

The administration is spending millions of dollars on new construction on the main campus. A new academic building, a new fine arts building and new residences that have been needed for a long time, are now being built. But another, possibly more urgent need, is not being met.

There was another asbestos scare at Osgoode Hall Law School last week.

Asbestos was used to insulate Osgoode when it was built in 1967. The substance was used because it is fire resistant, but it also has been proven to cause fatal illnesses such as lung cancer, asbestosis (when asbestos fibres get between the cells of the lungs and cause fibrous tissue to grow, thus dangerously impairing their functioning) and mesothelioma (when tumours grow on the lining of the lungs and on the tissue that divides the lungs from the rest of the chest cavity). And Law Professor Kent McNeil found a chunk of it on the floor of his office on October 2.

The university cleaned up his office that night. On October 4 air evaluations were made which revealed a high level of airborne asbestos in the office and in the hallway outside the office. As a result Osgoode was closed until further tests revealed a safe level.

Also, on June 2, 1989 dust was found on the inside of a shelving unit in the Law Library and on the floor of the stairwell that was used to carry the unit out to a loading dock. On June 12 the dust was positively identified as asbestos and the affected area was sealed off and cleaned. Samples were taken again on June 12, 13 and 14. The results, received on June 29, were positive. There was still a trace of airborne asbestos in the stairwell, and the school was closed on the morning of June 30.

There have also been other asbestos scares over the past few years.

It is obvious the university made a grave mistake in not notifying people of the June threat. People were exposed to high levels of asbestos for two weeks. The question that must be asked is: why has the asbestos not been removed from the building altogether? The administration's plan of action is to clean up after a hazard has arisen, instead of eradicating the problem. Professor McNeil should not have been working in an area where a threat was even possible.

It is true that York needs more residences and classrooms, but surely people's health is a more immediate need. It is ironic that while students are attempting to implement a health plan, the administration is playing with the health of its law students, faculty and staff.

EXCALIBUR

Editor Nancy Phillips
 Assistant Editor Heather Saffinger
 Production Manager/Art Director Amanda Jane Keenan
 Cover Jennifer Crane
 News Editors Susan Vanstone, Daniel Wolgelerentier
 Arts Editors Jeannine Amber, Roslyn Angel, Mikael Koven
 Sports Editors Jacob Katsman, Josh Rubin
 Features Editor Howard Kaman
 Photography Editors Jennifer Crane, André Sourjooun
 Production Staff Jane Burkett, Melissa Campeau, Linda Lake, Lisa Penn
 Staff Marcelo Alterman, Brian Amuchastegui, Nancy Bevan, L.H. Brail, Paul Brooks, Rob Cabral, Alan Cooke, Candice Cooper, Sharon Creelman, Paul Gazzola, Andrew Goss, Kristy Gordon, Margot Gordon, R.G. Granger, Paul Headrick, Tania Hewett, Valerie Hochschild, Zubin Hooshangi, Dave Horton, Pamela Jarvis, Barbara Kaczor, Shawna Kaufman, Latex Boots, Jessie Lee, Laura Martins, Donna Mason, Andy Marshall, Stephen Mitchell, Stephen Moses, Mark Moss, Ira Nayman, Jessica Rudolph, Sydney St. Nicholas, Riccardo Sala, Jason Schwartz, Shay Schwartzman, Pam Serkowney, Vic Sharma, Natalia Smith, Karen Sugar, Randall Terada, Ken Turritt, Enza Vaccher, Tina Wood, Mark Wright
 Advertising Manager Merle Menzies
 Advertising Assistants Jeff Kippel, Patty Milton-Rao
 Advertising Rep Meiyin Yap
 Typesetter Mary Jankulak
 Board of Publications Chairperson Kevin Connolly
 EDITORIAL: 736-5239
 TYPESETTING: 736-5240
 ADVERTISING: 736-5238
 MAILING ADDRESS: Room 111, Central Square
 York University
 4700 Keele Street
 Downsview M3J 1P3



Vandoo article not sexist

Dear Editor:

Re: 'Vandoo Sexist' opinion column in the Sept. 28 issue of *Excalibur* by R.G. Granger.

