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CYSF election soon, already twelve acclaimed candidates

By DEBBIE PEKILIS

The annual elections for the president of the Council of the York Student Federation (CYSF) and for the student representative to the Board of Governors are approaching on March 9 and 10, amidst a fanfare of campaign posters, speeches, and all candidates meetings, at which the candidates have a chance to show themselves to the York community.

Due to withdrawals and few candidates, there will be no vote for CYSF representatives for graduate studies, Vanier College, Winters College and Calumet College. Candidates in these colleges were all acclaimed.

Members of these constituencies are still entitled to vote in the Board of Governors and CYSF presidential elections as well as in the OFS and NUS referendum.

Acclaimed in Vanier College were; Jane Chisholm (ULS), Chris Chop, and Cheryl Pruitt (ULS).

Acclaimed in Calumet were; Lew Joseph, Frank Lento (ULS) and Mary Marrone (ULS).

Acclaimed in Winters were; Pam Fitzgerald (ULS), William Pipher (ULS) and Tom Silverhart.

Acclaimed in Graduate Studies were; Phil Hebert (ULS), Denise Thibeault (ULS) and Abie Weisfeld (ULS).

Despite all the acclamations, elections are still on in the rest of the colleges.

An all candidates meeting took place Tuesday at noon in the Stong College Dining Hall. Present were the presidential candidates, Tom Diotte of MacLaughlin College, Paul Hayden of Stong College, and Alice Klein of the United Left Slate (ULS).

Diotte's election philosophy, expressed in his campaign pamphlet, is simple: "For its smooth operation, management of student affairs has little to do with party politics and all encompassing

ideologies. The trend in past years has been for elected representatives to lose sincere interest in the student body and to become increasingly preoccupied with each other. A serious candidate must promote intelligent discussion over acrimonious argument, conscious representation over political intrigue".

Diotte is in favour of Radio York's efforts and operations to reach a larger audience. "I support their application to the CRTC for an FM licence." He adds, "Radio York provides for the York community an indispensable service as a communication outlet."

He feels that the Social Co-op can, with continued support, become a "major entertainment agent here at York." Already a series of concerts for next year is planned in Burton Auditorium.

Diotte is in favour of lower bus fares for commuter students who come to York. "This year's CYSF did very well, they got us a bus route. Next year's CYSF can do something better. How about lower rates for a York student?"

To avoid this year's confusion with the CYSF by-election, they should be planned with a set date, he said.

Hayden's platform in basically one of good administration. He said he was vice-president of the council this year and he and Barry Edson gave good administration.

"We kept a low profile. We did work by talking on the phone to different people. We don't soapbox, we work hard."

Having served on CYSF for two years, and as vice-president this year, Hayden feels that he has the most experience to be president. Also a part of Hayden's campaign is the call for withdrawal from the Ontario Federation of Students (OFS) and the National Union of Students (NUS).

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Evan Leibovitch photo

An all candidates meeting Monday in Vanier dining hall. From left to right; Cheryl Pruitt (ULS), Vanier candidate (acclaimed); Jane Chisholm (ULS), Vanier candidate (acclaimed); Alice Klein (ULS), presidential candidate; Larry Freedman, chairman; Paul Hayden, presidential candidate; Tom Diotte, presidential candidate; Richard Andreansky, BOG candidate; Chris Chop, Vanier candidate (acclaimed); and Mike Brooke, BOG candidate.

Waterloo gang drags staffers from the free chevron offices

By ERIC MacMILLAN

Members of the University of Waterloo's student newspaper — the free chevron — succeeded in holding onto their offices after fighting with Waterloo student council members and campus police Sunday night. The free chevron staff has been occupying its newspaper offices around the clock and publishing the free chevron ever since the chevron was closed down by the Waterloo Federation of Students last September.

Two staff members were dragged, pushed and carried out of the free chevron offices Sunday night by about 15 members and supporters of the federation who ganged up on them during their usual nighttime vigil. One free

chevron member received medical attention for abrasions after campus police, called in by federation president Doug Thompson, pulled him out of the office a second time, according to a statement by the injured party.

When the free chevron later regained entry, however, the campus police refused to remove them from their offices, despite another request by Thompson.

