9 - Mother's Day for abortion actions; Labour Day Weekend - National Women's Liberation Conference. Local actions right across Canada will be held on the first two dates and regional representatives will attend the conference.

This move on Ottawa was by far the biggest action yet held by Women's Liberation in Canada and it served to unify the various forces in the movement into a cohesive action-oriented group. This is just the beginning. . .