

NEWS DIGEST

compiled by Daniel Wolgeleenter

NIGHTTIME EMERGENCY PLAN PASSED: A detailed plan to deal with nighttime emergencies involving large numbers of students was approved recently by Provost Elizabeth Hopkins and Vice-president (finance and administration) Bill Farr.

The plan was drawn up last March by a temporary committee made up of students, staff and administration members, in the wake of a nighttime epidemic at Stong and Bethune colleges where over 50 students took ill with diarrhea and vomiting. The exact cause of the illness was never determined because stool samples were not taken in time, as the North York health department did not know who was supposed to receive the stool sample kits.

The administration was roundly criticized by faculty and students for not having a plan to deal with such emergencies.

STUDENT CENTRE WINS AWARD: The Student Centre recently won the *Canadian Architect* magazine's award of excellence for its design.

The award was given in the magazine's November issue to the architectural firm of A.J. Diamond, Donald Schmidt and Company, and is one of the most prestigious awards of its kind in the country.

The Centre's food court is scheduled to open March 1 and the rest of the Centre is scheduled to be fully occupied by the end of July.

U.S. FRATERNITY WOES: Students on a "pledge line" were beaten with canes by members of the Kappa Alpha Psi fraternity at Fort Valley State College in Georgia last term, sending one pledge to the hospital with internal injuries and another to hospital with back injuries.

Five fraternity members were charged with battery and the chapter has been suspended by the college until an investigation can be completed.

At the University of Missouri-Columbia, the practice of allowing women to join fraternities as associate members, known as "little sisters," was banned last term by the university.

The ban was announced after four rapes were reported last semester involving charges against the fraternity members at the school.

Associate director of residential life at the university said that "the environment surrounding the little sister programmes makes it more conducive for sexual abuse or alcohol abuse."

The national governing body of most fraternities and sororities, the National Intra-fraternity and Sorority Council, discouraged "little sister" programmes in 1987.

At York, the Alpha Epsilon Pi Fraternity had a "little sisters" programme up until this year when many former "little sisters" formed their own sorority.

Courtesy the *National On-Campus Report*

Archdekin wants abortion referendum: Donato does not agree

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Are we supposed to take stands on those too? And what do we do with the decision once we have it?"

Archdekin said the referendum would not be a waste since the issue is a concern of many students. The results could be lobbied and reported to the federal government and an awareness week would be a possibility.

Donato said he suspects Archdekin was pressured by the

Women's Centre to bring the motion to Council. He also said he "would not be surprised" if it stemmed from the referendum at Queen's.

Archdekin denied the allegation, saying that it was only "inspired" by his dealings with the Women's Centre, and the Queen's connection was "a coincidence."

Both agreed that the CYSF does not have the money to fund the referendum, although Donato suggested it could be put on the CYSF election ballot in March. Archdekin added that with typi-

cally less than a 10 per cent voter turnout for CYSF elections, there could be a problem with one faction monopolizing the referendum.

Even if the Board of Referendum allows the vote, it may not happen in the near future, said Donato, because of the upcoming CYSF election and the proposed plebiscite concerning a student government levy increase. The abortion issue is important, Donato explained, but there are a lot of other important things taking up the council's time.

Attention Excal staff and everyone else:

Lorne Manly, grad student at Columbia University's School of Journalism, ex-Excal editor and hairdresser to the stars will chat about life as an investigative reporter in New York City on Jan. 11 at 5 p.m. Bring a pencil and paper. Free mousse.

(It's in Room 111, Central Square)

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