

The Gateway

The University of Alberta Students' Newspaper Since 1910

- Student loans relaxed. p 3
- Biker wars. p 5
- Ital-American amore-in, capiche? p 7
- Hockey Bears lay Leth low. pp 10-11

INSIDE:

"The average book-buyer does not give a flying fuck about the overwhelming influence of French theory on current critical writing, nor should he." — W.P. Kinsella

Students complain to sexual harassment committee

Library set to tackle intruders

by Kevin Law and Lisa Hall

Rutherford Library users who were fed up with what they perceived as employee inaction when dealing with harassment incidents took their concerns to the President's Advisory Committee on Sexual Harassment (PACSH). As a result, library administration is looking at changes to the way staff handles harassment complaints.

Various forms of harassment have been an ongoing problem at Rutherford Library. "In any given year, we're going to have exhibitions, peekers, peeping toms, and people with fetishes," said B.J. Busch, area coordinator for Rutherford North. Busch noted that this problem was common to other libraries and public places as well.

Stephen Noble and Alison Elgert, two students who frequently study at Rutherford, had witnessed and complained of various incidents. Noble and Elgert felt that when incidents were reported to library staff at the circulation desk, the staff were mishandling the situation by often dealing with incidents themselves, rather than calling campus security.

The most recent occurrence the two students reported involved a person who they knew had caused problems at the library last year. "The person at the desk also knew that this guy had bothered people last year. He was only issued a warning (by circulation staff) and he was in the library again, three days later," said Elgert.

Elgert and Noble decided to complain to Ellen Solomen, president of PACSH, about library security procedures. Solomen arranged a meeting between the students, Busch, and Doug Langevin, director

of campus security, to discuss current problems and possible solutions.

Busch noted that library staff does have guidelines to deal with harassment situations. "They all undergo a training program," said Busch, adding that when dealing with specific incidents, "Our people have an awful lot of discretion in dealing with things, but certainly if you have a serious incident, they would call campus security. But often if it's just a suspicious character, the checkpoint person will go up and find out what exactly is going on."

Busch felt there was a "need to look at (the guidelines) and see what's in it and see how up to date it is. We're ready to take action. We don't want creeps in our library. We'll probably make less judgement calls and call campus security more frequently. Campus security will give a workshop and look at our procedures and see if they need improving."

Library staff will also continue to do their own patrols, and all incidents reported will still result in the description of the person involved being circulated to library staff and campus security.

Other ideas discussed included installing a direct line to campus security from library circulation desks, and possibly having an awareness week in the library.

"If the level of awareness is heightened, people won't have to feel it's just happening to them, and there's something they can do about it," said Noble.

Both Noble and Elgert said they had positive feelings about the situation after the meeting, but said that "things haven't changed as quickly as they could have."



Ron Sears

Tragically Hip hop at Dinwoodie

Front man Gordon Downie and Tragically Hip gave an aggressive performance at Dinwoodie on Saturday. The audience was equally lively — and even resorted to a stint of slamdancing to release their energy.

Reimer wins; aldermanic incumbents clean up

by Shannon Taylor

Although former alderman Jan Reimer ran away with the mayor's share in the civic election, a much tighter race was fought in Wards four and five.

Incumbents Patricia Mackenzie and Lillian Staroszik were voted in for another term to represent the University of Alberta riding - Ward five. Mel Binder and Lance White were victorious in Ward four.

Mackenzie and Staroszik fought for the Ward five lead. Mackenzie finished with 16,671 votes, while Staroszik came up with 15,977. Margaret Durnin and Don McMann fell behind early.

Mackenzie was pleased with her win. "I feel great — the whole object is to get elected, and that is what Lillian (Staroszik) and I did."

In the 1986 election, Mackenzie finished second to Staroszik at every poll. She feels her improved showing in this election proves her constituents are happy with her. "They obviously feel I have gone in there and got things done over the past three years."

Mackenzie identified Edmonton transit and employment as student issues which concern her. "There is a need for a special student bus pass...and I am committed to its implementation," she says. Mackenzie would also like to increase the number of students employed by the city of Edmonton during the summer months.

Staroszik agrees with Mackenzie that students issues are a major concern for Ward five aldermen.

Staroszik is a member of the University of Alberta Liaison Committee.

The alderman says the student housing crisis is a problem she hopes to solve with the 1992 opening of the LRT route through the university area. "Students will have access to fast and inexpensive transportation," she notes.

Ward four also saw the return of incumbents - White finished first with 12,831 votes and Binder second with 12,588.

And while Clean Slate candidates Tooker Gomberg, Ward four, and Margaret Durnin, Ward five, lost at the polls, they are claiming a moral victory for the environment.

"We managed to keep the environment front and centre during this campaign, and that is the important thing," says Gomberg, who

finished third in Ward four with 8,109 votes.

"We touched a nerve...the public is obviously yearning to get something accomplished," he adds.

Durnin agreed. "The pressure is now on the incumbents to recognize the public's desire to clean up the environment," she says.



Mayor-elect Jan Reimer



Gomberg — clean but unemployed