

Your cheatin' days are over

UNB adopts new plagiarism program

Cindy Brown

Brunswickan

University of New Brunswick students who have in the past looked to the World Wide Web for a quick and easy to get their assignments done may have to think twice about ever doing it again.

In an effort to deter students from plagiarizing papers found on the web, UNB libraries has agreed to fund a one-year trial www.turniton.com.

Now, when professors want to test the integrity of student's assignments, they can access this anti-plagiarism program from their offices.

Sites such as www.schoolsucks.com offer ready made papers on the web for a substantial fee. In a "search" for papers concerning the Holocaust, the site offered up about 130 papers concerning slightly different topics. One five-page paper, entitled *The*

Problem of Evil could have been purchased for only \$49.25. An easy, though expensive solution for a student in desperate need.

www.turniton.com was first created as a service for students. Wanting to allow his students to read and critique their classmates' papers, and to share ideas collectively, UC Berkeley graduate student and teaching assistant, John Barrie, posted his student's papers on the web.

In the next academic year, Barrie was told that other students were taking papers off of the site and passing them in as their own.

Concerned with maintaining academic integrity, he modified his site and created a program to match new papers with those previously submitted and with the help of a number of his colleagues, Barrie decided to expand his site. Now, the turniton system can check a student's report against 20 of the

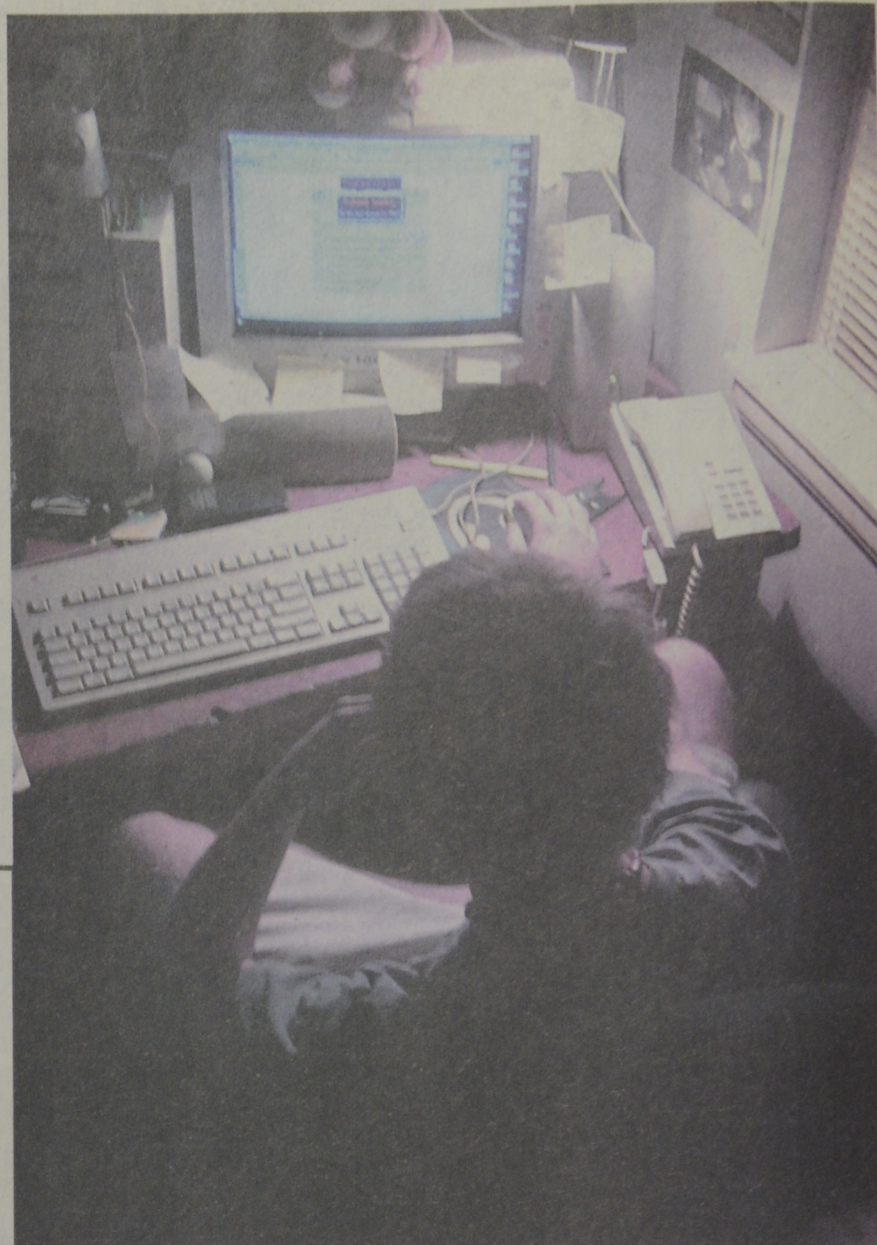
largest search engines on the web and scan millions of websites within minutes: from online encyclopedias to newspaper sites.

The turniton.com system can scan a student's report and match a phrase as short as eight words long or even find a similar phrase.

Such checks take about 24 hours to be completed. Once finished, the professor receives a report from the turniton.com site, which offers degrees of originality.

The professor can also be directly linked to the site which has the same wording or phrase as that in the student's essay.

The website, turniton.com, offers students and professors from both high school and university the chance to upload papers to the site for a small fee. The service about \$0.20 a document, or about \$2.50 (in US funds) per month.



Kevin Forneris/The Brunswickan

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Application forms are available at:

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(Lower level, Alumni Building);

Student Resource Centre, SUB;

and

the Department of Extension & Summer Session
Wu Conference Centre

Application Deadline - September 25, 2001

For more information, contact:

Kathryn Monti
Student Development Coordinator
Office of Student Affairs & Services
453-4898
monti@unb.ca

Anne Forrestall,
Program Director
Part-time Degree Studies & Adult Learner Services
Department of Extension & Summer Session
453-4818
caf@unb.ca

This evil student searches
frantically for a
comprehensive paper on the
UNB sliding club, Squirrels, for
his winter appreciation class.
UNB students like this one may
think twice now that professors
have Turniton.com to turn to.

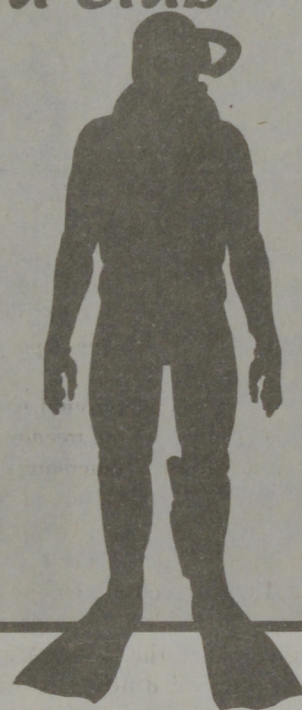
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