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Vanier, McLaughlin may leave Council

By LAURA LUSH

Disagreement over the Council of York Student Federation's (CYSF) handling of the controversial Ontario Federation of Students (OFS) issue has resulted in threats from two college councils to withdraw their memberships from CYSF.

McLaughlin College council will hold a vote next Tuesday evening to decide whether to hold a referendum on withdrawing from CYSF. Vanier College council members tabled a motion to hold a vote to withdraw membership until November 7, pending discussions between CYSF President Reya Ali and council members.

CYSF withdrew its membership from OFS last Thursday, after an 11-7 vote favored the motion. McLaughlin Colege Council President, Steve Morrell, said that "an issue this contentious should have had a twothirds majority win to ensure students' rights." CYSF will be holding a campus-wide student referendum asking students if they would be willing to pay the \$3.00 fee to rejoin OFS.

"We are not concerned about the issue of whether CYSF should withdraw from OFS," Vanier College Council President Paul Hammond said. "We are concerned about the manner in which they left OFS. It is hypocritical to pull out of OFS first, then hold a referendum.'

"By holding a referendum after CYSF has already withdrawn," Morrell said, "it looks very negative to a student when asked if they would want to pay the \$3.00 to rejoin." Both council presidents said they thought students should decide for themselves whether they wanted to stay in OFS, without "having the \$3.00 fee over their heads."

"We feel that CYSF has set a precedent by not calling a referendum first," Hammond said. "We feel we can leave CYSF by the same manner." Morrell said that Ali contacted both we reject." McLaughlin and Vanier college mas-Morrell said that in the existing systers to "voice his disapproval (over the possibility of their withdrawal) and insinuated these moves could result in legal action on the part of CYSF." According to the CYSF consti-(the colleges) want more input in the tution, Morrell said, college councils actual planning process," Morrell need a 60 per cent majority vote on a added. referendum that represents 25 per-Hammond said that the present cent of the college's membership in system is not representative of the order to legally withdraw. Both students because the colleges have Morrell and Hammond said that no part in the decision-making pro-CYSF has yet to come up with signed cess of major issues. "We only have voting power," he added. In the prodocumentation that proves their affiliation with CYSF. "We do agree that posed restructured council, college we have been a part of CYSF since its council presidents will make up the inception," Morrell said, "but don't executive, sitting on various feel we fall under their constitution committees. because there is no signed contract to Provost Tom Meininger said that prove otherwise. if Vanier and McLaughlin councils However, Ali said that since the are "serious about the action (to council is "not incorporated," the withdraw from CYSF), then I hope they have thought through all of the college councils "voluntarily come together" based on the administraconsequences that makes for a good tion's operating grant system. student government at York." GET THE SQUASH OUTAHERE d S e n CYSF withdrawal from OFS p. 3 p. 6 Councils act irresponsibly _ - p. 7 The danger of the Lapp report _ p. 7 Zarnett Zone on Glendon _ The Essential Conflict p. 14 Field hockey silver p. 17

Both Morrell and Hammond said they have been making an effort to consult students about their possibility of withdrawing from CYSF. Morrell said that the consensus from most of the students he has talked to in his college was that "getting out of CYSF is a good idea because they have had a history of misusing funds."

Morrell also said he thought there wasn't full college representation at the OFS vote because of a time and room change which he was unaware of. "I think there were a lot of college reps that weren't there because of confusion over the location of the meeting."

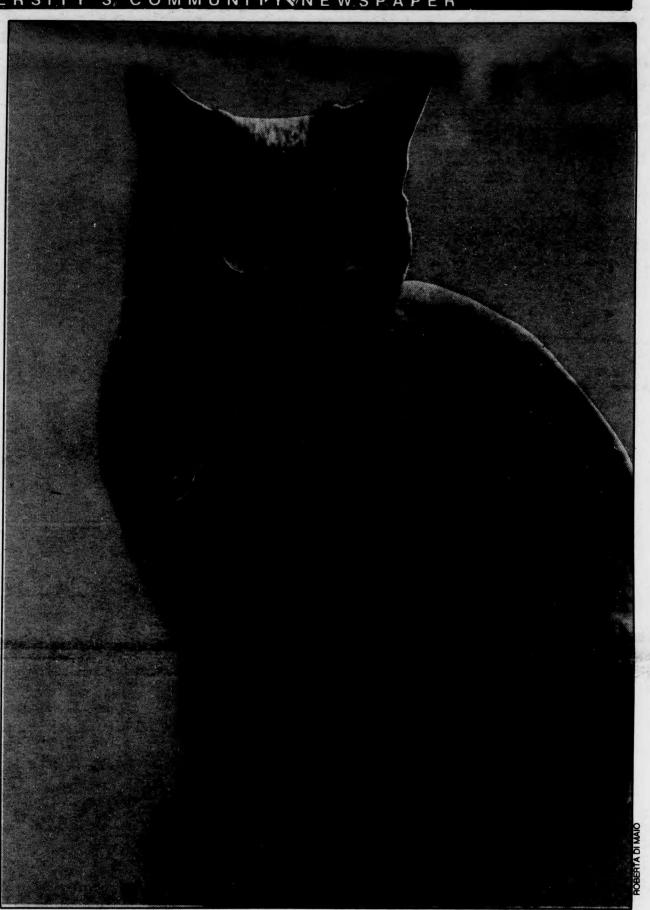
Morrell arrived about one half hour late for the meeting in the middle of the motion and was subsequently not allowed to vote. Hammond said he found the meeting room, but couldn't say whether he had received notice of the change.

