

by Peter Stathis

With growing signs of an imminent military engagement in the Persian Gulf, student protesters have begun to consolidate an anti-war movement across Canadian campuses.

York's anti-war coalition staged its first teach-in last week, drawing about 80 interested students, faculty, and off-campus participants to the threehour class.

The teach-in received faxed statements of solidarity from several campuses across Canada and the United States, including student councils at Carelton, Trent, Queen's, and the University of Victoria. There was also a verbal message of support from a spokesperson for UofT's anti-war coalition.

A letter sent by an organization of New York students called for a "network of colleges in North America" to help build an education campaign against the U.S.-led intervention in the Middle East. Political science professor David McNally, who was the first of 10 speakers, told York activists that they were part of a growing anti-war movement across the world.

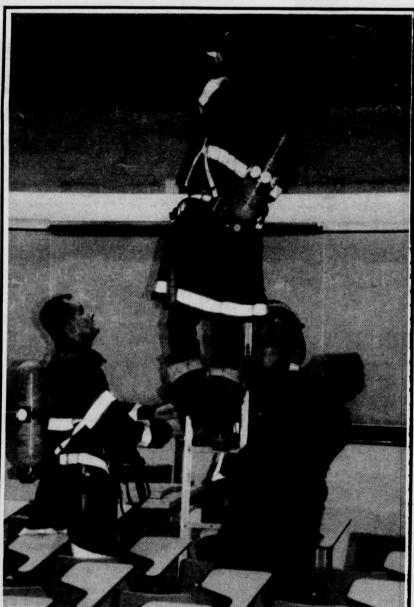
"You represent the beginnings of a large movement," said McNally. "Already there have been demonstrations of thousands of people in Tokyo, Athens, London, Paris, New York and the [San Francisco] bay area."

McNally, who was also an out-

spoken critic against Brian Mulroney's Nov. 5 visit to York campus, claimed that the U.S. intervention was based only on two rationale — having access to two-thirds of the world's known oil supplies and re-establishing U.S. imperial power and the role of the world policeman.

According to McNally, the U.S. administration selectively supports or rejects dictators according to their

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York students tackling institutional racism

by Jeannine Amber

ork will be participating in the National Day of Action Against Racism on Campus this Wednesday, along with dozens of other universities across Canada.

The focus of the day is to educate students about the nature and effects of institutionalized racism.

"This is an essential issue especially for the most multiracial campus in Canada," said Jean Ghomeshi, who helped organize the nation-twide event.

Ghomeshi feels that through

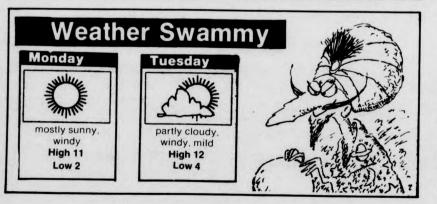
Nikki Gershbain, a third year individualized studies student and a member of the coalition, said that she was a history major but wasn't interested in North American or European history.

"As a result, my options were extremely limited," said Gershbain. Rob Centa, president of McLaughlin College and member of the coalition said that he has also experienced problems as a history major.

"I was disappointed that York didn't have an entire course devoted to the experience of Native Canadians much less a *con't on pg 3*

Lesbian and Gay Alliance apply for

The North York Fire Department was called on campus last Friday afternoon after fumes leaked from a heat exchanger at a nearby construction site. The fumes travelled through air-ducts and into room 205 south Ross. More than 50 students were in the class at the time of the leak. No one was injured.



increased student awareness of the issues, a clear message will be sent to administration.

"Something has to be done about Eurocentric curricula, about material that does not reflect the student body and the lack of women and marginalized groups represented in faculty and administration," said Ghomeshi.

The consensus among members of the anti-racism coalition is that many students are not aware of the extent of the problem.

Steve Bergson, a third year psychology major and a member of the coalition, says that, "my impression from my three years at York, is that too many people come here with racist beliefs... they need to be given an egalitarian perspective."

On Wednesday in the East Bear Pit, the anti-racism coalition will unveil a student declaration against racism, which all students are encouraged to sign.

In addition, information will be made available to students urging them to think about the issue of institutional racism on campus.

service status

by Susan Vanstone

he Lesbian and Gay Alliance at York (LGAY) will apply for service status from the YFS later this month.

"We're one of the least-funded groups on campus," said Tina Mongillo, a member of LGAY. "We want to prove that we're a service to faculty, staff, students and the community at large.

LGAY presently has club status, and therefore receives \$200 a year from the YFS.

Service status is given to clubs by a majority vote from the YFS. Groups must be deemed useful to the York community and must not depend on membership for existence, as would an ethnic group. It guarantees an organization money from the YFS.

Currently, groups such as the Women's Centre, Peer Support Centre, and the Volunteer Centre have service status. The Women's Centre received \$5,000 from the YFS this year after it was approved for service status in January.

Mongillo said additional money would allow LGAY to set up a

library, bring speakers to the campus, write a history of both homophobia and the 21-yearold LGAY, screen films, and provide pamphlets and other materials to the public.

"The big word is education," said Mongillo. "We want to tell people what this group is. We're not just for lesbians and gays. If you have friends or siblings, they can come to the group and talk, and we can express our own experiences.

"We would be able to educate the public, give students a place to go, and be a more visible group on campus."

She added that one of LGAY's most pressing needs is its own telephone line. Presently, LGAY members can only be reached by leaving a message at the YFS office.

"We would be able to form a network," said Mongillo. "People wouldn't have to travel downtown for lesbian and gay newspapers or referrals."

LGAY will present its case to the YFS at its council meeting on November 20.