

NEWS

Guelph man plunges down Stong elevator shaft

by Josh Rubin

A Guelph man fell four stories down an elevator shaft following a floor party at the Stong residence.

Twenty-nine year old Joseph Craig Donald fell when a fourth floor elevator door collapsed into the shaft after Donald fell against it.

Officers at 31 division investigating the accident, report that Donald was heavily intoxicated at the time of the fall.

The accident occurred after the party had broken up around 1 a.m.

Donald and four friends re-

mained at Stong and were engaged in "horse play" prior to the accident.

Police also reported that the elevator door gave way when Donald lost his balance, stumbled and fell against the door.

Donald was taken to Sunnybrook Health Science Centre suffering a broken shoulder, broken hand, three cracked vertebra, broken ribs, cuts and internal injuries.

Both elevators in Stong were immediately shut down following the accident.

According to one fifth floor Stong resident, the fall made a

loud noise. "I was just sitting in my room and heard a loud bang. It was like a table falling."

Residents of the fourth floor "Rock House", where the incident occurred were less forthcoming.

"He's my friend, but I'm not going to say anything," said one shaken looking student.

York's director of communications, Jessie May Rowntree, said that the elevator would not be up and running until the Ministry of Consumer and Commercial Relations had inspected them and

approved their operation.

A spokesperson at the hospital's intensive care unit listed Donald in fair condition.

Donald would not comment on the incident.

A spokesperson cited "family pressure" for Donald's reluctance to speak.

"It is the responsibility of both the contractor [Dover Corporation of Canada Ltd.] and owner [York University] to carry on regular maintenance," said Consumer and Commercial Relations spokesperson Tom Zach.

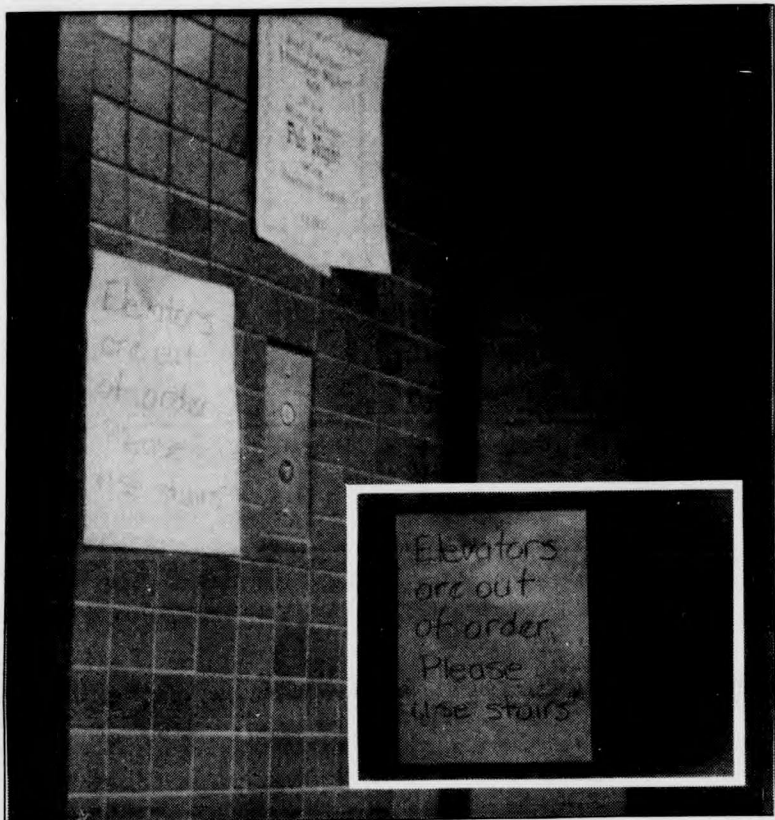
Zach also mentioned that certain components of the elevator shaft were not functioning properly just before Friday's incident.

Officials at Dover were unavailable for comment.

There have been unconfirmed reports that the elevator involved has had its door kicked in twice last year.

As of today, only one elevator has been operating in the residence.

The elevator in which the accident took place is still under investigation.



Lack of condom dispensers makes practicing safe sex difficult

by Jeannine Amber

There are two things you can never find when you really need them: a police officer and an umbrella. But for York students living in residence the list may be even longer.

Due to the lack of condom dispensers in residence washrooms students wishing to practice safe sex may be hard pressed to find a condom when the need arises.

During the day, condoms are available to students at a variety of locations on campus. However, after business hours students requiring condoms have only nine condom machines to depend on. Only one of the machines is in a women's washroom and there are no condom machines in the residences.

Fiona MacCool of the women's centre collective and a student in residence, describes the situation as ridiculous. "Most people

don't need condoms during business hours," MacCool said.

Condoms are not easily accessible despite increases both pregnancies and sexually transmitted diseases (STDs) reported at the York student health centre.

MacCool also pointed out that the orientation packages given out in residence have extensive information about safe sex but no information on where to obtain condoms.

To date, there has only been one request put in by a resident tutor to install a machine in a resident washroom.

Andy Knight from Stong college, who made the request, said "the stong student council is serious about the preventing the spread of AIDS and STDs... the least we can do is make sure there are condoms available to students."

Caroline Winship, VP internal

for the YSF, expressed interest in lobbying for more machines to be installed in the residence washrooms if she sees some student support for the issue.

"I need numbers before I go to administration with this," Winship said.

According to Barbara Rowe, manager of vending services at York, vandalism is the reason for the lack of machines.

Mike Boras who installs and maintains the machines, said that over the past three years some of the machines have had to be replaced six times.

Boras said he now has machines that are more resistant to vandalism but plans to precede cautiously toward putting the machines in residence.

Boras plans to install a machine in Stong in the next two weeks. He hopes to have four in place by Christmas.

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