

The WEATHER GOOSE



Compiled by
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Weekend Weather-geese forecast

- Thursday - Sunny and cold
High near -8
Probability of precipitation factor near 0%
- Friday - Again sunny and cold
Low: -21 to -16
High: -10 to -6
- Saturday - Partly cloudy, chance of flurry, turning windy and not as cold
Low: -17 to -12
High: -7 to -3
- Sunday - Wet snow, chance of some rain
Low: -10 to -5
High: -2 to +2

ONLY ONE ISRAEL SUMMER PROGRAM EVER MET WITH:

Prime Minister Peres	President Chaim Herzog
Minister Ariel Sharon	Minister Moshe Arens
Minister Ezer Weizman	Former P.M. & Minister Y. Rabin
M.K. General Rafael Eitan	Yosef Mendelovitch
Minister M. Gur	Minister Y. Peretz

(Not to mention 3 other Knesset members, an ex-Israeli spy, renowned Rabbis from across the globe, the first Israeli ambassador to Egypt, AIPAC'S Israel rep., Israeli journalists, and one of the soldiers who liberated the Western Wall.)

And it wasn't a U.J.A. mission for \$100,000 donors.

In fact, it was for a group of hand picked students from all backgrounds, from schools including N.Y.U., Harvard, University of Toronto, Princeton, Yale, and Columbia.

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York Signage Committee receives \$200,000 to aid campus navigation

By SUSAN SPERLING

New signs are coming to York, and this reporter thinks it's about time.

Think back to those far-away days when you were a freshman, and it was your first week of classes. Remember having to go from the Ross Building to Winters College in the span of ten minutes, and not having any idea where Winters College was, or how to get there. Panic, right?

Well, thanks to a group of people who call themselves the Campus Signage Committee, new students, visitors, couriers *et al* should not have that problem as soon as August.

At the time that York was opened in 1960, exterior building signs were erected as "temporary" measures until a proper sign system could be implemented. However, in the past 25 years, these temporary signs have either remained where they were, or have been replaced with new signs which followed the same temporary model.

According to a written summary of the signage situation put out by York's Physical Plant, the present signs are "perceived by many to be drab and uninteresting and certainly fall far short of modern concepts of signage."

Until two years ago, there was a Signage Committee at York, but, due to lack of funding, this committee could not accomplish much, and it eventually stopped meeting out of frustration.

At an October 24, 1985 meeting between Vice-President Bill Farr and Robert Howard of the Facilities Planning department, Farr indicated to Howard that \$200,000 can be made available over the budget years of 1985/86 and 1986/87 for the express purpose of updating the external signs on campus.

Shortly after this meeting, a committee was formed of Howard, John Becker, the assistant vice-president in charge of business operations at York; Cora Dusk of the Office of Student Affairs; J.M.A. London of Physical Plant; Linda Warren of Security and Safety; Tim Harris of Communications; Dyanne Gibson of Admissions; CYSF President Reya Ali; and one other student, who will represent the Student Senate Caucus to be nominated to the committee by the Provost Tom Meinenger. In addition, two faculty members, one from Environmental Studies and one from Fine Arts will be appointed to the committee by their respective deans.

The allotted budget for the signs will cover external signs only,



INGRID AMONG

although both London and Dusk acknowledged the great need for internal signs, as well.

"Nobody's saying that the internal signage is great," London said. "With our limited funds, our main



objective is to get people to the building they want to go to."

Because the budget will only cover external signs, the committee wants to start from the edge of campus with the signs and work their way toward the centre.

"We have to put ourselves in the seat of a driver or a pedestrian coming on campus for the first time," London said.



In order to accomplish this, Becker said "there will have to be man-in-the-street surveys to test our ideas, as well as calling in consultants" to get an expert opinion. "Nobody who's been around for more than a few months even reads

"Man-in-the-street" surveys will weigh heavily in the final decision on York's new signage, so start thinking about your favorite sign.



the signs anymore," Becker added. "We're our own worst enemies."

Within the proposed \$200,000 budget, \$15,000 will be spent in 1985/86 and the remainder in 1986/87. Over the total period of time, \$10,000 will go for consultant service, another \$10,000 for staff salaries, \$4,000 will be spent on contact, travel and review of other systems, \$16,000 on purchase and installation of signs at Glendon Campus, and the remaining \$160,000 for the purchase and installation of signs at the Keele Campus.

When the signs are installed, it will, according to any York newcomer, be several years too late and not a moment too soon.



Debate examines seemingly uncrossable gulch between democracy and standards

By ROCCO NOBILE

Four York faculty members tackled the problem of "Excellence in a Democratic Society" in a Moot Court debate on January 16.

Jack Granatstein, Deborah Hobson, David Logan and Janice Newson focused on the problem of low standards at York and how to raise those standards without sacrificing either excellence or democracy.

Granatstein, the first speaker of the day, said that a grave problem at York is the loss of top students to other schools. He believes that this problem is caused by poor students at York creating a "static intellectual environment for the more exceptional ones."

Granatstein proposed a solution that would include letting everyone in, while at the same time maintaining high standards within the University. "Let's say we have high expectations once you get in—we don't do that now," he said.

Hobson echoed Granatstein's

view of mediocrity stifling excellence, but went even further to say that it is almost an insult for such gifted students to have to deal with the body of weaker academic students. "What must it be like to be an intellectually distinguished student at a university where the entrance standards are low," she asked. York's present entrance standard for first-year students is a 66 percent grade average.

The other two speakers, Logan and Hobson, advocated the position that elitism has no place at a university.

Logan conceded that York standards are too low, but said that the practise of considering applicants solely on the basis of high school grades is a deterrent to "creativity, ingenuity, inventiveness and curiosity."

He added that the University has a responsibility to be as open as possible to many different groups and sectors of society.

Newson's argument, the final one

heard, was also against elitism in a university. She said that by promoting intellectual elitism, universities are helping to create class conflicts by creating elitist educated people to control and manage the mass of non-educated workers.

"There is a need to heal divisions," she said, "One of the divisions that I especially think is relevant to this debate is the artificial division that is created between those who are the alleged talented and those who are less endowed."

Newson argued that universities play an extremely vital role in bringing people of different intellectual capabilities together under one roof.

The debate was the second at Moot Court this academic year on the topic of excellence and democracy in universities. On September 20, "Excellence in a Democratic Society: The Challenge for Universities" was debated by the presidents of Harvard and Université de Paris, and the Vice-Chancellor of Oxford University.