



Look who's talking

Noon Today
Moot Court

Steve Lack beneath the mask

Page 5



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Grads vote on strike

Jonathan Mann

Members of the Graduate Assistant's Association met yesterday afternoon to vote on possible strike action, following their suspension of conciliation talks with the university.

The voting will continue on Saturday, with results expected that evening. The union, which represents about 750 teaching assistants, will be in a legal position to strike on Sunday.

The meeting, held in a basement lecture hall in the administrative studies building, was attended by about 150 people. The vote, taken by a secret ballot, asked members if they supported the GAA executive's recommendation to strike.

Although the press was barred from the meeting, sources present indicated that those in attendance seemed to grow more vocal, enthusiastic, and convinced of the need to strike, as the meeting progressed. They predicted a large majority vote in favor of strike action.

The question of just what strike action the GAA will take (should the final tally support strike action) was put to a second vote, taken by a show of hands. The following proposal for strike action was supported unanimously by those present:

Next week will be an information week, during which the union will make its position known. On Monday, January 21, the GAA membership will meet again. If the university has by this time made an offer which "shows movement on all substantial issues," the offer will be presented to the membership. If there is no such offer, the GAA will use the meeting to organize a walk-out to start that day. The walk-out will last one week, during which the GAA will set up picket lines.

The Monday after that, January 28, the GAA will return to work for a week. If by the end of the week there is still no progress, there will be a walk-out of indefinite length.

The GAA has proposed a conciliation meeting with the university negotiating team for

Friday, January 18, the last day of the 'information week.'

The last time the university negotiating team and the GAA met in the presence of a conciliator, on Dec. 18, the union called off the talks to protest what GAA treasurer Janice Newton called the university's "intransigence." According to Newton at the close of the meeting, administration negotiators presented a final wage offer, refusing to talk about any issues but money. "We felt that we could not negotiate a contract for our members under those conditions," she told *Excalibur* in an interview earlier this week.

The university met with GAA representatives again on Tuesday, Jan. 7. According to the union, much the same thing happened. The university negotiators only produced a wage offer, while the union wanted to discuss other issues it considers more important.

See "Trick" - page 6

Hearing urged

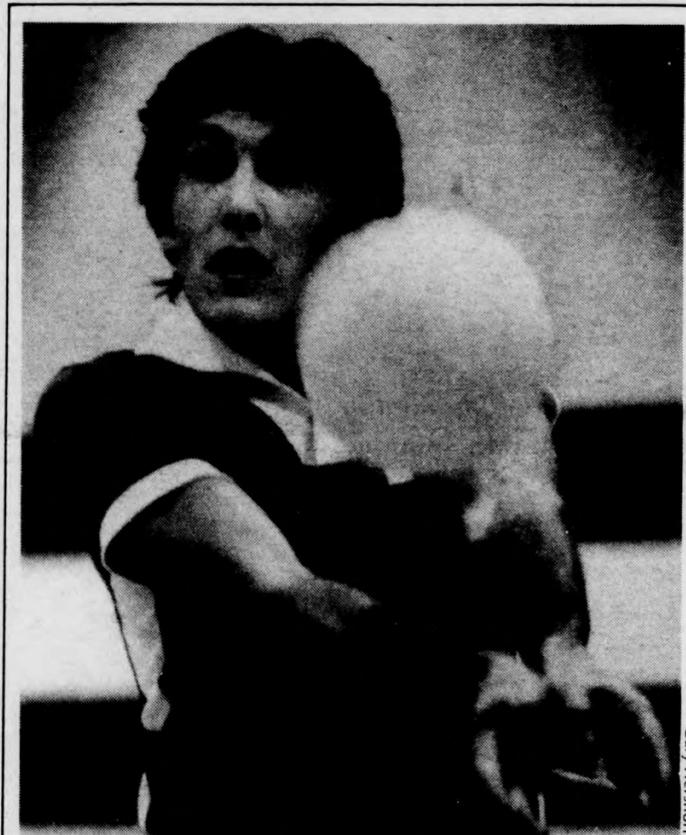
Alleged rape on campus

Hugh Westrup

The York Student Federation Executive has urged the university to come to an immediate decision in the case of an alleged rape on campus involving a student and her teacher.

A letter submitted yesterday by the executive to the administration refers to the case as "a matter of extreme urgency."

The rape, which was reported by the student to have happened in the teacher's apartment on November 16, was brought to the attention of the CYSF later that month. According to CYSF President Keith Smockum, the incident was communicated to Assistant Vice-President for Student Services, John Becker, in early December. Becker also



Yeoman Franco Girardo anxiously studies where his net shot is going to go. Girardo helped York to a third-place finish in the First Excalibur Volleyball Classic. The three-day meet, eventually won by Penn State's Nittany Lions, drew the largest volleyball crowds of the season to York's Tait McKenzie Centre. Details on the back page.

Tuition to jump next year

Bruce Gates

York University students may pay as much as \$132 more for tuition next year as a result of a December 31 decision by the Ministry of Colleges and Universities.

The Ministry's decision will mean an automatic tuition increase of \$55—the amount resulting from a 7.5 per cent rise in the "formula" fee that makes up part of a university's operating revenue.

Universities will also be given the option of raising their tuition fees by an extra 10 per cent, "but there's nothing to say they are going to raise the fee by the whole amount," explained ministry spokesman Leon Bruner. He doubts the increases will be across-the-board, but instead will hit the hardest in professional schools, such as medicine, where the long-term earning power of the student would be greatest.

Bruner says the new formula "was designed to give universities more flexibility in setting tuition fees and increasing revenues."

The Ministry's decision might have been influenced by a suggestion from the Ontario Council on University Affairs, an advisory body that gives the government advice on funding. The ministry raised its grants to universities by 7.2 per cent this year, but it was told by OCUA that if it did not adopt a more definite policy toward university funding, services at universities would decline.

OCUA suggested the ministry increase tuition fees to parallel any increase in government grants to universities in order to minimize the cost to the province.

In 1977, the province commissioned a study of tuition fees by the private management consultant, P.S. Ross & Partners, and the study was completed in 1978. Based on this study, York's undergraduate tuition fees could

See "Higher" - page 3