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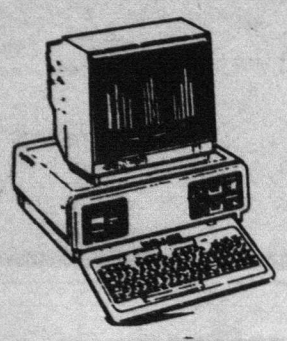

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Easy mark still unoccupied photo Ron Checora

Crimestarters: empty house, super nail boxes

compiled by Lance Progenitor

This week's *Crime Starters* include: an empty house, a wealthy, unsuspecting victim, tips on vandalism and mail box entry.

(1) A residential dwelling at 10727 Wayne Gretzky Drive has apparently been unoccupied for over a week now. Peeking through the windows of this two storey Tudor style mansion one can see a number of expensive household items including a Bang & Olufson stereo and a home entertainment system with color TV and VCR.

The home is usually deserted but beware, a neighbor comes around every two days or so to pick up newspapers, water plants, etc. Also, the front porch light is left on every night, but don't let that fool you.

For easy access try the first floor window that leads into the children's bedroom. The lock is faulty and the wire mesh screen slips right off in your hand. No visible alarm systems.

(2) Arnie Small, owner of the Radway Deli and Donut Shoppe on 107 Street and Whyte Avenue, has been feeling pretty cocky lately. Usually, he gets a police escort when he takes his week's earnings to the Bank of Commerce on 112th, but lately he's taken to going himself. He takes his earnings down the avenue every Friday at exactly 10 a.m. For a haul, you're looking at anywhere from, say, $400 to $1000. He is unarmed and can't run very fast.

(3) The graffitti on the cement wall underneath the High Level Bridge has recently been painted over and is now ready for further abuse. Helpful hint: K-Mart has a sale on spray paint. But hurry, sale ends without notice and there's a limit of one can to every teenager with a leather jacket.

(4) Canada Post has recalled their Superboxes and we should see some major security changes on them. Advance word is these new boxes will allow easier access, say with your fingernails. No more fumbling with awkward credit cards or screwdrivers. Canada Post — working for faster and more efficient postal service.

If you have any ideas on potential crime in your area call Crime Starters at 555-TIPS. If your crime is followed through on, we'll see you get part of the haul.

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English professor tied into Harlequin pulp scam

by Mata Hari

The English Department received a profound blow to its prestige when one of its most respected professors, Dr. C.H.G. Smythe-Worthington III was discovered to be the man behind the pseudonym of Wilhelmina E. Woodiwiss, author of 350 Harlequin Romances.

"I'm shocked!" exclaimed the Dept. chairman, "Dr. C.H.G. Smythe-Worthington has received PhDs from Oxford, Cambridge, and an Honourary Degree from Camrose Lutheran."

This man has also penned *Lust in Space*, *Passion in Patagonia*, and *Love Has No Price*. Books described on their backcovers as "The Perils of Passion in the Heart of the Libyan Desert as experienced by a young, innocent American oil heiress, Gwen Collins." This reporter discovered the drafts of his current work, *The Revenge of Ravishing Rachel*, in Smythe-Worthington's office, and it is the worst of them all.

Could it be that an intellectual such as Smythe-Worthington III is a rival of Sidney Sheldon and Janet Dailey? Is it possible for a graduate of Oxford to pen such lines as: "He looked at her with burning eyes . . . she knew there was no escape . . ." "He emitted a groan as his tongue delicately explored her mouth . . . 'I long for you, Rachel,' he whispered urgently." Could it be?!

"I can't help it!" cried Dr. Smythe-Worthington in a *Getaway* exclusive, "I'm an incurable romantic. What we all need in life is a little romance, that's all I tried to give . . . I confess, I'm a Harlequin addict." He wiped away a tear and blew his nose.

"But!" he claims, "this habit of mine does not interfere with my work! Writing romances helps me relax after a hard day of researching the Inner Interior Symbolic Imagery of the Second Line of Hamlet's First Soliloquoy, my current scholarly article."

"Besides," he adds, "I'm a -- I'm a — a *lonely* man . . ."

Because Dr. Smythe-Worthington has tenure, his Harlequin indiscretions cannot cost him his job. However, he is being seriously reprimanded by the English Dept. Punishments include reciting *Paradise Lost* by heart, and enforced membership in Harlequins Anonymous.

Meanwhile, his sales have increased dramatically, as his students have snatched up his works from the Safeway racks. "It helps me understand his lectures on the Romantic poets better," said one student. Since the controversy, Dr. Smythe-Worthington has become a virtual recluse: mocked by students and colleagues alike, he spends all day in his office, typing incessantly.

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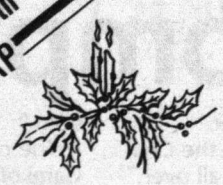

Merry Christmas and Happy New Year to all University of Alberta Students & Staff

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