OPINIONS

The man, the myth, the magic



Monday to address the faculty of

Administrative Studies on Cana-

If he had known about the kind

of vocal anti-Tory reception that

was awaiting him, he may have

Amid a storm of student protest

outside the lecture room where

he addressed 75 business stu-

dents, the prime minister stuck to

his guns: he promoted Tory policy as the only effective way to

modernize the Canadian

Once he had run the gauntlet of

insults and wet macaroni, Murlo-

ney disappeared into the lecture

room. Safely tucked inside, away

from the demonstrators, he deri-

ded their chants for his resigna-

tion merely as a sign that "change

Mulroney called the demon-

strators followers, not leaders.

He told the small group of stu-

dents and media observers inside

the room that the protestors were

taking the easy way out by dem-

onstrating, but that they were not

offering any sound alternatives to

revitalize the Canadian economy.

could stop the demonstrations

and dispel his unpopular image

Mulroney claimed that he

da's global competiveness.

reconsidered his visit.

economy

troubles people.'

Tues. Nov. 6 by Jake Redkin Brian Mulroney came to York on T.B.A.

(does it matter? come for the tall boys and

This week:

(Wally shined his shoes to match his head)

Nov. 7-10 _

TONY FLAIM (in his real life, he sings with Downchild)

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CORNER OF DUFFERIN AND STEELES

very easily just by cancelling the Free-Trade Agreement (FTA) and the GST. But he insisted that the tough decisions taken by the Tories were the key to curing Canada's ailing economy.

"I'm making tough decisions for your [students'] future and I will continue to do precisely that," Mulroney told the business students.

In a patriotic appeal, Mulroney remarked that if there was a dilemma between popularity and practicality, he would "do what was right for Canada ten times out of ten" at the sake of his own political career.

The unpopular Tory policies include privatizing crown corporations, bringing in the GST consumer tax to replace the existing manufacturers' tax, and sending Canadian troops to the Persian

The prime minister went on to state that deficit reduction continued to be a priority for the Tories and that program expenditures in Ottawa had to be curtail-

"We can no longer just print money and throw it at problems,' said Mulroney.

Addressing a question about what he would do to fight the recession, Mulroney reiterated that the Tories were going to stick to their plan with the FTA and GST

Mulroney later emphasized that human resources were pivotal to Canada's continued global competitiveness, especially in training graduate business students to become managers of international markets in the

Brain power is where we can get the competitive edge," Mulroney said.

The prime minister promised that he will continue to cooperate

and consult with colleges, universities and research institutes to work out a common strategy for putting Canada back in control of its destiny.

He stressed the importance of removing the "divisiveness and selfishness of special interest

groups" who advocated their interests above that of the economic and political health of the nation.

Perhaps, he was hinting at the student demonstrators outside as they chanted for his resignation.



Brian Mulroney charms a crowd of enthralled supporters outside the Admin Studies building. The protesters, however, are close behind.

COLUMNS

the dissent of (wo)man

by Glenn Ng

t was not until I was approached to write an article on a male perspective of women's issues at York that I realized the extent of systemic sexism in our society and on university campuses.

First springing to mind were the brutal murders of 14 female students at the University of Montreal last year, and how such an extreme manifestation of sexism could not possibly repeat itself at York.

Most likely it will not, but that does not excuse a re-examination of some of the systemic roots of that tragedy that are very much in evidence at York.

The relatively recent surge of female students in universities is partly a response to their appreciation that formal upgrading of their skills is necessary to compete with men in the

world. Men generally, by virtue of their sex-category, already possess a headstart beginning from birth. Women enjoy no such asset; if fact, their sex incurs a liability.

Marc Lepine's systematic executions were an explicit

recognition of this dichotomy; his victims were selected not on the basis of race, religion, class or age, but by virture of sexcategorization.

When a female student at York walks unaccompanied after dark, she undertakes the all-too-familiar procedures of walking briskly on lighted paths, keeping her eyes attentatively wide, and glancing constantly over her shoulder.

Men by nature cannot relate to the fears a woman undergoes whenever she walks the streets or campus alone because the specificity of her femaleness announces to the world that she is more vulnerable to harrassment, rape, or as in 14 earlier cases, murder.

Particularly disconcerting is the prevalence of apathy among the students - men and women alike.

Because York is largely a commuter's university, it has a problem in recruiting extracurricular participants in various clubs and activities offered. This can only be a minor problem considering that the silence of many of us on campus issues like employee discrimination, date rape, and

sexual harrassment between students and faculty alike, effectively conveys the message that systemic sexism is either non-existent or not a serious enough problem to warrant public discussion.

What we need is a more vigorous communications policy to destroy the notion that sexism is a subject confined to vocal feminists.

Myriad forms of sexism abound. Most women reading this, for example, are likely applied arts majors (especially within psychology, sociology and anthropology), unaware that the high school system relegates women away from science and mathematics — the traditional preserve of men.

While it may be true that men simply do not engage in feminist discussion, many are indeed sympathetic to women's objectives, just as they are to those of Natives and other disadvantaged groups. They may, however, be unwilling to acknowledge that support because of cultural dictates.

It is imperative that support be manifested, for without it the efforts of women may as well be directed at a brick wall.

Slow but marked improvements have been made recently, notably at the University of Western Ontario, where certain traditions of frosh week have been forgone for awareness programmes on AIDS and date rape.

We are blessed at York with a rich, multicultural student body, but much of our ethnocultural pride has been forged by historical persecutions of our forebearers in Canada.

At one time or another. Chinese, Germans, Austrians, Indians and other nationals were prohibited from immigrating here; Nazi-fleeing Jews were turned back; Japanese, Italians and Ukranians have all been interned in the past.

Those of us who can relate to latent systemic racism can and must have a firm empathy for women's issues, which like race relations, address equally legitimate dimensions of human

This is a viewpoint I have always striven to make perceptible to others, for the subordination of half our population at the workplace, home, or on campus, is a denigration to us all.