

NEWS

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DEADLINE: Noon Wednesday

AIDS focus of heated debate

By JOYCE OUELLETTE

Should AIDS victims, especially students and teachers, be isolated from the rest of society? This was the subject of a heated debate held at Edmund Casey Auditorium last Saturday afternoon.

The proposition team from UNB suggested that in order to decrease the AIDS virus from spreading, victims in the educational system should be isolated with separate facilities where they could receive proper medical care. Furthermore, the team suggested periodical mandatory testing be required at all levels of governments and in educational institutes.

"Isolation is the only way we can stop the spread of the virus," explained the team captain. She continued by illustrating present cases of isolation such as the Swedish government's recent legislation for isolation, and that publicity for abstinence from sexual intercourse was a form of isolation.

Another team member argued that "the rights of society to protect itself should supersede." Thus teachers should be aware of students infected with AIDS in their classrooms since they are advised of other sicknesses and treatments.

The opposing team from STU, with the help of a recent poll they had conducted, concluded that AIDS is a disease that is feared by most of the population due to a lack of information. They attacked the isolation proposal by asking "who would benefit from, society or the victim?"

Sheltering AIDS victims would be very costly, and perhaps stagnate the possibility of more research. Furthermore, they believed that isolation would label the victims as societal rejects making them feel guilty.

Mandatory testing to detect the AIDS virus would be virtually impossible since the virus can only be detected after a few months in the body.

Another argument stressed the basic rights of the in-

dividual would be infringed upon with isolation. Referring to the Charter of Rights and Freedoms section 7: right to

life, liberty and security, section 12: right to confidentiality, one member expressed that Eric Smith's rights had been seriously ignored by the Nova Scotia government due to the community's fear.

Isolation in their views would be a definite step backwards and brought on for reasons of fear due to a lack of knowledge of the disease. It would be unnecessary since there is no medical evidence that the virus can be casually transmitted.

The judges who told the audience that they enjoyed the debate enormously, praised the impressive debating skills and thoroughly researched arguments of both teams. They pronounced the STU team victorious.



Shape up or ship out

Power failure no surprise

By CHRIS NAKASH

In a recent interview with UNB's chief electrician, Dean Smith, *the Brunswickan* has received more information pertaining to last Tuesday's power outage.

Some conflict of content appeared to have been incorporated in the previous article. Several employees of various buildings on campus voiced their concern over the article, which quoted Don Barret, manager of maintenance saying that the incident was "unforeseeable". In contrast, a spokesperson for the Computer Center stated that they had been given ample notice of the power outage, thus having time to shut down the University's computer system.

In an attempt to clarify the situation, Dean Smith told *the Brunswickan* that the "initial outage was caused by an overload on a cable in the Harriet Irving Library, which put

several buildings in the dark, including the SUB, the library, Carleton Hall, and Tilley. In order to rectify the situation, the flow of power had to be diverted. The only way for this power flow diversion to take place was for another section of the campus to go without power."

This was a planned outage, which incorporated the Computer Center. As a result, maintenance crews had a chance to warn the Computer Center of potential hazards.

The Student Union Building was in total darkness for twenty seconds before the emergency generators kicked in. A concerned SUB staffer told *the Brunswickan* that though everything went smoothly, he would have been better able to evaluate and handle the situation if he had been forewarned. He said, "ten minutes after I closed the SUB, the power returned."

The persistence of garbage problems in the Blue Lounge of the Student Union Building could lead to the closure of that area, Kim Norris told *the Brunswickan* in an interview last Wednesday.

In previous years, the Blue Lounge has been closed for progressively increasing periods of time in effort to put a stop to the mis-use of that area. But these efforts, says Norris, only resulted in a temporary abatement of the condition.

While the excess garbage does not result in higher cleaning costs, the fact that janitorial staff have to spend more time in the Blue Lounge means that other sections of the building may not get the cleaning that they deserve. A closure of the Lounge, therefore, could result in a better cleanup job in the rest of the SUB.

Norris has been the target of complaints from some students protesting the amounts of garbage which are allowed to accumulate throughout the course of a day. The same students, says Norris, sometimes come to him protesting when, in a ef-



Kim Norris says the Blue Lounge could be closed if students don't begin to clean up after themselves.

fort to alleviate the situation, he has closed the area.

Other less drastic remedies have been tried: one year students were hired to patrol the area. After a few weeks of verbal abuse, they quit in frustration. The expense of hir-

ing Student Police is prohibitive, and hiring bouncers for such an open area is unworkable.

According to Norris, the solution to the problem must come from the students who frequent the area themselves.