

Excalibur

Vol. 9 No. 24

York University Community Newspaper

March 20, 1975

Koornstra wins by 390 votes

ULS landslide marred by new election call

By JULIAN BELTRAME

A 61 vote majority favouring a second election has spoiled the United Left Slate's landslide victory in the CYSF elections held last Wednesday and Thursday.

Although the ULS elected 13 constituency representatives to the council, presidential candidate J.J. Koornstra's election will not count, as a result of a council decision Wednesday night to hold a second presidential election if an opinion poll, attached to the ballot, were to indicate student support in that direction.

'Oust ULS'

The Vanier college council unanimously voted Monday to oppose "the dominance of the ULS in the newly elected CYSF" and to "take any actions necessary to ensure the continuance of Vanier College, even to the extent of withdrawing from the CYSF".

Delegate Representative Kevin Smith told Excalibur that the options open to Vanier vary from withdrawing from the CYSF to passing petitions to have ULS members of CYSF ejected. (According to the CYSF constitution, a petition signed by 10 per cent of a constituency can remove a member of that constituency before his term of office expires.)

"This is to influence voters to vote against the ULS," said Smith, concerning the Vanier decision.

He added that he personally would not object to a ULS council, if the ULS "ceased to talk of undermining the college system".

Adding fuel to the Vanier college resolution, Klaus Rushin, David DeMille, and Patricia Mahoney, newly elected Vanier constituency representatives, issued a statement Tuesday adding their support to their college council's decision.

Dale Ritch, who was disqualified from running by the election tribunal March 7, and whose banner was carried by Koornstra in the election, will be allowed to run for president in the second election.

Soon after results and second election notices were published by CYSF, ULS and York Party strategists rallied to find a way to approach the next election.

In the view of many candidates, Koornstra's victory margin (390 votes over his nearest opponent) would have almost assured a Dale Ritch victory in the second election if all candidates stayed in the running.

But after a few days of confusion, the unsuccessful candidates (almost all of whom opposed Ritch as part of their platform) banded around the candidate considered most likely to defeat Ritch — Paul Higeli of the York Party.

JOCKEYING

While some initial jockeying occurred between Higeli and Rob Wearing, who polled only 46 votes fewer than Higeli, as to which of the two would carry the defeat-Ritch banner, Higeli, who had the broadest backing, eventually won.

Wearing told Excalibur Sunday that although he had heard of the movement to support Higeli, he still planned to enter the race as an independent. But on Tuesday, Wearing officially withdrew his name from the ballot and threw his support behind Higeli.

Also withdrawing from the ballot were Ted Kapusta, Peter Desrochers, Bill Eggertson and Bill Osmars. With the exception of Osmars, all openly threw their support to Higeli.

BROAD BASE

"We took a look at our relative strength and Paul (Higeli) showed the broadest base, while I had a solid vote in McLaughlin," explained Wearing. "We sat down and we thought 'who's got the best shot?' and we decided it was Paul."

Lochhead (101) and Janice McArthur (97) (all ULS) won in Winters.

The opinion poll on the ballot, which asked, "In view of the problems surrounding the present CYSF election, do you feel that a second presidential election should be held as soon as is feasible?", received 657 votes in favour and 596 votes in opposition.

In the referendum held to decide whether CYSF should press for self-incorporation or not, 617 students voted against incorporation, and 544 in favour. There were 113 abstentions.

In the first elections ever held for student member on the board of governors, Anhelyna Szuch (ULS) won with 576 votes, Jay Bell (York Party) came second with 435 votes. Joe Renda followed with 223 votes, Hazel St. Pierre with 131, Peter Bennett with 112, Rick Makohoniuk with 46, and Bernard Birman with 40.

Over 1,300 students voted for CYSF president, almost equalling last year's election turnout of 19 per cent of the electorate.



Chief returning officer Henry Goldberg sifts through a box of ballots as two deputies keep count. Scrutineer Able Weisfeld (rear, left) looks on. The election procedure lasted through the night.

When the deadline for withdrawing names from the presidential ballot came, the election pitted Dale Ritch against Paul Higeli, with Joe Renda and James Smith as outside longshots.

