York students face criminal charges for cheating

By DEBORAH DUNDAS

Criminal charges have been laid against four students as a result of an ongoing investigation into academic dishonesty at York.

The investigation stems from an incident involving alleged impersonation during a Computer Science examination last spring. University officials stated that they were notified when invigilaters at the exam became suspicious after checking a student's identification. Police were called, and three York students and one University of Toronto student were charged with "personation at examination."

The charge applies to both students who hire others to write their exams for them and those who do the impersonating. If convicted, they could face a maximum of six months in jail and $2,000 fine.

The students also face disciplinary action by York. The maximum penalities under University policy are suspension, and if the student already has or qualifies for a degree, that degree could be rescinded or withheld.

In an incident last year, York became the first university in Canada to lay criminal charges against cheaters. Provincial courts subsequently found five students and a caretaker guilty of criminal offences relating to the theft of examinations.

These more recent charges "signal a renewed commitment on our part to ensure the highest standards of academic honesty at York, and they express our determination to prosecute academic cheaters with all the means available to us," said Tom Traves, Dean of the Faculty of Arts.

Presently, York students are required to present a non-photo sessional validation card containing their signatures before being allowed to write an exam. Students are then asked to sign a piece of paper in order that the signature can be checked.

In an attempt to tighten examination security, recommendations have been made by a presidentially appointed working group calling for, among other things, the mandatory presentation of photo ID at exams. In addition to a student card, students will be asked to present some piece of government-issued ID which bears both a photo and a name, such as a driver's license, passport, or age of majority card, said David Thompson, Assistant Secretary to the University. For students who have no such ID, York will make available an "examination photo identification card."

Thompson stressed that such a card would be used only for exam purposes.

Such a system may be in place in time for final exams in April 1989 if the University feels it can give students enough advance warning, Thompson added.

Associate Dean Shirley Katz emphasized that students who cheat constitute a small segment of the university population.

"The vast majority of students do not engage in dishonest academic practices, and come to university to learn the kind of critical skills that would allow them to think for themselves. Those who engage in these dishonest practices undermine the achievements of students who work conscientiously at developing their thinking and writing abilities.

"They have misunderstood the reasons for coming to a university," Katz said.

Police would not release further details, due to the ongoing nature of the investigation.

York's daycare in financial jeopardy

STAFF STORY

York's day care is in the midst of a financial crisis that is threatening its existence. If the day care does survive, it may not be allowed to fill all available spaces, according to a report issued by York University Co-operative Daycare (CDC).

CDC Director Judy Meikle says the province has refused to fund its total share of Metro's daycare operating budget this year.
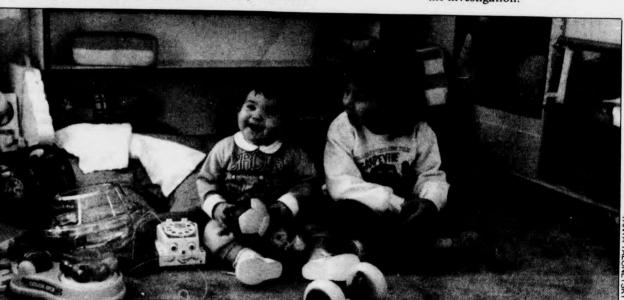
"The province in the past has cost-shared the whole increase for subsidized children," says Meikle. "This year they said no."

This year's operating costs for daycares in Metro have increased 12.4 per cent. Metro accepted 1,500 more children into the system, but the province will only fully fund 1,000 of them. Of the remaining 500, the province will only fund 4.5 per cent.

Meikle says, "Metro called a special meeting, and will pick up 100 per cent of the difference, but Metro doesn't want to set a precedent so this is being seen as an advance for next year." Metro is loaning daycares the money to cover the expenses out of next year's budget. But this, accord-

con't on p. 2

YORK'S DAYCARE: Due to provincial underfunding it may not survive.

TANYA YALONETSKY

Easing the parking problem

By SUZAN BUTYN and NANCY PHILLIPS

New measures to help ease parking congestion at York have been announced by the Department of Parking and Security.

Director of Parking and Security Michael O'Neil said, "Plans for the future include expanding parking lot 8B (formerly Lot I, just south of the Assiniboine Apartment Complex) by 180 spaces, expansion of Lot 1B (formerly M lot, located on St. Lawrence Blvd.) by at least 100 spaces, and creating a new lot opposite 6A (formerly F lot) on Shoreham Dr. which could contain about 500 spots."

O'Neil said that the expansion of 8B depends on approval from Bramalea Ltd. "The natural drainage of the lot runs in the direction of Bramalea's (recently acquired) property," said O'Neil. He said that if Bramalea agrees with the University's plan, a gravel lot will be constructed for "immediate relief," with paving to be completed by September.

The main problem with the expansion of 1B is the expense, said O'Neil. He said that after excavation, an expensive drainage system will have to be installed. The parking lot opposite 6A, said O'Neil, will probably be completed by September.

A main reason for increasing the number on parking spots of campus is in response to the University's planned elimination of 306 parking spaces in the front of the Ross Building. The Administration had originally planned to close parking lots AA and FF this fall to make way for "The Campus Green" — a plan which includes straightening the roads where these lots are located and ultimately producing more green space on campus. Originally construction was to have started last July, but now the projected date is next May.

In anticipation of these closings, parking lot KK (90 spots located in front of the Steacie and Lumbers Buildings) was created, and parking lot HH (located east of Atkinson College) was expanded to 300 spaces this past summer.

O'Neil foresees relief in York's parking problem once construction on Steeles and Finch is complete, and when winter arrives, as more people will be inclined to use the TTC.

BABAK AMIRFEIZ

PARKING congestion may ease with the creation of additional parking spaces.

Pub's probationary period may be cut

By ADAM KARDASH

Liquor Management Holder Norman Crandles is considering reducing the Cock and Bull's probation period, after negotiations with its management board.

Crandles placed Founders College's Cock and Bull pub on a three month probation last month after the pub allegedly violated several Ontario and university regulations.

But Roger Seaman, Chairperson of the Cock and Bull Management Board, met with Crandles on Monday, and if further negotiations are held, the probation period mayb be lessened to four weeks — to November 11.

Crandles said he is considering shotening the period after "fruitful and positive" talks between himself and Seaman. He added that those involved now "understand the spirit of my concerns."

Crandles stressed that reducing the probation period would not be a "recantation (of the original saction) but rather a reasonable thing to do once I realized they (Cock and Bull Management Board) were serious.

"I have no desire to be unnecessarily punitive."

Although he would not comment on the details of the meeting with Crandles, Seaman seemed pleased with its outcome.

"We had a frank and open discussion, with a possible solution of the problem," said Seaman. "Positive things between pubs, the license holder, College Masters, Management Boards, and Student Councils will most likely come out of this."

Cock and Bull Manager Patti Bergin would not comment on Crandles' and Seaman's meeting, but did say, "I'm happy to see the way negotiations have taken place."

cont'd on p. 2