

LETTERS

1) Should decisions be made without first screening all candidates, when an applicant is made to pay a \$45 fee to ensure that his/her file will be treated fairly in this competitive game?

2) Why was the initial deadline extended when there was a surplus of applicants?

3) Are we being led down the garden path and then deceived by the administration?

Bruno Pileggi

"Disband" BBA program

Dear Editor:

I would like to thank Professor Russell for his brilliant connection between the problems in the Middle East and my BBA sweatshirt ("Nothing to be proud of," March 16). In consideration of this new, eye-opening development, I would like to suggest to Dean Horvath that the BBA programme be disbanded to prevent further tarnishing of the Faculty of Administrative Studies.

Brian Osler

Something to be proud of

Dear Editor:

In regards to the letter in *Excalibur*, dated March 16, 1989, entitled "Nothing to be proud of," I would like to know what is Mr. Russell's point? Perhaps he just wanted to exercise his right to be irrelevant! Those who wear shirts with the letters BBA should be proud. It is a constant reminder of their hard work to graduate with a Bachelor of Business Administration and has nothing to do with the Middle East. If Mr. Russell wants to share his concern over there then he should, as he

has the right to, but his letter is blatantly impertinent.

Al Amato

Female myth "destructive"

Dear Editor,

I am writing in response to Anita Wargel's letter ("Women are 'prisoners'," *Excalibur*, March 9). There is no doubt that now, as in the past, myths about women are extremely widespread. These myths are propagated certainly by male-oriented media (pornography, for example), as Wargel points out, but they are also insidiously extended by popular film, music, and — especially — popular women's magazines. The January cover of one such magazine read: The Year of Seduction! Sexy Swimsuits, Aphrodisiac Cuisine, Beauty Bliss. Women subscribe to these publications, and, essentially, to the myth.

Men, too, suffer from myths. The myth of masculinity suggests that in order to be male, a man must be large, muscular, successful, strong (both physically and emotionally), and well-hung. What I'm suggesting is that we have a basic human problem here. Both sexes are prisoners of myths created and maintained over the centuries by humanity.

There is, however, a major difference in the effect of the two myths on the lives of members of both genders. The female myth, if accepted by men prone to aggression, can be extremely destructive to women. Violence against women (rape, wife-abuse) has increased alarmingly over the past few years. According to a recent study, sexual violence in Toronto increased by 46.5 per cent in 1988.

The justice system is pathetically unequipped to deal with cases of this type. Furthermore, once the case enters the system, the violence has already occurred. In my opinion, the only viable way to prevent violence against women is to systematically dismantle the myth through education — in schools in the workplace,

and even on a personal level with friends. Voicing your opinion may encourage someone else to re-evaluate his or her personal beliefs, and also will help you to feel less like a prisoner or victim. As for the stranger who makes offensive comments, don't look around for a snowball to throw, or wait days to think of an appropriate response. Object in the most immediate way you can, even if that means giving him the finger. Consider it a sort of education. And remember: our silence helps to keep us prisoners.

Lisa Wood

York is still "second-rate"

Dear Editor,

Once again, the quality of education at York suffers . . . and, once again, it is students who pay the price. The current move by the Fine Arts department to reduce the position of Studio Technician in the photography studio from full-time to part-time is simply assinine. If this position becomes one of a temporary/contract nature, York will not be able to attract the kind of experienced, competent, technical people this job demands. I didn't pay good money and make sacrifices in order to get a second-rate education.

Already, York has a less than ideal reputation within the Arts community but perhaps this is part of the overall plan . . . drive York's reputation into the ground. This way, seeing as we're already overcrowded, we'll attract fewer and fewer students. The Photography Department is already ridiculously overbooked and over-crowded. There is more work for everyone. And at a time when the demand for photography courses is at an all time high, rumour has it that the Dean sees fit to cancel summer courses in photography. Of course, this is the reasoning behind their current move . . . "we don't need a full-time technician if we don't have summer courses."

This "cost-saving" move wouldn't

have anything to do with the current construction of the new Fine Arts building would it? Something fishy going on. There's more to this than meets the eye. York University's business is education. I don't think this current move is good for education or good for business. We need a full-time technician in the photography studio. This student is getting tired of second-rate at York.

R.B. Eakin

"Terrorism" at York

Dear Editor:

The time I have been on campus I have heard stories about terrorism and people being scared to walk by themselves during night hours. Those scenes are not very good for the reputation of York University. The University should react more drastically when situations occur.

It is known that someone walking alone in the University and especially in the isolated parts of campus, may be faced with unpleasant situations. Probably York is trying to protect its students by advising them to be more careful and to be on the lookout and avoid places which have potential danger.

Many night classes are scheduled far off to the other side of the campus. This is a disadvantage to the students because walking alone at night to and from classes might promote the possibility of an attack to occur. I am giving this point because I have personal experience of the matter. One of my classes, CC1630.06, is held in the Rideau Classroom Building which is located at the corner of Steeles and Keele street, in an area that is not very lit or crowded especially during evening hours.

My suggestion is that it would be better if night courses, like the one I referred to, are given more consideration on which part of the campus they are held. Probably the area around the Ross Building would be a good choice. *Excalibur* as a commun-

ication tool should provide articles more often like the one above and offer or at least try to provide solutions on important matters on the campus. I want to believe that all of us will try together to keep terrorism out of York University.

John Tjimos

Clubs need publicity

Dear Sir,

In my capacity as president of the York University Outing Club, I was recently interviewed by a student for an article about the club which he hoped to see published in *Excalibur*. The Outing Club is a university-supported organization whose purpose is to offer students, staff and faculty inexpensive opportunities to engage in and learn more about canoeing, camping, hiking, skiing, and other outdoor activities, through courses and weekend trips. I was quite disappointed to hear that the article had been refused. Our club is not widely publicized, and I think that such an article could be a useful service to the student body at York.

About a year ago, I offered to write a similar short piece myself for *Excalibur*. I was told that *Excalibur* planned an article on "all the clubs," and that someone would contact me. No one ever did, so I suppose that no such article was written.

This seems to indicate a low level of interest in student activities and organizations on campus, something I find surprising in a student newspaper. There are a large number of student clubs on campus, and some of them are very active. At present information about them seems to be largely restricted to a few lines in the classified section. I think that *Excalibur* would serve the student body at York much better by devoting some space each week — even a half page — to their activities.

I remain,

Yours sincerely,
David Tarasick

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