

Large challenge awaits new director of security

It was a calm holiday season for York's department of Security and Safety, with no major crises on campus. Over in the Personnel department, though, more than 40 applications have been received for the position of Director of Security and Safety Services, vacant since Jack Santarelli's early retirement the end of November.

Peter Struk, presently presiding over the department, has taken the welcome initiative of meeting extensively with management and staff to consider their proposals for the future direction of York's Security force. His task is not an enviable one. While plans for training officers are already underway, heated dispute still rages with regard to the staff's work schedule.

Struk, with Don Mitchell, Director of Personnel, must also sift through the numerous resumés to produce a long list of potential candidates to be interviewed. An advisory committee will later be formed to further the selection process.

What will our brave new director be up against? Plenty.

As voiced at the forum on security last October, the York community demands that security be a more conspicuous and accessible force on campus. One only has to consider Metro's successful RIDE programme to agree that physical presence is an effective deterrent against crime. Improved lighting and public seminars on such topics as sexual harassment and self defence have already made York constituents feel more secure.

More importantly, security staff need extensive training, especially in the handling of domestic disputes and sexual harassment cases, and in the areas of crisis management and report writing. Too many appalling cases have occurred in which officers have acted brashly and irresponsibly, jeopardizing the safety of those they are hired to protect. Most of these actions were spurred by ignorance and/or panic, rather than any sort of malicious intent.

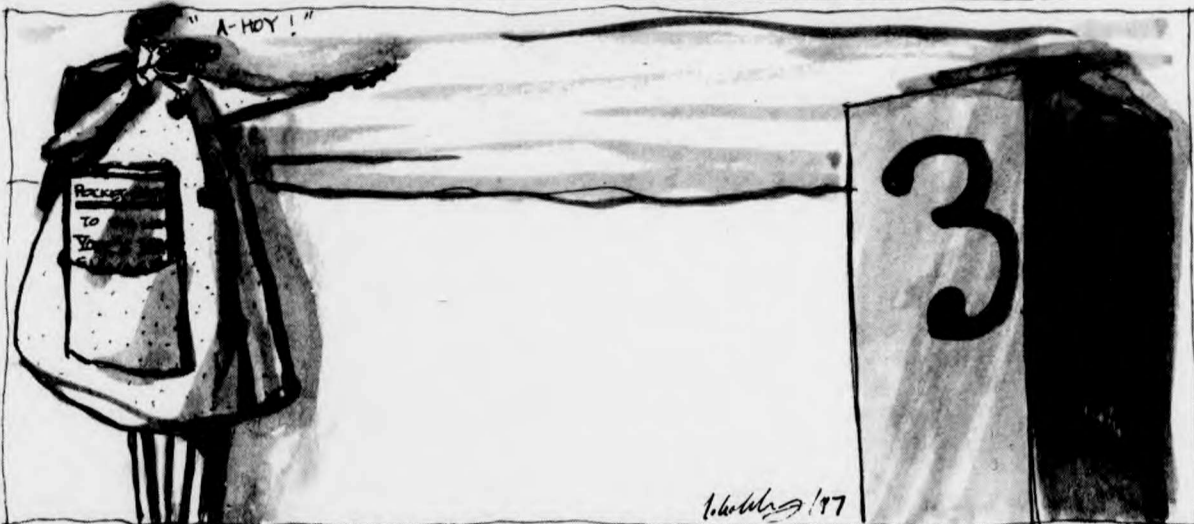
And in cases where officers have gone beyond the call of duty, they have been all too often reprimanded instead of praised by management.

The safety of security officers themselves has also been threatened, most obviously when firearms and weapons are involved. Officers need clearly defined policies with regard to emergency procedures. And a close liaison with 31 Division of Metro Police, which covers the Downsview area, must be cultivated as backup protection for our own security force.

Most of these recommendations merely require common sense. But many of them also require money—a lot more than Security and Safety Services is presently allotted. The Administration would do well to reconsider their priorities with regard to campus security.

But a third element is also needed. Cooperation through clear and open avenues of communication.

