

Library users beware!

Patrons with library fines will be caught



By KIM LLEWELLYN

Delinquent library patrons will be denied use of library facilities this year due to York's new computerized library system.

The "Plessey System", brand name of a British computer company, is the \$150,000 computer which was installed this summer in the Scott library.

The computer records the numbers of the cards which have been reported lost or stolen and rejects the cards when they are used to sign out material.

In the near future students with outstanding books or library fines, along with those not properly enrolled in the university, will be denied library privileges in the same manner.

Over the summer about 204,000 of Scott's 600,000 books were labelled with bar coded stickers. The prefix of these stickers tells where the

library book is from, the middle section is the book title, and the suffix is the copy number. As each uncoded book is taken out it is given a temporary bar code and is permanently labelled when it is returned.

Students and staff were all provided with new library cards this year, on which there is also a bar coded label. The label contains the card number, the student number, and the status of the user.

Both labels are read by an electric pencil when books are taken out and when they are brought back. These pencils make books on the request list immediately detectable.

The pencil is connected to one of six terminals located in either Scott Library, Steacie Science Library, or Frost Library on the Glendon campus.

The terminals relay the data to a

mini-computer inside Scott Library. Two tape disks are located inside the computer; one contains the request list, and the other contains the list of delinquent library patrons.

The data is then relayed to the York computer center every night so the information will always be current.

"Although the system requires less manpower, the libraries are retaining the same staff numbers," said Fred Johnston, circulation

director. "Extra staff will now be employed in areas which have previously been neglected. We think we're providing a better service. That's our objective".

An added feature of the Plessey system is that it lends itself to improvement, said Johnston. Future changes could include replacing the card catalogues with screened terminals and adding the reserve library to the system, he said.

Waterloo Chevron bites the dust

TORONTO (CUP) — Late Thursday night the students' federation at the University of Waterloo, closed down the student paper, the Chevron, for a month. It also effectively dismissed the production manager Neil Docherty and Henry Hess, the news editor, by eliminating their staff positions.

The majority of the staff have lined up behind Docherty and Hess and say they will continue to produce the Chevron for Waterloo students — without federation support. The staff of the Chevron are currently ironing out the financial and administrative problems of keeping their newspaper.

The federation's actions were sparked by the resignation of the Chevron's editor, Adrian Rodway, a week and a half ago. The federation executive took action at that time to close the paper because of rumors and allegations that it had been taken over by a left-wing political group known as the Anti-Imperialist Alliance (AIA).

In a federation meeting two days after Rodway's resignation the council voted to officially reopen the Chevron — thereby ending the staffers' occupation and "opening" the paper.

The Chevron staff then produced a special edition outlining the events surrounding the closing and were well into production of their regular Friday edition when they were informed by the executive that the federation would not pay for any editions of the paper put out by the staff — thereby effectively closing the paper.

Late last Thursday the federation made it all official when they shut down the paper and fired the two remaining senior staff persons. The federation set up a committee to formulate a new structure for the paper.

At no time during the entire affair has the federation been able to demonstrate that the paper was being taken over by the AIA or that the paper was unresponsive to student interests.



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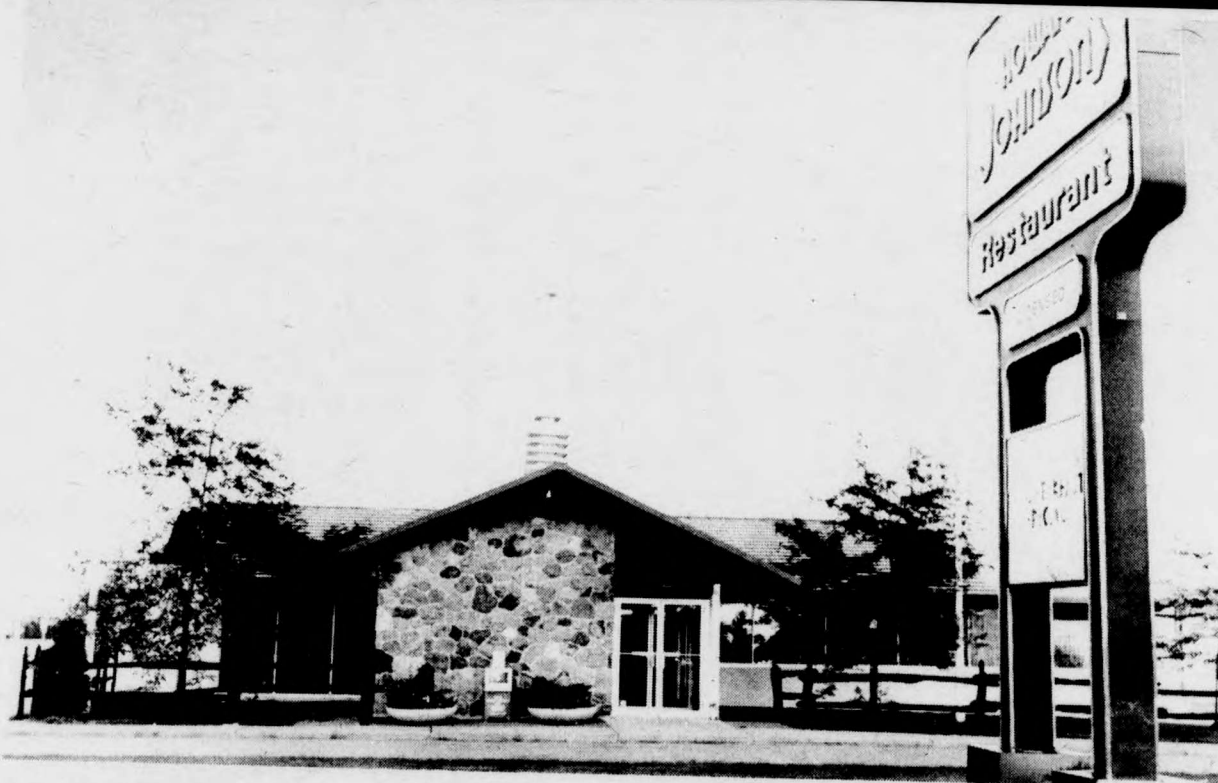
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