Bobcat, credit card data stolen: police

BY JOE FANTAUZZI
Staff Writer

Two Toronto residents are facing dozens of charges in connection with a police probe into the theft of credit card data and construction equipment.

On Aug. 17, someone contacted the owner of a construction equipment rental company to rent a $40,000 Bobcat vehicle, asking it be delivered to a job site on Bethesda Road in Whitchurch-Stouffville later the same day, York Regional Police said.

The company's owner was given credit card information for the rental.

WHITCHURCH-STOUFFVILLE SITE

The next day, the Bobcat was not returned and police were called the following Monday.

On Oct. 3, acting on reports of similar cases throughout the GTA, officers armed with a warrant raided an address on Corporate Drive in the McCowan Road and Hwy. 401 area of Scarborough, arresting two people and seizing phone records, cell phones and cocaine.

Investigators believe fraudulently-obtained cell phones and stolen credit card data were used to order construction equipment — including forklifts, Bobcats and building supplies — which were later delivered to a fake address and stolen.

—TORONTO RESIDENTS CHARGED

Police have connected two people to 11 cases, totalling more than $353,000 in theft losses. More than $27,000 was allegedly fraudulently charged to credit cards using stolen card data, police said.

Jordan Sebben, 25, and Shannon Lutz, 20, both of Toronto face charges including 10 counts of theft over $5,000, 10 counts of possession of stolen property over $5,000, nine counts of unauthorized use of credit card data, use of forged credit card, utter forged document, two counts of breaching probation and possession of a controlled substance.

Mr. Sebben is scheduled for a court appearance Oct. 26.

Ms Lutz is scheduled to appear in court Nov. 9.

Ballantrae man charged in school drug investigation

A Ballantrae man is among 22 people facing charges in connection with a month-long investigation targeting drug activity around high schools in north Durham Region.

Project Harvest began in response to complaints from the public, cops said.

Durham police officers spent four weeks on the effort and laid charges against drug dealers and users.

Among those busted were a man wanted on an outstanding immigration warrant and two others charged in connection with an incident in York Region that involved dangerous driving and pointing a firearm, police said.

Of the charges laid, the majority were for drug possession, trafficking and cultivation, as well as breaches of bail conditions, police said.

Those charged ranged in age from teenagers who fall under the Youth Criminal Justice Act to a 68-year-old Uxbridge man busted for growing a $25,000 marijuana crop seized during the investigation.

More than $30,000 in drugs were seized during the project, Durham Police said.

Cory Casselman, 45, of Ballantrae, was charged with possession of a controlled substance (cocaine).

— Jeff Mitchell, Metroland Staff

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CORRECTION NOTICE

The M&M flyer delivered Thursday, Oct. 11 was delivered in error by the Markham Economist & Sun and Stouffville Sun-Tribune. The flyer should not have been delivered until next week. The flyer prices will be in effect from Oct. 18 to Oct. 23 inclusive. Please find this weeks flyer in today's paper. We apologize for any inconvenience this error may have caused and thank you for your understanding.