

Waterloo police battle glam photo phoney

by Shannon Taylor

While Waterloo police are warning university students in their city against answering modelling ads posted on campus bulletin boards, University of Alberta campus security officials say there is no need for Edmonton students to worry.

Waterloo police were prompted to issue a warning after the department received complaints from women who answered the ads posted throughout the campus.

However, there are safeguards in place at the U of A which help to prevent this problem, said Dennis Dahlstedt, spokesperson for campus security. "I'm not saying there is no danger here, but the potential for danger is not as great," he said.

The Waterloo crisis began when Glamor Photo Studio posters, asking for models age 18-33 for photo work, portfolios and portraits, were displayed on various bulletin boards.

A University of Waterloo student said she answered the ad, and while posing during a photography session a man massaged and fondled her, reported the UW student publication *The Imprint*. The ads are a criminal scam designed to entice women to a particular address, according to Waterloo police.

Waterloo resident Jack Harold Lough, 47, appeared in Ontario Provincial Court February 2, to answer a sexual assault charge related to the incident.

No similar complaints have been reported to U of A campus security, Dahlstedt said. To post advertising on university bulletin boards, the solicitor must seek approval from the administration, he added.

"To put an ad like that up at the University of Alberta, the company would have to prove their credibility," Dahlstedt said.

Despite the safeguards in place at the U of A, students would be wise to question anything they are unsure of, he warns. "This is just a common safety practice."

Students wishing to answer modelling ads should be cautious, he said. "Students can check with consumer and corporate affairs to see if the company does exist.

"They should also contact the company and ask a lot of questions — ask for names of satisfied clients, the business address, anything you want to know about. If the business is legitimate, they won't hesitate to answer any questions," Dahlstedt said.

"And, most important of all, never go alone if you have some doubts," he added.

Voting system revised

by Shannon Taylor

In an effort to beef up ballot box security and cut election costs, the 1989 Student Union chief returning officer has revised the voting system at the University of

Alberta.

When chief returning officer Michael Hunter took over the position, he decided to examine the high costs of ballot counting. "The last four years a firm has

been counting our ballots on a computer... because of the significant costs I decided to see how competitive the prices were," Hunter said.

Hunter sent letters to accounting firms in the city asking for bids. "We received a bid from Peat Marwick that was very competitive. It will save us a bunch of money," Hunter said.

The firm will charge the SU \$6,400 for ballot counting — \$7,900 was paid out for the service in 1988.

Peat Marwick officials also helped Hunter redesign the ballot system at the university. The old steel ballot boxes will be replaced with the boxes used for provincial elections.

It will save us a bunch of money.

"Since they (the province) have fleets and fleets of boxes we will have a new box for each poll each day," Hunter said. A shortage of ballot boxes in the past resulted in partially-filled boxes being delivered to polling stations on the second day of voting.

The provincial boxes are also sealed with tags instead of the antiquated padlocks. "Candidates can watch us seal the empty boxes... In the past I felt security was really jeopardized because there were so many keys for the padlocks floating around," Hunter said.

Hunter is pleased with the new system. "I was appalled with our past security system... It's not that anybody did cheat, but the potential to unfairly influence the outcome was there," he said.



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