A strategy meeting at the clubs' room Sunday night formed the ULS dual strategy of continued opposition to the second election (with an attempt to secure a court injunction against the election, naming J.J. Koornstra as plaintiff), and a limited appeal to students to repeat their previous support of the ULS presidential nominee in the event the injunction should fail.

AFRAID OF TRICK

Last week Ritch was asked by current CYSF president Anne Scotton why he feared a second election.

"We're afraid it's a trick," he responded.

Rumours have persisted that court injunctions against the second election will not come before tomorrow,

assuming they are granted. Scotton told Excalibur an injunction would not stop the election unless everyone capable of ordering an election were served, "and that would be impossible".

But a ULS "victory rally" planned for Thursday indicates that the ULS will not place all their eggs in the injunction basket. Koornstra has already withdrawn his name from

the ballot in order to maintain his case that a second election is unconstitutional, and to leave only one ULS-affiliated candidate (Ritch) on the ballot.

Ritch is currently recovering from the effects of an automobile accident in which he was involved early Saturday morning. Indications are that he may put in a low-key campaign as a result.

Scotton cited as 'saboteur'

By JULIAN BELTRAME

Charges of irregular acts, sabotage, and unconstitutional amendments continue to be levelled at CYSF president Anne Scotton, following last Wednesday's council decision to call for a second presidential election March 24 and 25, based on the results of the opinion poll of last week.

The by-law validating the CYSF executive committee's decision to

place an opinion poll on the election ballot without council's authorization was passed at the end of the five-hour marathon meeting, after earlier attempts for authorization of the opinion poll had failed.

ULS member Abie Weisfeld asked Scotton if she were aware that placing the opinion poll on the ballot contravened the election act, which demands that a 14-day period for discussion be allowed before voting when a referendum is put on the ballot.

"The executive makes no mistakes," responded Scotton. "The executive was aware of the constitutional requirement, but we were also aware of the emergency nature of the situation."

Authorization of the poll did not come as readily as the executive expected; the first vote went down to defeat. A request for a second vote by Scotton produced the same results: a six to six deadlock and no approval of the opinion poll.

An attempt by ULS council members to break up quorum failed when Koornstra, staying behind to call quorum to a question, made up the needed vote. Although the ULS members returned, they were unable to count enough votes to defeat

The envelope please...

In the election of March 12 and 13, the presidential title was won by J. John Koornstra, with 635 votes.

Paul Higeli trailed in second place with 245 votes, followed by Rob Wearing (199), Joe Renda (76), Ted Kapusta (57), Rick Leswick (46), Bill Osmars (41), Bill Eggertson (25), Pete Desrochers (10) and James Smith (3).

In Calumet college, Brenda Weeks (ULS), Jack Newton and Andrew Madden (York Party) won with 48, 44 and 39 votes respectively. Paul Kellogg (ULS) (136), Athanasios Christodouloupoulos (ULS) (103) and George Manios (ULS) (102) won in Founders.

Greg Martin (98), Craig Marshall (82) and Gordon Graham (ULS) (72) won in McLaughlin. Michael Hollett (ULS) (132) and Paul Hayden (117) won in Stong, with a tie between Peter Jallall (111) and Peter Yamapoulos (111) (both ULS) to be resolved in a run-off election.

In Vanier, Patricia Mahoney (YP) (91), David DeMille (88) and Klaus Ruschin (85) won seats, while Susan Grant (108), Mary

Faculty rejects wage offer, seeks binding arbitration

By WARREN CLEMENTS

Over 125 members of the York University faculty association voted overwhelmingly Tuesday to ask the university to agree "immediately" to binding arbitration of salaries and fringe benefits for the 1975-76 year.

The move, which came after half an hour of debate, followed an almost unanimous rejection by the membership of the university's latest offer of a 13 per cent wage increase.

YUFA, which originally sought a 23.5 per cent increase, is currently asking for an 18 per cent raise.

A previous executive motion had called for a week of study sessions

from March 24 to 28, during which teachers and professional librarians at York would walk off their jobs if the university made no new wage offers. However, the executive withdrew its motion.

"If we were to strike," said YUFA chairman Harvey Simmons, "the university could do one of three things, according to our lawyer.

"It could ask for an injunction, it could ask the labour board to rule that what we're doing is illegal — in which case they would tell us it's illegal — or they could ask that those who strike, and those who counsel to

• (Continued on page 11)

• (Continued on page 11)