

NEWS BRIEFS

SDS meets March 30

The Students for a Democratic Society are holding their 10th annual national convention at Harvard University from March 30 to April 2. About 1,000 people from all parts of the U.S., Puerto Rico, England, Europe and Canada are expected to arrive. This group is the majority section from the 1969 split when a group splintered off to form the Revolutionary Youth Movement and the Weathermen. SDS has spent the last three years trying to rebuild a worker-student alliance in the U.S. The main focus of the convention will be on racism and the pseudo-scientific theories of the genetic inferiority of oppressed groups. Professors like Herrnstein at Harvard and Banfield at Boston University, Jensen and Shockley at Berkeley propagate their works under the guise of academic respectability and are used in Canadian universities.

SAC pres runs again

President of the Students' Administrative Council at the University of Toronto, Bob Spencer, has announced he will run again for office in the SAC elections April 4 and 5. Running with Spencer will be vice-presidential candidates Jack Lumbek and Phil Dack who ran in the original SAC race last month. They withdrew before election day on grounds that educational reform could never be achieved through the system. Also in the election race is Young Socialist Katie Curtin and engineering society president Eric Miglen. Curtin was acclaimed last month after all other candidates pulled out of the running. The re-election has been called on the basis of results from a campus-wide referendum on the question.

**pendulum III after 5
big bands from 9 pm**



opp. Tor. Dom. Centre

York University

BICYCLE CLUB

Organizational Meeting on Monday, April 3, 1972, 1:00 to 2:00 pm, Vanier College Committee room (No. 256-258). Come and join us. For more information, call or visit Freddy, the barber, Central Square 638-5234 or Terry at 635-3027, and come to our launching next Monday.

GRUMBLES

71 Jarvis 388 0796

This Week

**Shirley
Eikhard**

Hard facts needed to fight City Hall on urban renewal

"We thought we'd killed Spadina. We haven't. It's still very much alive and alignment with the new subway is now under discussion," said Ellen Adams from the Confederation of Residents and Ratepayers Associations.

She was speaking at the day long York symposium Friday on Citizen Participation in city planning. Adams and the other symposium participants agreed the way to fight

city hall is through informed attack.

Deputy director of planning for the city of Toronto Ray Spaxman said knowing how to fight city hall was the most important tool for citizens' groups.

"All factions of the society should have access to information and a voice in decisions. This includes access to computers and expert advice," he said.

Glendon political science

professor Terry Fowler said advocate planners in Boston succeeded in getting a moratorium on all further road construction pending further investigation.

"Here was a case where the government had too much of a monopoly on expertise for public policy. A group of experts called Urban Planning Aid pooled their resources to fight the monopoly."

Bakan warns York against tougher marks

With most professors now saddled with giving out grades for essays and exams, psychology professor David Bakan has warned that any unilateral move on York's part to lower marks would have a serious effect on any student's life.

He said reducing grades across the board can only work towards increasing the alienation of

students. Any stress on grades tends to force grading practices to weigh too heavily on acquiring "matters of fact" would neglect "other aims of education."

Raising the standards actually means lowering the actual averages maintaining the same cut-off points and reducing the number of so-called successful students, he says.

University grades are rising steadily across North America although nobody seems to know exactly why. Part of the reason, the New York Times says, lies with the liberalized curriculums and grading systems of the last decade.

College students are getting smarter and more serious about their work than they were during the turbulent late 60s, some university spokesmen said, and pointed to the rising grades as proof. Harvard professor David Reisman said in an interview that the trend away from large lecture courses where students are graded by anonymous teaching assistants toward the more intimate seminar system has led to more generous grading.

Fowler said the role of expertise in policy making is strong enough to create political issues out of technical ones. Every technical issue has a positive or negative advocate, Fowler continued. This creates a self-destructive element, and the politician must be able to cut through with informed questioning. Citizens' groups can use urban advocates to advise in initiative planning, he concluded.

City alderman Carl Jaffrey spoke about the Ward seven battle in Trefann Court over urban renewal. Jaffrey said in 1965 the city wanted to tear down all the houses. The residents in the area organized and eventually set up the Trefann Court Working Commission. This commission has strong liaisons with city hall through Jaffrey and his fellow alderman, John Sewell.

"The commission is ready to accept the fact that city council should make the final decision. But it's set a precedent where all recommendations about the area coming from city hall go first to this residents' committee. The outcome of the Trefann Court urban renewal plan is important. The success or failure of the project will decide whether or not it's to be the model for all future urban renewal," Jaffrey predicted.

green bush summer is coming!

It may not seem like it now, but York's not really that bad a place in summer. There's lots of trees, grass and places to get lost. And, most evenings, the Green Bush Inn moves outside. If you're around Founders this summer, you'll hear the best Toronto has to offer in blues, rock and folk - including Whiskey Howl, Downchild Blues Band, Keith McKie and, if we can the okay, Syrinx and the moog from Founders woodlot. All at prices half you would pay anywhere else, the least hassles possible and lots of different people from conventions, summer course and almost every country you can think of. If you're not going to be in Europe, join us this summer.

green bush inn - campus pub

temporarily in Founders and a non-profit organization
dedicated to humanizing York and its people