Ali said that he had phoned each college council two times to notify of the room and time change. A total of eight college reps out of the five CYSF-affiliated colleges attended the meeting. A maximum of three college reps from each council are eligible to vote, pending ratification from CYSF.

"I don't think the college reps showed enough interest," said Director of External Affairs Sandra Antoniani, adding that the meeting had been postponed three times to make sure college council representatives were adequately informed of the issue.

Both council presidents said they were optimistic about CYSF's proposal for a new restructured student government. "If there is a new student government, we'd be the first to join up," Hammond said. "We don't have any qualms about a new government system—it's the old one

tem, decisions are made at the executive level (the CYSF), then brought down to the general assembly for ratification in council meetings. "We



SMALL FURRY DOMESTICATED ANIMAL OFTEN KEPT AS PET: But come Hallowe'en, the cat transforms into a symbol of the macabre, its glowing eyes sending terror into the hearts of the young. They're good for getting rid of cockroaches, too.

Grit budget "dismal," says OFS

By JAMES FLAGAL

The Liberal's first provincial budget presents a "dismal outlook" for universities, says Liz Lovis of the Ontario Federation of Students (OFS).

Last Thursday, Treasurer Robert Nixon released his first budget detailing what kind of allocations universities can expect next year.

According to Lovis, the government gave a lot of rhetoric prior to the budget announcement, but it fulfilled very few of its promises to universities.

Budget allocations for universities consist of the following: Basic capital and operation budget allocations increased 4% to 1.9 billion dollars. There will also be a 4% increase in tuition costs to match this budget increase. 80 million dollars will be granted to "excellence funds" for both colleges and universities. Nixon also announced an 8% increase in the Ontario Student's Assistance Program (OSAP) which translates into 145.8 million dollars.

Lovis explained that the 4% increase in budget allocations is really a 1% decrease when inflation and past Conservative budget allocation increases have been taken into a ccount.

Previous to the budget announcement, Greg Sorbara, Minister of Universities and Colleges, had announced a 50 million dollar fund called the University Excellence Fund. The OFS expressed concern over fair distribution of the grant.

In the budget, the original University Excellence Fund has been coopted to form the 80 million dollar Excellence Fund. Now 63.5 million dollars of this fund will be going directly to universities for construction, rennovations, new faculty and equipment.

According to Lovis, even though the amount of the fund increased from 50 to 63.5 million dollars, equal distribution of the fund to universities seems very unlikely.

Last week Maller from the OFS expressed concern over the emerging two tier system between "no name generic universities" and "high quality educational elite institutions." With these facts, Lovis said, these fears are becoming justified.

Lovis explained that the main

problem with the entire budget is,

According to Lovis, the one "bright spot" is the 8% increase to OSAP. Lovis said OFS's pressure on the government helped ensure the 8% increase was met. Added Lovis, "this makes us a viable lobby group that the government is going to have to deal with."

"that they don't have the distribution mechanisms in place." The government is still very "fuzzy" on exactly where the allocations are going, even though the ministry issued a statement reading that there was "a sense of urgency involved in the underfunding of universities."

Lovis's analysis of the budget is that it has "no long term future in mind for universities." While other government sectors enjoy an average 7.8% increase in funding, Lovis noted that universities "lagged behind with a mere 4% increase."

Lovis quoting the budget press release said, "this budget has eliminated all unnecessary expenditures."

"I guess that means universities are 'unnecessary' expenditures," she added.