

006-1979
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For immediate release

Pronunciation note: Baal is pronounced
Ball

Pocket-full of silver

felt great for only awhile

A purse-snatcher who also rifled change from coin-operated machines at Wilfrid Laurier University probably wishes he had just gone home after a robbery at the university.

Alexander Robert MacQuarrie, 23, of Kitchener, is now serving a seven-month term in reformatory because he headed for a variety store not far from campus to change the stolen silver into bills.

John Baal, chief of security at the university, thought the thief might do just that. He called every store in the area and asked for a return call if anyone came in with a great batch of silver coins.

MacQuarrie was busily counting out his change at a store when an employee slipped away and called Baal. And MacQuarrie was still stacking up coins when Baal strode into the store and arrested him.

Even though MacQuarrie at first disputed Baal's authority, he finally went along, and later pleaded guilty to theft and break-and-enter charges.

And Baal was acting within his rights--he had been sworn in some time ago with a constable's authority in the Waterloo Regional police force.