

York students, janitor charged with stealing, selling and forging marks on math exams

By BLAIR COSGROVE

Five York students and one staff member were charged with stealing, selling and forging marks on exams last June.

The Faculty of Arts, York Security and the Metro Police used surveillance methods to narrow in on the alleged ring leaders, Joseph Sgro, Pasqualino DiFiore, Mazahir Najari, Mohamed Ali and Lyndell Gill. The five students were unavailable for comment.

Eugenio Guccione, a member of the cleaning staff, allegedly provided keys for students to gain access to faculty offices and exams. Guccione was unavailable for comment.

Economic and math exams were sold for \$200-\$500. Exam booklets were stolen, answers re-written, booklets replaced and participating students (customers) then petitioned for new grades.

Mark J. Webber, Associate Dean, Faculty of Arts, advised faculty members to secretly change examinations to test the operation. Students were discovered cheating when they wrote old answers to new questions. Letters sent to affected courses advised students to confess. Some students came forward and received consideration for their honesty.

The six have been charged with criminal offences of break, enter and theft, possession of burglar tools and of property obtained by crime, utter-

ing and forgery. These crimes carry a maximum penalty of 14 years in prison. The suspects appeared with their lawyers in the Finch Avenue West Court on July 9, at which time another court appearance was scheduled for January, 1988.

Further arrests are pending following an extensive investigation which began over a year ago, after students tipped off Mark J. Webber, Associate Dean, Faculty of Arts. "Students were concerned about the integrity of the York degree," Webber said.

Sources say "another Toronto university," (U of T), may also call in Metro Police to assist in a case with criminal offences relating to impersonation, uttering false documents and forgery. In April 1987, a U of T student was asked to produce identification while writing an exam for a York friend. York security was called when the student refused to present ID. As a result of the incident, the Arts Department voted unanimously on the suggestion of photo identification cards.

Webber feels educators are obligated to inform students about cheating. However, Webber feels the faculty has been too trusting of students. "The intent of the faculty is to alert students to disastrous penalties. Cheating is not a prank and we (the university) are not afraid to call in police."



MICHAEL SCHIFF

SOMEONE TO TAKE HOME TO MOTHER: "If you dare write anything nice about me, or make me seem human, I'll kick the shit out of you," warned Mickey DeSadist of the band Forgotten Rebels during interview with two ace *Excal* reporters. See review on page 15.

Faculties examined

By JAMES FLAGAL

This is the first in a series of articles which will examine the various points of view on campus regarding the Student Relations Committee's (SRC of the Board of Governors) recommendations on student government reform based on the Gilmor Report. This article concentrates on the faculty government's view on the SRC policy paper and their perception of what the future will be like if these recommendations are implemented.

Faculty governments are eager to seek official recognition and gain increased funding, but foresee a stiff competition with colleges for student memberships if the SRC recommendations are implemented.

The recommendations, which are now being considered by York's president, allow faculty governments to obtain official recognition if they secure support from 25% of their constituency during a referendum.

Debate still exists between the membership systems of mandatory co-affiliation and voluntary selection. Colleges and the Council of York Student Federation (CYSF) claim that mandatory co-affiliation will secure financially stable governments and eliminate competition between faculty and college governments, because students will be forced to be a member of both. But the administration and the SRC claim that this would do nothing to resolve the problems in the present

system, and would eliminate choice for the students. The recommendations presently call for first-year students to belong to a college and their home faculty (if one exists), and for second-year students to make a decision to join either of the two or both. This decision will be binding for two years.

According to Sue Watt, President of the Creative Arts Board (CAB), students should be left to choose between colleges and faculties, because this way, "Students would have to be informed," said Watt. But with a system of mandatory co-affiliation, this would not occur because students would not be forced to learn about colleges or faculties before making their choice, Watt added.

Watt noted that setting fees at the same level would eliminate any "deleterious competition" between colleges and faculties in their drive for membership. This way, students won't be choosing a government simply because it charges a cheaper fee, she added. But Watt noted that if fees were not set, as is the case in the SRC paper right now, "then maybe it's best, because only the most efficient governments would survive. Whatever the fees will be, the system right now is not working, it's not in business."

According to Watt, if the recommendations are implemented, then there will be a struggle for survival between the faculties and the colleges. "They (the colleges) feel that

Report looks at money needed to solve York's space shortage

By STEVE SOMER
and JEFF SHINDER

The White Paper chronicling York's space shortages was released by President Harry Arthurs last week. The paper is an attempt to form a long term solution to the problem.

Arthurs calculates that the university requires in excess of 600,000 square feet of building space to overcome the current space deficit. This shortage is clearly evident in all areas of campus including such priorities as: classrooms, labs, recreational facilities, libraries, departmental offices, and many more.

It is estimated that in order to meet the "system defined standard for our present population and activities," the university needs 200 million dollars to fund the necessary expansion. The total does not take into account such expenditures as: the ever increasing total population on campus, the possible expansion of Glendon college, student housing, as well as recreational facilities. Additional capital will also be needed to finance the infrastructure of any expansion which will occur.

According to the White paper expansion is absolutely necessary. Without new facilities, the chronic lack of space will have a serious effect on the quality of education. More specifically the paper cites the overtaxed nature of York's research facilities.

Arthurs stated the overcrowding problem is so severe that the university will be unable to accommodate any increase in applicants for the academic year 1988-89. In the short term, a greater than average increase in potential applicants to York is expected due to the planned phase out of Grade 13 in Ontario.

The White paper outlines a long term plan designating the priority facilities to be constructed. Amongst the new buildings will be the Fine Arts Phase Three, a classroom office building, and the Student Centre. Construction for all three buildings is scheduled to begin by the summer of 1988.

The Capital Plan, which will extend through to 1992, is currently being presented to the Board of Governors (BOG). BOG will consider a variety of funding sources and spending options to carry out the plan.

Funding contributions will come from the government, private donations, and the York University Development Corporation (YUDC). Although student housing is a priority in the capital plan, the university will not have the funds to subsidize students housing. York, however will provide the land and infrastructure necessary to redress the shortages of student accommodations.

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"I would love to have \$60,000 for one year, and we would easily blow them (the colleges) out of the water in terms of things to offer."

SUE WATT, Creative Arts Board
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