Security officers must band together and reach a consensus as to their occupational needs. Management must provide constructive guidelines for its staff and the York community at large. And the advisory board to select York's new Director of Security and Safety Services should be representative of all areas of York—the Administration, staff, professors, and students—if the community is to be adequately protected and feel safe on this campus.



IT'S EASY TO GET AROUND CAMPUS NOW WITH THE NEW DEFINITIVE POCKET GUIDE TO THE YORK SIGNAGE SYSTEM, THANK-GOODNESS!

Letters

JSF didn't mean to trivialize Christian symbol

Editor:

Re: "JSF trivializes Christian symbol in anti-JFJ drive," *Excalibur*, November 27, 1986.

We at the JSF echo the sentiments that Jews and non-Jews alike at York ought to work co-exist in harmony and cooperation. In point of fact, we are co-sponsoring the Jewish-Christian Dialogue with our Christian brethren. We have no wish to offend our Christian friends and, if they took offence to our publicity, it was without basis.

First, the letter of complaint suggests that we "trivialized a Christian symbol, the cross." Let there be no mistake about this: there was an equal representation of BOTH Christian AND Jewish symbols. To suggest that we "trivialized" the cross without "trivializing" Orthodox Jewry is preposterous and inaccurate.

Second, the picture in question was meant to represent the deceptive methods and incongruous 'theology' that is targeted towards Jews. In other words, it was a representation of 'Jews for Jesus' literature and marketing which is often used. If there is a complaint to be made, it should be directed towards 'Jews for Jesus,' who use these methods as a matter of policy.

Third, did nobody bother to read the whole flyer? It clearly states that we are *offended* by this type of material. If there is such concern about the misuse of symbols, then we are united. We have publicly deplored the group 'Jews for Jesus.' I invite all other members of the Inter Faith Council to do the same.

D. Todd Morganstein
Chairman, Student Anti-Missionary Committee, JSF

Security's handling of exhibitionist endangers student

Editor:

It is reassuring that *Excalibur* has taken a sincere interest in the security department at York. The recent resignation of Mr. Santarelli brings the hope of a new and improved security system, equipped with a fresh enthusiasm for the important function which they serve.

It is distressing to hear about the bureaucratic mess our new director will have to untangle. It is upsetting to hear that security morale is down because of infrequent days off and unreasonable scheduling.

Yet clearly the most dangerous situation that faces the security department is the lack of training offered to security officers.

This verdict comes from witnessing York's "Keystone Cops" in

progress. I was put in a situation where a notorious exhibitionist, which Security had been previously made aware of, decided he would display his wares to me.

I was studying in a common room late one night in October. Luckily another student who had heard about this man phoned Security for me, and explained the predicament to them.

Her exact words were, "I am positive that the man you have heard about is in the McLaughlin Common Room right now. He is in the process of masturbating. He fits the description you have perfectly. I suggest you use your discretion and send a man up immediately."

I can't accuse York's Security system of tardiness, since five minutes later a battalion of walkie-talkie-yielding security men hoarded the common room. There were at least six guards, most in uniform. They promptly surrounded the accused.

Discretion was not a strong point with these men; although I was 10 feet away, I could hear a chorus of men asking the man whether or not he had been masturbating. Of course he said he hadn't. They asked if he was a student. He said no. They made no move to charge him with trespassing.

Then one of the guards pointed to me, saying, "That girl there said you were fondling yourself." The ethics of their performance floored me. Obviously, the case was too tough for them to crack, as they left en masse, clucking and scratching their heads.

What had previously been a room full of the buzz of inquisition and the static of walkie-talkies became very quiet. Needless to say, I was tense. Luckily the accused left after approximately five minutes of intensely dirty looks. I left soon afterward.

I have not studied after regular school hours since the incident. I would like to, but one farce a year is all I can handle. Especially when it's my security that is at stake.

Nadine Rusinek

Students mortified by security stunts in icy parking lot

Editor:

With all the controversy surrounding the performance of the York Security staff we were mortified by the scene we witnessed recently. During the morning of December 12 at 1:07 a.m. we were entering our car in parking lot B (behind McLaughlin College) when we noticed a York Security van driving recklessly in the ice covered parking lot. The driver of the van was performing what appeared to be out of control spins with his vehicle. Unless this type of performance is part of a new innovative training program for security staff then this type of reckless abandonment must be dealt with in a severe manner.

