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Students helping Students

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Learn library skills at Cameron

by Kevin Law

Lost in the Library? The Information and Reserve Centre at Cameron Library can help.

They offer six different skill programs designed to implement library skills for students. Such skills are especially helpful for those students who are required to do research for various courses.

"We're trying to give students a head start," explained bibliographic instruction librarian Ross Sherwin. For the average student he recommended at least one or a compliment of two courses. "The focus," he says, "is on making the library system efficient for

students."

Sherwin notes that students who take library skills courses early can reduce the panic of competing for resources later as research assignments come due. Sherwin also notes that library skills can give a student alternatives to bibliographies provided by professors. In this way, students can work more independently and help alleviate an information bottleneck. Bottlenecks occur when too many students try to obtain information recommended by professor's rather than look for related or additional resources.

The library skills program can give students the tools necessary to achieve a higher degree of proficiency in the library. The six different programs cover everything from the basics of library organization and "hands on" practice at computer terminals to more advanced courses in periodical and bibliography selection. All courses are offered at various times and most courses are on a first come basis; some require registration.

Further information can be obtained at any library information desk.



Debora Jensen, an airline stewardess who volunteers 8 to 9 hours a week at the Garneau Foot Patrol office, learned of the program after being assisted by Garneau's Officer Ron Chetney.

Beat patrol provides closer contact

by Kevin Law

There is a new face in the Garneau neighborhood.

The Edmonton City Police have recently established the Garneau Beat Patrol at 11147 - 87 avenue

to provide closer contact between police and the community.

Constable Ron Chetney is the officer who patrols a beat ranging from 107 street to 112 street north and south, to 82 avenue and Saskatchewan Drive east and west.

The beat patrol system is designed to meet area needs by establishing a permanent base in the community being served. "It's different than other foot patrols," Chetney said. "It's never been tried to this extent in Canada."

Helping to make the program community-oriented are volunteers who staff the office to help answer calls and questions when Chetney is on patrol.

Part of Garneau's uniqueness, Chetney noted, is its diversity. As well as young families and senior citizens, there is a large transient student population. According to Chetney, there are 3500 apartments in the area. "Think of the student influx," he said.

Such diversity includes eight fraternity houses. In the past there has been some animosity between

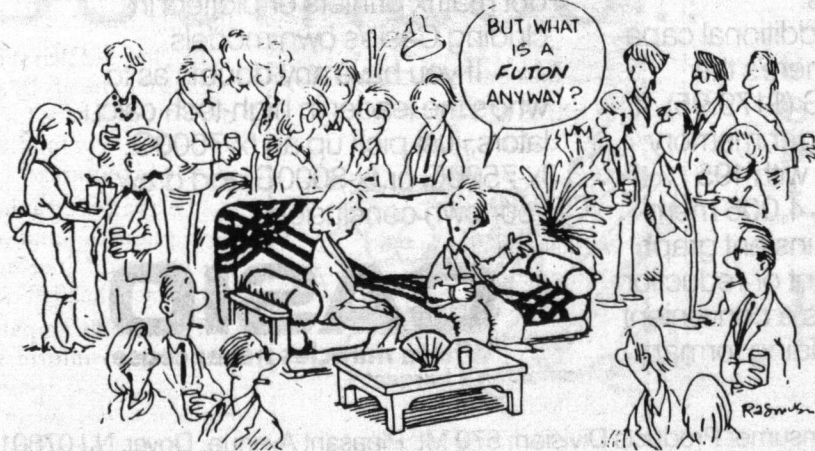
community residents and fraternities, but Chetney sees renewed ties developing as fraternities and home owners strive for greater co-operation.

Other problems Chetney faces include parking and "an incredible amount of bike theft." Cars are also high on the casualty list as stereo and radar detector theft is prominent. Chetney noted "It's stupid to leave a radar detector on the dashboard."

The basic idea of community policing, Chetney said, "is to identify problems and solve them. Also, if people know we're there, they feel safer. It is not so much PR as visibility. People like it."

Community input becomes a part of the program as well. Because he works so closely in the community, Chetney is able to learn their needs. As a result, he is in the process of establishing a neighborhood watch program and is involved in an application for increased lighting in back alleys.

To see such results initiated through the beat patrol program is, for Chetney, a sure measure of success.



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