

## NEWS DIGEST

### Experts debate Anti-porn bill

By MARK KEMP

A symposium to debate the issues concerning the impact on the arts of the proposed federal anti-pornography legislation, Bill C-54, will take place at Osgoode Hall Law School's Moot Court on Wednesday the 27th of January. The two-hour presentation begins at 10 a.m., and will feature several speakers arguing from the pro and con sides of the controversy.

The bill has been widely criticized for the broadness of its definitions of pornography and erotica, for the potential restrictions it places on artistic expression, and for the sweeping powers the legislation would hand over to police and judges in arbitrating questions of moral and artistic validity.

Bill C-54 was drafted to answer demands for a more effective criminal code dealing with child pornography and violent or degrading sexual depictions of women. But critics of the bill say that Ray Hnatyshyn and his Ministry of Justice have gone far beyond this original mandate.

Pro-Bill C-54 commentators are willing to accept the bill's heavy-handedness if it will solve the worse evil: child porn and degradation.

The organizers of the York symposium, headed by arts administration professor and theatre/film producer Joseph Green have invited several authoritative speakers. The moderator (who will declare his bias) will be Dan Lyon, entertainment lawyer and chairman of the Community Against Censorship, a coalition of over 50 organizations fighting Bill C-54 and other issues of censorship.

Confirmed speakers against the bill be Alan Borovoy, Genral Counsel of the Canadian Civil Liberties Association, and writer Varda Burstyn of the Toronto group Feminists Against Censorship.

Detective-Sergeant Jim Hutchinson of the Metro Toronto Police Department will talk about the enforcement of C-54, should it be made law.

Other invitees were not confirmed before *Excalibur* went to press, but additions to the list will be shown on promotional posters later this week. It is hoped that J. Michael Robinson, a pro-C-54 attorney, and either poet Rafael Barreto-Rivera or Lorna Grant from the Metro Toronto

Committee Against Sexual Abuse, will be able to attend. Although a representative from the Ministry of Justice has been invited by the symposium's organizers to defend the proposed legislation, no reply has been made as yet.

In addition to the expected lively debate on stage, a question and answer period following the presentations by the speakers will provide a forum for some of the views of the audience.

### Daycare centre researched

By ELIZABETH SILVA

The Student Centre Childcare Committee has recently hired two researchers to begin work on the development of a new childcare facility for the Student Centre. Karen Gold and Sonia Ostrowski, both active in childcare and familiar with York, were chosen from a number of high quality applications that were received by the Committee.

In order to determine the best way to design the new facility, the researchers have prepared a needs survey questionnaire. The purpose of the questionnaire is to familiarize community members with the future childcare facility and to provide the Committee with some constructive information as to what kinds of services people would like from that facility.

At this time, the committee has several ideas. First, they would like the centre to offer part-time childcare for parents who do not need full-time supervision for their children. Second, the committee would like to create a centre that allows parents to meet and socialize with other parents using the facility. Parents will also be encouraged to play an active role in the care of their children. For example, a co-op alternative may be offered whereby parents may volunteer some of their time to the daycare in exchange for a reduced fee rate.

Although plans for the childcare facility are effectively underway, the committee is still struggling for the approval of the extra 1000 square feet of space that is desperately needed. This issue must be settled within the next six to eight weeks so that the Committee can hire an architect and an interior designer to begin work on the centre.

### Winters opens weightroom

By NANCY PHILLIPS

Winters College's new weight room opened with a flourish last Thursday. Dozens of people attended the opening of the Winter's Polar Bear Fitness Centre.

Facilities include two stationary bicycles, an eight-station Spartan, one Universal gym, two abdominal

boards, chin-up bars, free weights, a ballet bar and exercise mats.

Winters' previous weight room was "fairly inaccessible to women," according to Darren Laval, the Vice-President of athletics at Winters. The only entrance was through a men's washroom. The new facility is easily accessible for both sexes in Winters, Room 011. It is also fully monitored.

Winters College members can join for a \$10.00 fee. The cost for non-members is \$15.00. Included in a membership is a t-shirt displaying the Polar Bear logo.

### Blakeney to teach at York

By GARRY MARR

Allan Blakeney, former premier of Saskatchewan, has been given a one-year appointment to the Boyer Laskin chair of public law and public policy at York.

Blakeney's one-year appointment is effective July 1, 1988. He will be teaching courses in constitutional law, natural resources law and government administration.

Blakeney graduated from Dalhousie with his LLB and went on to do his BCL at Oxford on a Rhodes Scholarship. He later worked in the CCF government of Tommy Douglas for a decade. He was elected to the Saskatchewan legislature in 1960 and became premier in 1971, a position he held until 1982.

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