

excalibur

October 1, 1987
Volume 22, Issue 4

14,000 Washed-Up Copies
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YORK UNIVERSITY'S COMMUNITY NEWSPAPER

Picket lines set up as talks break down

By JEFF SHINDER
and BLAIR COSGROVE

The York University Staff Association (YUSA) went on strike as of two o'clock Wednesday afternoon, after mediation talks broke off abruptly on Tuesday.

On the recommendation of the executive committee, the union membership immediately undertook strike action after their general meeting on Wednesday morning.

According to YUSA President Celia Harte, the problem was the university's contemptuous attitude towards the union. "We are tired of being treated as second-class citizens," said Harte.

According to York University Vice-President William Farr, the university, "Improved the offer on each of the items that YUSA has identified as being of major importance to them." The issues include wages, job evaluations, equal pay for work of equal value, pensions, and a staff job re-training facility.

The union did not feel that their concerns were being adequately addressed. "They certainly made

some changes but not sufficient ones in the two areas that we deemed most important," Harte contended. Harte, however, could not elaborate on the negotiations because of ongoing deliberations within the union executive.

The strike will directly affect many university services, including classes. Students are not required to cross picket lines to attend classes during the strike (see YUSA ad, page two, for legislated rights of students during a strike).

According to York University Faculty Association President Michael Copeland, it is up to the discretion of individual professors whether to hold classes or not. Rescheduling of cancelled classes will occur after consultation with the professors and the affected classes.

In Farr's view, however, the faculty is obligated to perform its duties over the course of the strike.

In addition, the library and computer services will be disrupted during the strike. Bookstore operations manager Mary Lucas said that the bookstore will be closed as of noon, Wednesday September 30th.



GO TO YOUR ROOM: Andrew Danson's collection of *Unofficial Portraits* features prominent politicians as they would like to see themselves. Here, former Speaker of the House John Bosley. For more see pg 15.

The long road to FM Transforming Radio York

By JAMES FLAGAL

As recently as a year ago, there was a common joke around campus: Radio York is going to get an FM license . . . soon. People quickly learned to dismiss the prospect after six years of constant boasting from an enthusiastic yet inexperienced Radio York executive.

It was like clockwork. Every September, hundreds of posters would be plastered all over campus, inviting interested people to come and get involved in a station that was sure to hit the FM dial within months. And the meeting would be packed with people trying to capture a spot on Radio York—a station which would soon be broadcasting to an audience numbering well over a million.

This was what many were told on first coming to the station. And for most, this was precisely the reason why they came: to get their voices heard on Toronto's airwaves. But by the middle of the year, the initially enthusiastic group had dwindled to a handful of committed students. And the ones who stayed were usually disillusioned by the false hope of a license and the lack of organiza-

tional infrastructure to help aspiring broadcasters develop their talent.

That is also probably the reason why Radio York failed in its pursuit of a license for so long. The executive would attract broadcasters with this lofty goal, and somehow the people who became committed to Radio York were more seduced by the prospect of gaining a license than to the station itself. In reality Radio York was just a closed-circuit campus station, requiring drastic alterations to organization, equipment and training methods before any talk of a license could take place. Everyone could see the proverbial light at the end of the tunnel, but no one was really prepared to take the steps necessary to get to it.

And so the myth was perpetuated every September, and by January, Radio York was the laughing stock of most students. It was considered as "that obscure station" which sent out tinny sounds in Central Square, playing music so alternative that most people had never heard it before. Finally it was the station which most pubs refused to play, choosing instead to tune into one of Metro's commercial selections.

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Erratum: CUEW Negotiations Proceed

The following errors were made in Tim O'Riordan's article, "Negotiations between York and T.A. union break down," in last week's *Excalibur*.

- Negotiations between the Canadian Union of Educational Workers (CUEW) and the university did not break down. Both parties agreed to stop negotiating for a week and they resumed negotiations on Monday September 28th.

