

Scott's doors close for 18 more hours

By Paul Stuart

The cutbacks crunch will hit Scott Library next month when eighteen hours will be slashed from its weekend and Friday hours of service. More severe reductions are likely next year.

As *Excalibur* goes to press it has been decided to close Scott from 5 pm. to mid-night on Fridays and to close the listening room all day on Sundays, as of November 1. It has not been determined whether the library will be closed for an entire day on either Saturday or Sunday, or whether the reduction will be split between both days.

Since Scott is currently open 1 pm to midnight on Sundays, a "quiet sabbath" would knock eleven hours off its service. If a split Saturday-Sunday reduction is chosen, or if Acting Director of Libraries, William Newman opts for a Saturday closing, it is unclear what the exact hours of service will be. See LIBRARY page 2



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"We are all underpaid..."

"...enough is enough"

Support staff strike may come November 7



Jeff Davis photo

York rugby Yeomen shown in weekend action. For more sports see pages 18,19,20.

By Agnes Kruchio

York University may be shut down as early as November 7 if the university and the staff association do not come to an agreement in contract negotiations before that date.

The York University Staff Association (YUSA) voted overwhelmingly in favor of a strike last week in answer to an offer by the university of a 6.5% across-the-board salary increase and 50% of the costs of a dental plan.

The largest number of union members ever to take part in a vote, 689 (out of about 910) turned out to voice their opinions, and of these 513 answered "yes" to the question: "Do you authorize the executive and negotiating committee to call a strike in support of YUSA contract proposals and in rejection of the university's offer to date?" There were six spoiled ballots.

Earlier this week a mediator was appointed by the provincial government and a meeting will probably take place between the university and the union sometime during the week of October 31, but at press time there was no indication the university had confirmed a tentative date for a meeting. The

deadline for commencement of the next stage of negotiations is November 5. That is the first date the union can legally go on strike or the university can lock the staff out.

YUSA executive coordinator John Lang said that while the union is serious about striking, it still hopes for a settlement without a strike. "We are not strike happy," he said in an interview earlier this week. "No one rejoices in a strike, especially the people who go out," he added.

In the meantime, he said, the union is mobilizing for a strike. The area representatives in each section are getting in touch with individual members to "set up lines of communications".

"We're making it clear to people that the situation is serious, that we're still hoping for a settlement but that they must be prepared for the worst," he said.

YUSA has been meeting with other unions on campus, Lang said. "The unions now realize that the worst thing that can happen is if we let the university play off one union against another...we are all in the same boat, we are all underpaid, our struggle is with the administration, not each other," he said.

While saying he did not disagree with a reporter's suggestion that ultimately the culprit is the provincial government, Lang said "the administration has a lot more room to manoeuvre than (vice-president Bill) Farr's letter would lead one to believe." Last week the vice-president wrote an article in an issue of *York Reports* stating the university could not pay the staff more than offered because of York's bleak financial outlook.

"I don't shudder when they cry financial crisis," said Lang "There has been a financial crisis at York almost every other year, and at this stage the staff just says 'enough is enough'". •See STRIKE page two.

Students harassed by bookstore cops

By Paul Stuart

Imagine yourself innocently browsing in the York bookstore when you are approached by a stranger who refuses to identify himself, tells you to get out in a surly, threatening tone, and threatens you with arrest, if you set foot in the store again.

Once outside the store you are yelled and sworn at by the same stranger in front of a crowd.

Sound ominous?

Well it happened to two visitors to the bookstore who found themselves in disturbing incidents minutes apart from one another, late on Tuesday afternoon, with plainclothes bookstore detectives.

Harvey, a student new to the campus who asked that his last name not be used, was directed to the music section of the store by a clerk when he asked for the location of a book.

While looking around the section he was accosted by a man who told him, "I want you out of the store." When asked why he was being ordered to leave he was told, "Never mind why."

Harvey then went to Oasis to buy cigarettes and on walking past the store again, found himself involved in another incident with the same

store detective, two other detectives and another unfortunate visitor to the store.

Roy James, 28, had just made the mistake of walking out of the bookstore through the north-west door which has a large, illuminated "EXIT" sign above it.

There is a smaller sign on the door itself advising shoppers not to use it.

Three security guards approached Roy and a chaotic scene ensued. Roy was threatened with arrest if he set foot in the store again, and was slapped lightly on the back by one of the guards, who apparently was attempting to search him for concealed merchandise. In fact Roy had not stolen a thing and had walked through the exit by accident.

This was confirmed by Zahir Antia, a graduate student who witnessed the scene.

At this point Harvey walked past the store and was seen by one of the security guards who turned and yelled:

"Are you trying to follow us? Why don't you fuck off."

What do the store detectives have to say about this? *Excalibur* attempted to find out when notified of the incident.

This reporter, Antia, and two

other witnesses to the incident, accompanied Roy back into the store. The latter was rapidly accosted by two guards, ordered to leave, and loudly threatened with arrest.

When a press card was produced and the guards were asked why they were ordering Roy to leave, one responded, "because he walked through a security door." The guards quickly disappeared in the rear of the store.

Confronted with the complaints of Harvey and Roy and the verification of witnesses, the store's night manager, who refused to be identified, said: "They have to do their job but they have to have manners, and do their job like gentlemen, like professionals. If their manners aren't good, I'll see to it they're told off."

James Roy had a more succinct comment:

"These guys are crazy."



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Upset about the new student "aid" plan? Visit the bearpit today at noon