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YORK UNIVERSITY'S COMMUNITY NEWSPAPER

Security moves toward "police-type" image

By JUDIE SNOW
and EXCALIBUR STAFF

York Security is replacing its two vans with police-style cruisers next month which will convey more of a police image, said Assistant Director of Security Eric Pond.

Since 1985, York Security has had one car for the security supervisor, and two vans for general use.

"Our staff is 100 per cent strongly against the use of vans," said Pond, adding the staff wants "proper police-type vehicles for a police-type operation."

Replacing the vans with cars is partly a question of image, says Pond. He said using vans has "down-graded" the way the community sees security.

The new cruisers "look more like policing-vehicles, so the officers will feel better about themselves," he said.

The change from vans to cars is also safer for security officers, according to Pond.

It is "more difficult to transport a prisoner in a van than in a car because the large open area in the van makes fighting back or resisting easier for the prisoner," said Pond, referring to cases when a detainee is being transferred to a police station.

"They could get a good run at you, plus they have the side door and the back door to get out," said Pond.

In addition, cars can be equipped with 'Silent Patrolmen' — a divider between the front and back seats of the car, said Pond. "Plus you can disconnect the internal door locks so you can't get out until the officer lets you out."

But Pond also says there have

been no attacks on officers in vans. "We haven't had any problems, but there's always the potential. I feel satisfied that the car is going to be a better job for us."

The switch to patrol cars will also be economically sound, said Pond. There will be a savings of \$150 a month, as it is less expensive to rent cars than vans.

Pond said, "We originally wanted to use cars with V4 engines to further increase our savings, but by using V6s we can get a higher resale figure."

York Security is also separating from Student Security and Parking, which will continue to use vans for their patrols.

York Security will have one unmarked supervisor's car, ideal for vandalism situations, and two marked cars. The marked cars will display the Security colours with the Security insignia and phone number painted on the side.

Pond is considering supplying the cars with emergency accident boxes which would contain flares, first-aid kits, flashlights and other emergency equipment. In addition, the cars will be equipped with amber roof lights and radios.

Pond feels equipment is necessary "if you're getting into a situation where your job function is the peace and quiet on the university campus." This now includes cars instead of vans, and although Pond has ruled out guns and nightsticks, he said, "We may move into handcuffs, but it would be a very slow move, and the decision will not be made until we have special constable status."

In the past, members of the York

community have expressed concerns about having a police presence on campus. For example, last September the York University Faculty Association (YUFA) sent a letter to the bookstore complaining about its armed security personnel.

Pond thinks people were objecting more to the weapon than the police-

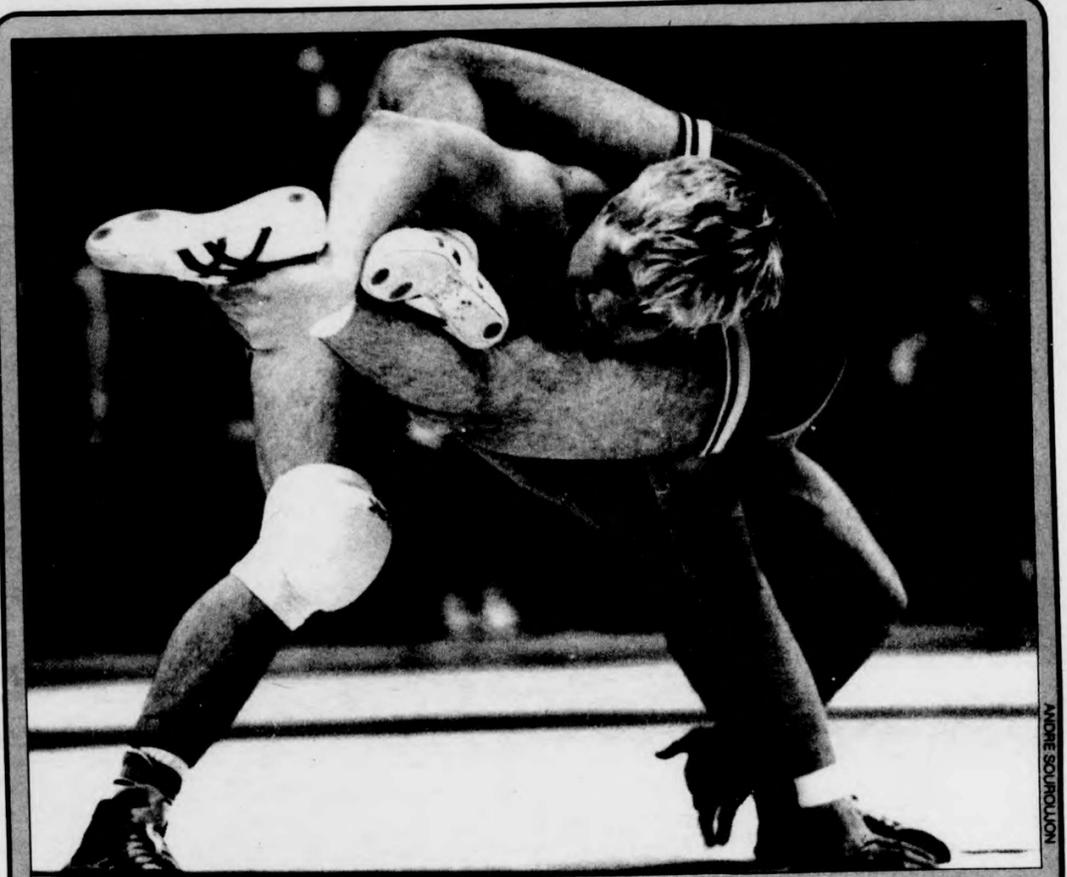
image. "I think the bookstore was probably a little surprised that the security guards were armed."

