

What's the difference between a hamster and a gerbil?

The Gateway

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A hamster has more dark meat.
comedian
Bobcat Goldthwait

\$130 cheque at heart of controversy

SU funds paid for stripper?

by Matt Hays

Student Union funds may have paid for a stripper who performed in a separate room during the SU changeover party last April 29.

"We were having our year end changeover party and everything was running smoothly," said former Vice President Academic Connie Uzwyshyn. "Suddenly, I noticed the men at the party were disappearing. Somebody told me they were in SUB basement, so I ran downstairs to see what was happening. I barged into Room 034 to find Bambi rubbing ointment all over herself."

Bambi, an employee of Greene's Artists, acknowledged she *did* strip at a function in the Students' Union Building last April.

There is a question as to how this stripper was paid for. Certain present and past SU employees believe it was from public coffers. Connie Uzwyshyn: "What really perturbed me was that this stripper was paid for with SU funds. This money could have gone a long way for some clubs."

"My understanding is that she (Bambi) was paid for by an SU Artist's fee," said External Commissioner Ken Bosman.

Others have a different interpretation. SU President Dave Oginski believed Bambi was paid for by a collection taken up from the spectators by former VP Internal Scott Richardson. "I assume that is why he (Richardson) took money from everyone there," said Oginski.

At the heart of the controversy is a cheque made out to Richardson on April 29 for \$130. Bambi was paid exactly the same amount for her show. This money is listed on the cheque remittance voucher as being: For SU Party Expenses re: Changeover. Although this does not prove the money went to the stripper, *The Gateway* has been unable to find anyone (other than those who believe the money went to the stripper) who could tell them what the money went for.

The food and alcohol were purchased from L'Express and RATT. \$292 worth of food came from L'Express; \$200 worth of wine and \$322 worth of beer came from RATT. The \$130 cheque is the only party item not paid for by an internal transfer of funds within the SU itself.

To obtain SU funds, a person must first fill out a cheque requisition form. This requisition, along with the cheque itself, must have two signatures on it to be authorized: one must be from a finance manager (either Advertising and Business Manager Tom Wright or Finance Manager Ryan Beebe); the other must be from one of three SU executive members (the President, the VP Finance and Administration, and one other vice president).

The Gateway has been unable to obtain a copy of the requisition form for this particular cheque. It has disappeared from the SU files.

The cheque in question was authorized by former SU President Mike Nickel and Finance Manager Ryan Beebe.

When asked what the \$130 expenditure was for, Nickel replied,



Mike Nickel (left) and Scott Richardson

(file photo)

"I'm not VP Finance and Administration. You'll have to go to that person."

Former VP Finance Rob Splane told *The Gateway* he "was not aware of a \$130 cheque voucher". Splane indicated that five people have cheque signing authority and the cheque would not have to cross his desk for approval.

Ryan Beebe indicated the SU Executive are the ones who make the decisions and the finance manager just signs the cheques and keeps the books.

"If it (the cheque) is signed by an

exec member, I don't have any choice," he said.

If the money for the stripper was paid for with the \$130 cheque, is it possible the money could have been paid back into SU funds? "No," said Beebe. "Or I would've known about it."

Bambi said she was paid in cash before her show started. Who paid her? "He was the president or vice-president. I don't remember," she replied.

Splane said he attended the changeover party upstairs (in the SU Theatre lobby) but did not go

down to where the stripper was performing.

When asked if he was present at a strip show in the SUB basement that night, Nickel replied, "No comment." When asked if he had knowledge there was a stripper in SUB that night he again refused comment.

Richardson is presently in New Zealand and could not be reached for comment.

The final two former vice-presidents are female: Uzwyshyn and VP External Gayle Morris.

The changeover party is an annual event for incoming and outgoing executive members and councillors, *Gateway* and CJSR staff, and invited guests. The occasion celebrates the changing of the power in the SU as the new executive and councillors take office officially on May 1.

As mentioned earlier, this party occurred on April 29, after the last edition of the 1985-86 *Gateway* had been published. *The Gateway* does not publish during the summer months.

Thirteen get WCT extension

by Emma Sadgrove

Thirteen students have been allowed to continue their studies even though they have not yet passed the Writing Competence Test.

They were part of a group of approximately 75 students who took a year off from university and returned this year to find that their two year time period for passing the WCT was up.

These students complained they were "not made aware of the situation until the last minute," and were therefore unable to consider alternate plans.

They claimed they were unaware the year in which they were absent would count as part of the two year period. Several said they had contacted their faculties prior to withdrawing and were told there would not be a problem with the situation.

The Gateway spoke with several faculties. All said it was unlikely that any students received that information from their offices.

"As far as the Arts faculty was concerned, we understood that the clock did continue to tick," said Joan McDonald from the faculty.

As an additional measure, the faculty would "refer students to the WCT committee because there have been a lot of changes," McDonald said.

Students wrote the test on both Sept. 5 and 6; results were released on Sept. 10.

The 13 who failed then appealed to the Registrar, Brian Silzer, for extensions of their deadlines. Silzer interviewed each of them personally.

"What was agreed to was I would hear cases and react to their circumstances. It was essentially my decision," said Silzer.

Silzer granted extensions to all 13, varying from four months to eight months.

The decision to grant extensions was made on the final day for registration changes.

"They had a very short window to accomplish their registration," said Silzer. Some students were able to phone register earlier, but their registration was cancelled.

They had approximately two hours to complete their registration. "Registrar staff personally registered each and every one of

them," said Silzer. "They weren't obliged to get on the telephone and compete with everyone else."

Three other students also appealed for extensions on Sept. 10. These students were at the end of their two year period and did not pass the

test in their last attempt.

These students had been attending university during the past two years. They were not granted extensions and thus were not allowed to continue in their programs.

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