

Spotlight



Gary Cook photo

A Parisien in Downsview

By MICHELINA TRIGIANI

One looks at Jean-Ives and wonders what he is doing roaming about on campus. Is he a sometime strike-stranded secondary school student pursuing the fruits of a higher education or just a boygenius who's bigger and tougher than he looks?

M. Belliard is aptly called "le gamin" due to his "petiteness", but better friends refer to him as "l'enmerdeur." A literal translation is shit-disturber.

By now, you have guessed that Jean-Ives Belliard is French. From 10 miles outside Paris in Champigny, he's come to York as a visiting student from the Créteil branch of the University of Paris. Officially completing his four-year diploma in English ("unofficially" avoiding the labour force), Jean-Ives "just happens to be in Canada" after being strongly advised by teachers back home to study in an English country.

Although he has visited the museum "once" and lists the Cinéma Lumière and Grossman's Tavern among his favourite haunts, Jean-Ives has not yet formulated an opinion of Toronto. "A city is made to live in, not to think about" he says, "This one's alright, I suppose".

A familiar face in the language lab where he tries to shape up book-learned French, and an assistant with the French Department, Jean-Ives says his primary purpose is "to put a bit more fun" into learning another language.

He does this in spite of a general disdain for all university students and is upset at the facilities and materials available on campus. "80 per cent of the books here are probably left un-opened".

He especially despises students for merely pursuing degrees and thinking little of the society and how it works. "The goal is to study, start to work, get one month's rest, retire at 65 and die two years later. It's just a joke. Just enjoy yourself and laugh at it".

Citing "being alive and enjoying it" as his greatest achievement, Jean-Ives is practicing what he preaches. His future looks hazy but will most likely involve a move to "an army barracks in June". If he can avoid the draft, he'd "like to go on wandering as long as I can, settling for work and hopefully never settling." Bonne Chance!

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Women in business

Resource centre underway

By BRENDA WEEKS

Enrolment of women in Administrative Studies at York has risen by 16 per cent this year, and many of these women will play important roles in the board rooms of the country in the not too distant future.

Amid this new atmosphere of excitement in the faculty, a small group of women graduate students have recently formed a women's resource centre. Two of them are Sharon Shapiro and Leslie Bowland.

Excalibur spoke to Shapiro on Monday about the aims of the resource centre. She explained that women are in the minority in the business world and that the resource centre was established as a means of overcoming this — an alternative to isolation.

"We feel a responsibility to other women who might want to enter business school," she said.

According to Shapiro, the shortage of women in business is the result of a lack of information rather than a lack of suitability.

"In secondary schools, female students are discouraged from entering male-dominated fields, and they are given no idea of formal career planning", she lamented. "We are interested in what happens to women outside. We must 'break the womb' to show a more correct window on the world."

"It is vital that we interest women at the undergraduate business level so that there will be a transference of responsibility in this enterprise, so that our effort won't all be for naught once we graduate".

Shapiro was optimistic about the future of women in business. Although there are few women at the vice-presidential level today (and most have had an inordinately difficult climb up the corporate ladder), Shapiro predicts that we will now be seeing more and more women reaching middle

management.

The women's resource centre, located in room 024 of the

Administrative studies building, is open from 12 noon to 1:30 p.m. and from 6 p.m. to 7 p.m. on week days.

SAC settlement reached; wage parity is achieved

The University of Toronto Student Administrative Council's striking employees claimed a "victory" last week when feminist Germaine Greer refused to cross the picket lines, complying with a letter sent to her by the employees. Greer was scheduled to give a seminar January 26.

BITTER HAGGLE

This was just one of the events that occurred during the sometimes bitter haggle between the SAC executive and its union, CUPE local 1222. Last Wednesday the struggle over wage parity between different types of jobs ended in an "almost amicable" solution.

The basic dispute was over the wages of the secretaries. The SAC executive insisted that since "secretaries aren't worth that much", they were not to be paid as much as the other workers. The union contested that because all the secretarial positions had been held by women, the executive position was sexist and it appealed to Greer not to cross picket lines on those grounds.

STRIKE-BREAKING

Some of the most bitter moments arose when, out of sympathy for the workers, the staff of the Varsity refused to publish. However, the executive published three editions of a "SAC Special" outlining the executive position on the strike. The union viewed this action as strike-breaking.

The two year settlement called for a basic wage of \$176 per week, amounting to increases of between

ULC convention

The United Left Coalition extends an open invitation to join in the formation of a slate for the upcoming CYSF elections. Those who are interested are asked to submit typewritten preliminary programmes and policy drafts to the United Left Slate meeting Friday, February 13 in Stedman 107 at 2:00 p.m.

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