The bookstore asked its security guards — actually off-duty Metro Police — to wear plain-clothes and leave their guns at home because of YUFA's complaint.

YUFA chair Michael Copeland

would not comment on security's new cruisers until after the issue is discussed at the next YUFA executive meeting.

"Our people won't be armed," because, even with the special constable status to which security aspires, "special constables are not allowed to carry guns."



Yeomen wrestlemania

GRABBING HOLD OF A CIAU CHAMPIONSHIP: Paul Hughes captured gold in the 68 kilgram division for York. The Yeomen snapped Concordia's five year hold on the national title. Story on page 13.

Timbits at York by end of month

By DANIEL WOLGELERENTER

York students will be eating Timbits by the end of the month.

Tim Horton Donuts will be available from a new double-line cart in Central Square beginning the week of March 27, said Morag Fitzgerald, director of business support for The Marriott Corporation. The cart will be located near the west bearpit where Marriott now runs a coffee and pastry stand, and all products

sold on campus will be made in Stong's Kitchen.

Marriott recently finalized an agreement with Tim Horton giving it exclusive rights to market Tim Horton Donuts at every campus where Marriott has a food service contract. York was chosen as the test site.

Fitzgerald would not disclose the value of the contract between Marriott and Tim Horton and would not reveal which schools were considered and rejected for the test programme.

"A whole variety of schools were visited," Fitzgerald said, "and York was deemed best for the test programme."

She said that York is a good test site because it has large kitchen facilities, a large student body, and wide halls that are well-suited to food carts. Fitzgerald also said Tim Horton's high profile in Toronto made York a good site.

"I certainly hope that there will be future expansion," said Fitzgerald. "I would hope that there will be enough acceptance."

She added that a successful market test could mean "many" Tim Horton outlets on campus. "Tim Horton could grow with the expansion of the University," she said. "I quite honestly see it being very successful."

Fitzgerald said that she is not worried about traffic in Central Square

Student Centre cost up \$1.5 m

By DANIEL WOLGELERENTER

The Student Centre's budget is almost \$1.5 million over its original projection.

According to Student Centre Corporation (SCC) Chairperson Rob Castle, the Centre's original \$14.5 million budget has been approved by the Board of Governors at \$15,934,000.

The increase to the budget was absolutely necessary, Castle said. "We could have had a very pleasant office building for \$14.5 million."

Castle said that the entire costs are primarily due to changes in market conditions which have increased construction expenses, and extra elements which were added to the original Student Centre plan, such as the covered colonnade. He explained that the increased costs will be covered by a combination of about \$640,000 provided by the university, \$316,000 from the extra \$2 added to the Student Centre levy this year, \$100,000 in capital contributions to be made by food court tenants, and by about \$400,000 added to the mortgage.

The mortgage will be paid using the levy and profits from the food court. An increase to the mortgage

means that the levy may have to be extended.

Castle stressed, however, that the mortgage is only being increased by 3.8 per cent.

"Everything is being done with any eye to the mortgage," he said.

Castle explained that \$2 million of the cost is devoted to a contingency fund which will ensure that increase in building costs will not affect the budget.

Castle also pointed out that two tendering contracts have come in under budget so far: the excavation and the laying of the concrete foundation. The excavation, he said, is one of the largest tendering contracts at about \$3.5 million.

Five or six more tendering contracts will be in by May.

"[The total cost] may come to less than that (\$15.9 million) but right now we're setting aside \$15,934,000," Castle said. "The indications are now that we will come in under budget."

Meanwhile, the SCC has lined up 5 of 6 prospective tenants for its food court which will have hamburger, chicken, Italian, Chinese, deli, and pastry outlets. Castle says that the SCC is having trouble finding an appropriate Italian outlet.

Four outlets will be national operators, with the deli being a branch of a family-owned Toronto restaurant.

The pastry outlet will likely be Treats. Castle said that Treats was chosen over Marvellous Muffins because Treats' menu is more varied. He added, though, that the decision is not final.

Castle said further details on food court tenants will become public after negotiations have finished.

He also said that he is "fully confident" the Centre can ask for rents of about \$100 per square foot.

According to Russell Tan, president of United Income Properties — which owns the Towne and Country shopping mall — this rate is typical for food courts in first-rate malls. Last month, YUDC's leasing agent for Yorklanes — Stephan Kuzoff, vice-president of DI Realty — said that the Student Centre would not be able to realize those rates. But Castle said that the Student Centre is having no trouble attracting tenants.

"We are building the largest food court in Metro Toronto in terms of seating capacity, so it is fast becoming a very popular place in terms of food court operators," he said.

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HELPING THOSE IN NEED: The York local of the World University Service of Canada (WUSC) has co-ordinated a Student Refugee Sponsorship Program. Page 7

ELECTION TIME: Excalibur grills the CYSF candidates. Pages 8-10

PLAYING THE BLUES: The field hockey Yeowomen lost the OWIAA Championship to the U of T Varsity Blues. 15

IDENTITY CRISIS: Toronto instrumental band Manteca refuses to label their music. Page 16