

feature

Another school year . . .

By PAUL O'DONNELL

Four months later and we're back at York. O.K. What happened to the Lecture halls? Where did they put them? Oh, no, here comes a first-year student. Don't ask me anything, kid. How should I know where Stong College is? I haven't been here for four months.

Sounds familiar? Well, relax. Sit on the floor in Central Square with *Excalibur* and let us help you find yourself. You probably thought orientation was just for first-year students—but you're wrong. Everyone forgets things. I'm not saying you should have come last week to all the barbecues or taken the tours of the campus, but there are subtle ways of orienting yourself.

First, you can go to the CYSF offices in Central Square and pick up this year's *Manus*. It's red and has a picture of a hand on it. Inside, like a dictionary, you'll find everything at York from A to Z. Clubs, pubs, offices, everything. Trust me—I read it to do this article. It even has a map. Hardly an excuse for getting lost now.

After reading *Manus*, you'll have noticed York has everything anyone could ask for. It's even possible to never leave campus for the next eight months, but that's for hardy, thrillstarved types only.

Of course, after a week of classes you should have at least four essays, which means a trip to the library. Our main library, Scott (the one with the escalators in Central Square), undoubtedly hasn't got the book you want. Don't be paranoid though; if

you ask at the desk someone might be able to track it down. If you're lucky, someone might even teach you how to use the computerized index system.

There are tours of the library all through the fall and I guarantee that you're bound to find that there are more than books there.

Downstairs there are film and map libraries. Upstairs, there's a record and tape library (the Listening Room). Impressive. Who knows? You might even find that book after all.

So now that you have the books, you have to write the essay. Admit it—you don't remember how to write an essay. It's OK, nobody's perfect and that's why the Writer's Workshop exists. They'll help you punctuate, edit, footnote and even title your essay. I've heard they can turn that C+ paper into an easy A.

Orientation for those who don't need it

Also, after first week you should have fallen behind in reading. If you hurry, the campus bookstore may still be able to fill out your booklist. Even if you don't have money you can still get books. The Bookstore has a charge card system. Buy now, pay later. Best way to go . . .

Speaking of borrowing, the loans office is in the Steacie Science library. You can pick up your OSAP form there and even apply for an emergency loan. Who knows? If the loan's big enough maybe you and Club Med can go to Mexico for Christmas.

If your summer has left you mentally disturbed there are two places you can go to get help: The Campus Connection and Counseling and Development.

Campus Connection is a peer group organization made up of volunteers trained to help fellow students cope with day-to-day problems. The Counseling and Development Centre is a professional outfit and offers various workshops to help strengthen everyone's weaknesses.

If by chance, during some boring weekend you find yourself in legal difficulty, rest easy. York provides legal aid. Community and Legal Aid Services Program (CLASP) can be found in rooms 122-129 on the first floor of Osgoode Hall. No appointments necessary—just break the law and run in anytime.

After attending all pub crawls and orientation barbecues and winding up with food poisoning and a hangover, smile and remember that you don't have to leave campus to go to hospital. In Vanier College, there's a medical clinic that caters to the needs of all students.

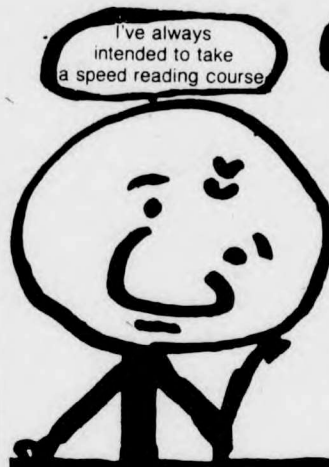
Also, York emergency and security have a 24-hour hotline number (667-3333, or 667-4545) and offer prompt help in crisis situations.

There is also a rape hotline number and a student security system to help the student body feel secure in North York.

Last, but not least, there are nine pubs and coffee shops on campus. Need I say more?

Cheers!

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