- CUEW will not be in a strike position on October 13th. The earliest possible time that CUEW can legally strike is in early November. According to CUEW, strike action is not being considered at this time.

- There was no "informal '84 agreement" which limited tutorial sizes to 15 students. According to CUEW a system of triggers was established in the 1981-82 round of negotiations where limits were set according to the duration of a tutorial. The limit for an hour tutorial is 25, while the limit for an hour and a half tutorial (or a two hour tutorial) is 30. Only ESL (English as a Second Language) tutorials have trigger of 15, and if these limits are surpassed then the TA is compensated for the extra pupils.

Excalibur regrets these errors and apologizes to the union, the administration and especially the readers for any misconceptions they may have caused.

McLaughlin President will return to post as tribunal drops charges

By ZENA McBRIDE

Charges against Howard Beach, President of McLaughlin College Council, which stemmed from allegations of financial impropriety, were dismissed last week by a University Disciplinary Tribunal.

Beach was charged last April after a complaint was lodged with the College by G. Laarakker, a photographer who was employed by the Council at the time. The photographer alleged that Beach and Steve Morrell, the Council's Business Manager, had attempted to bribe him. After an investigation of the matter by H.T. Wilson, the Complaints Officer of the College, Beach was further charged with attempting to use College funds for his own personal benefit.

According to testimony heard at the trial, Laarakker asked Morrell and Beach to lunch in order to give them a cheque for \$577.50, "which constituted the Council's commission from the sitting fees of McLaughlin students who had paid for graduation photographs." Once the cheque was in Beach's possession, Laarakker indicated that he had left the name of the payee blank, because he was unsure as to whom the payment should be made. Beach testified that after lunch he filled the cheque out to "cash" and deposited it into his savings account via a nearby green machine.

Beach maintained that he did so because he did not have the Council's passbook or account number with him, and didn't want to carry a

large amount of money with him. "I wanted to put it in the safest place," he said.

Beach further testified that several days later, he withdrew \$200.00 from his savings account to pay for the Council's annual end of term dinner. At this time, Beach explained, he informed the Council members that he had deposited the commission cheque into his account for safe keeping. Both Michelle Philip, Cultural Affairs Officer of the Council, and Demos Koumantaros, General Council Representative, confirmed Beach's testimony. In addition, Eno Dermit, Council Treasurer at the time, verified that Beach later gave him the remainder of the cheque without hesitation when asked to do so.

The Tribunal concluded that, although Beach exercised poor judgement in his handling of the matter, this was "not sufficient to establish the requisite intent to misappropriate Council funds for personal gain." The Tribunal also dismissed the bribery charges against Beach, again citing insufficient evidence as the reason. A tribunal is currently being set up to hear the case against Morrell.

Beach took a leave of absence from his duties as Council President for the duration of his trial, but according to his attorney, Sherry Hirshberg, he expects to return to that position now that charges against him have been dropped. Beach could not be reached for comment.

INSIDE

"We are tired of being treated as second-class citizens."

YUSA PRESIDENT CELIA HARTE

MEECH LAKE ON TRIAL: In this first of a two-part series, the economic implications of the historical Meech Lake Accord are debated by two academics Pages 12-13

SECURITY'S CHANGING FACE: With the appointment of Michael O'Neil as the new Director of Security, the department has seen a lot of changes to address the problems of the past. Excal's Zena McBride spoke with O'Neil about his future plans as Director. Page 9

YUFA SETTLES: The administration and the faculty union struck a deal last weekend. For details, see Page 3

CANADA THROUGH CHINESE EYES: Visiting Chinese artist Gu Xiong talks about how his travels through Canada have influenced his work. Page 15

A GUIDE TO THE OPERA: Excal's Ken Keobke gives some handy tips to first-time opera-goers. Page 17

NOBODY'S PERFECT: The Yeoman soccer team tarnished their undefeated record over the weekend with a loss to the Laurentian Voyageurs. Page 13