Considering that one of the security vans was smashed last year, we can only hope that it was not in another situation such as that which was observed that night. We would expect that the random stupidity of a few of the drivers will not affect the funding for a project such as the student security as it is a worthwhile endeavour. This behaviour must be more closely scrutinized to avoid such further foolhardiness from occurring.

—Matthew Rotenberg, Henry Morton

'Crandles mixing up common sense with non-sense'

Editor:

Norman Crandles, Director of Housing and Food Services, was quoted in your last issue as saying that "it is perfectly reasonable to have no studying in the cafeteria. After all, there is no eating in the library and there shouldn't be studying in the cafeteria. We are talking about a common sense approach the problem." If that is the common sense approach, let me tell Mr. Crandles about some un-common sense. The university is not about food (as useful and pleasurable it may be to have all kinds of food services available), but it is all about books and studying and discussion. Mr. Crandles seems to be mixing up common sense with bureaucratic non-sense. But worst of all, instead of making more space and services available in Central Square, he is hiding behind the clash of those students who need to eat and drink, and those who want to combine that with reading, studying and socializing. Well, both deserve a place in Central Square; in a University what happens outside the classroom has a big impact on what happens in the classroom. And that is one reason, it seems to be, all of this is of special interest to the teaching faculty.

President Harry Arthurs knows what I am talking about: the Law School cafeteria and lounge is a model of what we should have; and the Faculty Club provides the faculty exactly what is denied students in Central Square.

—Johann Gottfried Paasche
Department of Sociology
Faculty of Arts

Recreation York rebuts rec time swimming charge

Editor:

On behalf of Recreation York, I would like to respond to the letter regarding casual recreation swimming hours published in the November 27 issue of *Excalibur*.

To write that "Recreation York does not much care for the convenience and participation of many part-timers" is a harsh statement.

cont'd on p. 7

excalibur

Editor	Lorne Manly
Managing Editor	Paulette Peirol
News Editors	James Flagal, Zena McBride, Jeff Shinder
Arts Editors	Angela Lawrence (on sabbatical), Kevin Pasquino
Features Editor	Laura Lush
Sports Editors	David Bundas, James Hoggett
Art Director	Janice Goldberg
Darkroom Manager	Alex Foord
Official East-West Mascot	Ryan McBride
Staff	Luis Aguila, Reya Ali, Babak Amirfeiz, Loren Arduini, Sujata Berry, Gary Blakeley, Olga Braut, B.J. Broitman, Mel Broitman, Joe Carter, Rob Castle, Dermot Connolly, Roberta Di Maio, David (Feet don't fail me now) Dollard, Juan Escobar, Bobby Flagal (as the Beaver), Greg Gagne, Romy Gold, Christine Gomes, Theresa Grech, Karim Hajee, Alan Heller, Susan Hilton, Jay Howell, Steve Isenberg, Adam Kardash, Stan Klich, Nick Lapicciella, Nick Lorusso, Stephen Manly (Israel correspondent), George Mathewson, Bonnie Mitten, Gail Morgenstern, Lisa Olsen, Jennifer Parsons, Wendy Quinton, Ben Rafael, O.J. Ross, Minto Roy, Elliott Shiff (Cameo appearance), Lesley "Mazel Tov" Sipos, Miklos Sipos, Cathy Sturm, Paula Torneck, Edo Van Belkom, Andrew Vance, John Wen, Stephen Wise, Wyndham Wise, Meiyin Yap, Paula Zarnett
(We hope you have enjoyed Relative Week in the Staff Box; next issue, look forward to Famous Chess Players and Roller Derby Stars!)	
Board of Publications Chairperson	Kevin Connolly
Advertising Assistant	Patty Milton-Feasby
Typesetting Grave-Robber	Stuart Ross
Advertising Manager	Merle Menzies

EDITORIAL: 736-5239
ADVERTISING: 736-5238
TYPESETTING: 736-5240

MAILING ADDRESS:
Room 111, Central Square
York University
4700 Keele Street
Downsview M3J 1P3