Granger begins the column by asking if "the article [was] an attempt at humour or a slap in the face of intelligent people at York?" Well, it should be obvious to intelligent people at York that the *intent* of the article was humorous. A quick scan of the article proves this point. Phrases such as "super-love-god-macho-power" and "why do men have nipples?" can hardly be taken seriously. Telling someone to install a "clapper" on his light switch so he won't have to interrupt... is hardly sound advice to be taken seriously.

Granger says the article "reflects a chauvinist attitude which should have died in the '60s with the rise of the feminist movement." It is obvious from the anachronisms in this article (satin and velour went out with the Bee Gees) that it is not meant to reflect the prevailing attitudes of the 1980s.

The article is not mocking women who come to university looking for a husband, it parodies the idea that men could think that any woman's sole reason for existence could be to find a man. This is the attitude of a chauvinist. The article touches on the mentality of the chauvinist and suggests

that he is insecure. He needs "Molson's Liquid Nerve" to make him feel confident before he can approach a woman.

The article also suggests that he is not comfortable with his identity. "Remember, no matter what, you study law at Osgoode." This insecurity is one of the tragedies of Western concepts of masculinity. Feminists have been speaking for decades of the need for liberation. It is only recently that we have begun to talk about the need for men's liberation. Men must discard old concepts of masculinity, machismo, dominance, aggressiveness and become secure with themselves before they can treat women as equals. Mr. Fabrizio's article is neither chauvinist nor misogynist, but rather it exposes the chauvinist for what he really is: insecure, paranoid, and ill-equipped to relate to others in a progressive society, where people should be judged by their merits, not by their masculinity or femininity.

May I also remind Mr. Granger that his accusation of racism is unsubstantiated. While 'Eddie Fabrizio' may possibly be guilty of cultural stereotyping he is by no means a racist. This misinterpretation makes racism seem trite and petty rather than the serious problem that it is.

Sincerely,
 Karen Myers

Hands off the salt

To the editor:

What really bothers me is when I see inconsiderate patrons of the Central Square Cafeteria helping themselves to the "handicapped condiments" (i.e. straws, forks, spoons, etc.).

The reason York University has put these standards into place is to serve our handicapped students. These stands were not installed for the "able-bodied" students. If all of us able-bodied students helped ourselves at the handicapped condiment stands, then our handicapped students would not have the service at their disposal; making their lives a little more complicated.


George Rappos
 4th Year, Political Science/
 Mass Comm.

TTC workers are victims

Dear Editors:

While promoting our talk entitled "Why support the TTC workers" in Central Square last week, we were disheartened by the amount of anger and antagonism York students expressed toward TTC drivers and staff during the slowdown. We feel this resentment was unfairly projected onto the victims during this dispute — the TTC workers — rather than the people who created the need for a strike in the first place — the management.

One of the basic trends in Western societies in the past decade has been to replace full-time workers with part-time (or temporary) workers in many industries in order to reduce costs. Such actions have been justified under the guise of public benefit through increased efficiency. This is a false claim. In truth, cost savings are not due to greater effi-



HARVARD

Graduate School of
Business Administration

looking ahead
towards an: **M.B.A.**

Harvard University Graduate School of Business Administration seeks top graduates with a career interest in General Management. Admissions representatives will be at York U. to speak about work experience and the M.B.A. program. We hope you can attend the meeting:

Friday, October 13
3:00 p.m.- 5:00 p.m.
Curtis Lecture Hall "C"

Harvard Business School is committed to the principle of equal educational opportunity

PREPARE FOR:

LSAT GMAT
MCAT SAT
GRE DAT

SPEEDREADING

**ADVANCED
MEDICAL
BOARDS**

KAPLAN
STANLEY H. KAPLAN EDUCATIONAL CENTER
OF CANADA LTD.

(416) 967-4733

COUNSELLING & DEVELOPMENT CENTRE

Groups on

ASSERTIVENESS TRAINING

Assertive people are able to stand up for themselves and to express their rights, feelings, and needs in ways that do not violate the rights of others.

Leader: Polly MacFarlane

*Thursdays from 12 noon to 2 p.m.
Starting October 19, for four sessions. Register NOW.*

C D C
145 Behavioural Sciences Building
736-5297

Counselling Education Research Clinical Training