

Computer-assisted workshop to help students write essays

By STEVEN ISENBERG

A computer-assisted writing workshop has been instituted in the Scott library and is currently undergoing final software revisions.

The workshop, on the fifth floor of the library, offers 60 terminals available for use by students in pre-selected courses at York. The instructors at the centre have all worked in either the writing workshop or the essay tutoring service. The long term goal of the centre will be to match up the instructional side

of essay writing assistance with the ease of word processing.

In charge of the project is Randy Smye, a visiting assistant professor on a one-year leave from Sheridan College, where he is an English instructor working on research and development. According to Smye, the system is designed to be user friendly. "We don't want to have a writing workshop that takes 12 hours to learn how to use," he said.

The centre has been considered by York for over two years and has been

made possible by a recent grant from the Ministry of Colleges and Universities.

The intention of the centre, as Smye notes, is to "provide a special resource for three areas of need: writing intensive courses, individualized instruction by the writing workshop and essay tutoring centre, and the more traditional need for undergraduate word processing and text analysis."

The system is comprised of 60 Lanpa Vision 2200+ terminals, a

VT220 compatible terminal and two Digital 1A 210 printers. The diskless terminals make use of five Sun 3/160s "super" microcomputers which store accounts. The uniqueness of the centre lies in its ability to provide users with the option of collaborative efforts on different terminals.

Peggy Keall, a social science professor who has registered her course with the workshop, acknowledges that such a service will "make writing easier" in that it "allows rewrit-

ing and prewriting" possibilities. Furthermore, Keall believes that students stand to benefit from the stressed importance of organization in dealing with a computer.

For now, the system is limited to only students enrolled in courses which are formally affiliated with the centre. In the future, Smye estimates that some 1,000 students will be using the centre, although usership will be limited to only those students in specific courses.

Campaign set up to fight the dangers of alcohol use

By WENDY QUINTON

A non-alcoholic drink contest will be one of the highlights of the CYSF-sponsored Alcohol Awareness Week, February 23 to 27 in Central Square.

According to CYSF Internal Affairs Director Adam French, the idea for Alcohol Awareness Week came about at a November conference he attended sponsored by BACCHUS. BACCHUS, an acronym for Boost Alcohol Consciousness Concerning Health of University Students, is an American based organization that promotes student awareness of the dangers of alcohol. BACCHUS has recently opened chapters in Canada, with the University of Waterloo, Ryerson, Georgian College and Acadia being active participants.

French explained BACCHUS's approach as this: "They don't have 'preachy' attitudes . . . they take a more realistic approach emphasizing positive peer pressure." French indicated that if BACCHUS were to become a permanent fixture at York,

it would be an agent of CYSF and would be involved with running campaigns and seminars promoting alcohol awareness.

Throughout the week of February 23, French will be promoting this awareness with free buttons and t-shirts bearing the slogan, "I Did It For A Week At York!" The idea behind this campaign is to challenge the staff and students of York to abstain from drinking for one week.

According to French, "Although I don't want to promote non-drinking, it can be fun to have fun without alcohol."

Activities will also include display booths featuring organizations such as the Addiction Research Foundation, movies in the bearpit, guest speakers and student debates. Alongside this will be the "non-alcoholic drink contest" to entice campus pubs to invent a good non-alcoholic drink. It is hoped that this contest will result in a choice for future bar patrons between alcoholic and non-alcoholic drinks.



BABAK AMIRFEIZ

WATER HORROR STORIES: Michael Keating, the *Globe & Mail's* environmental reporter, spoke Monday at York on "Future Water Crises" and related some terrifying stories about the water we take for granted. Keating said that we have immense amounts of water in the Great Lakes but we can't use it because of the pollution; a water shortage by the year 2000 is likely.

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YORK STUDENT REFERENDUM NOTICE

A referendum will be held on March 10 & 11, 1987 to determine if York students approve the imposition of a full-course levy to fund a York Student Centre.

Any student or group wishing to officially oppose the campaign **must** serve notice with the Chief Returning Officer on or before February 27, 1987.

Bryson Stokes
Chief Returning Officer
105 Central Square
736-5324

THE 1987 YORK MURALS COMPETITION:

A Competition for Site-Specific Wall Art

Open to Artists working in all media: painting, design, photography, drawing, relief sculpture and mixed media

A competition to select three designs for site specific wall art to be mounted at three sites on the York campus by Fall, 1987. This project is being sponsored by CYSF, the Office of Student Affairs, the Creative Arts Board, the Faculty of Fine Arts, and the Department of Physical Plant.

Plan Now To Submit!!

DEADLINE FOR SUBMISSIONS:

5:00 p.m., February 23, 1987 (Monday after reading week)

LOCATION:

Faculty Lounge, Fine Arts Building

JUDGING:

February 24, 1987 (5:00 p.m. - 9:00 p.m.)

EXHIBITION:

Of submissions Friday, February 29 - March 13, 1987.

PROPOSED SITES:

Ross Building

Opposite walls, north and south (to left of lockers), Post Office Square (4 panels/8' x 8' x 8')
Northeast Entrance Wall, opposite N119 Ross (red corridor) (3 panels/8' x 12')

Wall to right of entrance, Language Laboratory (4 panels/8' x 20')

Wall to right of Copy Centre (3 panels/8' x 16')

College Complex One

End wall at foot of ramp leading to Founders/Vanier cafeteria (3 panels/vertical 12' x 8')

End wall at foot of ramp leading to Winters/McLaughlin cafeteria (3 panels/vertical 12' x 8')

DEADLINE FOR SUBMISSIONS

FEBRUARY 23, 5:00 P.M.

Don't Forget: The Provost's Prize (\$1,000 in cash prizes) will be awarded at the discretion of the jury.

HOPE YOU ALL HAVE A RELAXING AND PRODUCTIVE READING WEEK