Thompson, who led the initial raid, justified his actions in an interview later by saying, "Forceful occupation of the chevron offices could be ended only by one means — force."

The federation recently attempted to oust the chevron with an interim court injunction, pending final injunction proceedings, but a county court decision in the federation's favour was overturned by the Supreme Court of Ontario Feb. 9.

Free chevron editor Larry Hannant called the episode "a desperate kind of action" on Thompson's part. "The chevron is the most democratic political force on campus right now. What can Thompson hope to gain from this?" he asked. Thompson claimed that he had tried every reasonable approach toward a resolution of the conflict, but the chevron wasn't responding to them. "To combat brute force and ignorance you have to use brute force and ignorance," he said. The chevron staff and the Federation were in the process of negotiations when the incident occurred.

Ernest von Bezold, a member of the chevron's legal commission, said, "The federation has shown that they are not negotiating in good faith".

Thompson and approximately 15 of his supporters walked into the free chevron offices between 7:15 and 7:45 p.m. "in a jovial mood" and joked about installing a pinball machine according to chevron staffer Jonathan Coles. Coles was occupying the offices with another chevron member at the time. They proceeded to lock up the interior

offices and to tear down posters, said Coles.

In his own words, Thompson then "asked the individuals (occupying the offices) to leave. I was told that under no circumstances would they leave."

"We then picked up (chevron staffer) Mark Shafroth and dragged him out of the office and we'll do it again, again and again until the message gets through." Thompson contended the federation controls the space occupied by the free chevron.

Jonathan Coles said that in his attempt to defend Shafroth, he was also thrown out the door after much shoving.

Thompson and most of those with him left, except for two who stayed behind. Another chevron staffer who had been working in the darkroom left shortly after.

Thompson then called the campus police. When they arrived and the office doors opened, Shafroth and two other chevron staffers pushed the door half way open. Before they could get very far into the offices, Shafroth was threatened with charges of trespassing and then pushed and dragged out of the office, according to Shafroth. Abrasions were inflicted upon the full length of his right arm.

Shafroth said security police, Thompson and others combined to pull the free chevron staffers out and locked the door behind them.

Coles phoned other chevron staffers and within 20 minutes had gathered over twenty staffers plus friends. Six members were summoned from a conference on Ontario student papers in Hamilton where a motion to support the chevron's "democratic principle of Reinstate! Investigate!" was passed earlier that day. The conference "supported the democratic principle of due process defended by the chevron since its closing by the Federation executive of the University of Waterloo on September 30".

Around 11:30 p.m. the chevron staff managed to gain access to their offices.

CYSF exec. appoints speaker, also to serve on election tribunal

By TED MUMFORD

Vanier College don Bill Bain may become the speaker of the Council of the York Student Federation (CYSF) for the third time in four years, depending on the outcome of the next CYSF meeting.

George Manios, who was chosen as speaker over Bain and Bob Freeman by the council last May, resigned from the post on February ninth. A council meeting on the same date was to have selected a new speaker, but quorum was not obtained. The decision went to the council's executive committee, which chose Bain over student Board of Governors representative Jay Bell on February 22. The choice requires the confirmation of the council at large at its next meeting.

Currently a student at Osgoode Hall Law School, Bain was speaker of CYSF during 1973-74 and 1974-75. If he is approved by council he will preside at its remaining two or three meetings and also chair the tribunal for the March elections, which include referenda on OFS and NUS membership as well as the CYSF

and Board of Governors races.

The three-member tribunal is set up to receive and act upon complaints against candidates. During his 1974-75 speakership, the tribunal which Bain chaired made a number of controversial decisions, including one to disqualify presidential candidate Dale Ritch and to rerun the presidential election.

The other members of this year's election tribunal are chief returning officer Larry Freedman and Jewish Student Federation president Lou Garber.

Manios told Excalibur he resigned in order to devote more

time to the Course Union Administrative Commission, of which he is chairperson, and the campaign to retain CYSF membership in the Ontario Federation of Students and the National Union of Students. "As speaker, you have to be impartial," said Manios, "and I can't do that when I'm actively campaigning for something like this." (CYSF itself has mounted a campaign to withdraw from OFS and NUS).

Bain told Excalibur that he supported the campaign to join NUS three years ago, but is now "ambivalent" about the membership issue.

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