

Allen defends policy

Monopolism hurts student entrepreneurs

By JULIAN BELTRAME

York university discriminates against student entrepreneurs to keep professional companies and shops in a monopoly situation, charged student president Dale Ritch and several students last week.

The university Central Square entrepreneur policy prohibits any student from selling goods already carried by such shops as the York Bookstore, Oasis and the

drugstore.

A similar policy in regard to beverages drew the wrath of Italian-Canadian Students' Association president Nilo Del Bel, last week, when the club was prevented from serving liquor at a club dance, unless the liquor and food were catered by either Rill Foods or Commercial Caterers, the major caterers on campus.

Del Bel complained that the high mark-up up to 65 per cent,

charged by the caterers would make his party impossible. The Italian-Canadians, like many other students clubs on campus, had their dance without buying either the food or the liquor from the caterers, although it contravened university policy.

In the past year the university has also been considering imposing a rental charge on college coffee shops, on top of the 20 per cent beverage levy already collec-

ted by the university. Roth Ritch and newly appointed university food services committee chairman, Peter Jarvis, said this week that such a move would be 'politically' dangerous.

Another student, Mario Gambacorta, who has been selling records in Central Square, during the fall, was told Monday he must cease his venture because a former student, James Joyce, agreed to rent out \$168 for the purposes of selling records.

"I had initially been given the room," Gambacorta told Excalibur, "but because the other guy raised a lot of shit, they gave the room to him. I don't mind if Joyce gets the room, so long as they let me operate, because there's a lot of people on campus and the market is good."

"I've been operating in Central Square for a while now but Joyce is pushing to eliminate anyone else from selling records in Central Square. Technically speaking, however, \$168 is in Ross, not Central Square."

University ancillary services director Jack Allen admitted that the Joyce shop is not in Central Square, but added that it is too

near the area to allow Gambacorta to continue to sell records.

Allen defended the university policy stating that if the new record shop "is going to be given a chance to do anything", it must have exclusive rights.

Allen explained that storeowners had insisted on exclusive rights to sell certain merchandise on campus as one of the conditions for moving into York. He denied that this necessarily kept prices high.

"There are many factors that go into determining retail prices in the merchandising practices of today. You can't buy a tube of toothpaste at the same price at York as you can in a large shopping plaza," he said.

"The customer always knows enough about prices generally to know when the prices are exorbitant."

Ritch, however, disagreed with the notion that customer pressure was enough to keep prices down, and claimed that the university was only interested in the rents they collected from the shops.

"The university protects these monopolies to keep the shop owners happy," said Ritch.

Cost of York false fire alarms is measured in dollars, injuries

By DAVID SALTMARSH

In this year of budgetary crisis, over \$30,000 have already been wasted at York, and lives and property endangered over 30 times by false fire alarms.

Every time a false alarm is rung, it costs about \$1,000, which you help pay for. More important is the safety aspect. Whenever a false alarm is rung at York, emergency vehicles that may be needed elsewhere are sent to the university.

There is also the danger of an accident. Last week a fire truck collided with a car at Keele and Finch, causing \$4,000 damage. In 1968, a university student from Windsor was struck and killed by a fire truck on the York campus. The truck was responding to a false alarm. This chance of accident exists every time an alarm is made

GREATEST DANGERS

Chief Charlie Dawson of the North York Fire Department pointed out this week that one of the greatest dangers of frequent false alarms is that students become complacent about them. It's worth

pointing out, he said, that in the U.S. a number of university students have died of asphyxiation because they chose to ignore what they thought was just another false alarm.

Robert Richards, Safety Officer for York, warns that ringing a false alarm is an offense under the Criminal Code and, as a summary conviction, is punishable with a fine of \$500, a six month prison term or both, or as an indictable offense with a maximum sentence of two years. In either case, you get a criminal record.

TOO HARSH

However, the university chooses to punish offenders itself, as criminal proceedings are costly and time-consuming, as well as very harsh for the student. Chief Dawson said this is satisfactory as long as York deals with the offenders sufficiently strictly.

The big question is, why? Founders College has the worst record. Hugh Parry, Master of Founders College, said that most of the alarms are pulled either by persons who've been drinking, showing off their daring, or on impulse. Founders has the worst record this

year, perhaps because it has the least attractive facilities, or it could be a year to year cycle (this year Founders, next year Stong, etc.).

What happens when an alarm is activated? It could be a pull box or a heat detector. Immediately a signal is flashed to the Emergency Services Centre in the Temporary Office Building and to Unit 1 of the North York Fire Department, while also activating the building's alarm bells. At Unit 1, the dispatcher assigns four fire trucks, two pumper trucks, an aerial ladder truck and a Chief's car to the main gatehouse.

WHICH BUILDING

Meanwhile, the operator at the Emergency Services Centre notes, from a numerical code, which building the fire is in. She phones the Fire Department using a direct line to verify the alarm and to tell the location of the fire. Then she sends a York Security patrol car to the gatehouse to meet the fire trucks and guide them to the scene.

If there's a fire, they fight it. Far too often, however, all that's found is an activated pull box.

NOTICE TO STUDENTS...

There are plenty of Hi-Fi shops around. We all know that. Very few, though, can afford to give you much of a deal especially with the "sharp-type" sales people most stores seem to have. We at Stereoland, including the owner, are in the mid-twenties. We don't find it necessary to work on enormous profits and we surely don't soak students. In fact we do lean backwards quite a bit for poor students. Our choice of equipment is quite large, and we're just finishing our 3rd soundroom. You'll find us easy to deal with. We also service equipment and have low interest financing. No matter how classy or snobby or prestigious local shops appear to be, we're sure you'll find us easier to deal with. And our brands are every bit as good, if not better, at lower prices. After you buy at Stereoland, if you can find a lower price locally, you get a steak lunch or difference in cash.

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