

the Gazette

Volume 127 Number 25 24

Dalhousie University, Halifax, Nova Scotia

April 13, 1995

DSU elections finally over...again

by Gazette Staff

It's finally over. And did anyone notice?

The Dalhousie Student Union 1995 Elections and Referenda took place for the second time last week — this time for real.

To no one's surprise, the results of the elections remained the same as the first set of results — which were thrown out by the DSU Judicial Board over the issue of privacy and accessibility problems with the first election.

As they did two weeks ago, David Cox and Lilli Ju were elected as next year's DSU President and Executive Vice-President (respectively). Chris Lydon won the position of Vice-President Academic and Erin Ahern will be the next Vice-President External. James Dann was acclaimed again as Vice-President Community Affairs, and Curtis Cartmill won the contest for Vice-President Communications.

However, due to the lower voter

turnout, none of the referendum questions achieved quorum — the required minimum number of students voting in their favour to make them "official." On Sunday, April 9, the DSU Council voted to endorse the results of the *Gazette* referendum based on the amount of the support it received, meaning that there will be a *Gazette* levy for the upcoming year.

Results were released shortly after 1 a.m., Saturday, April 8 at the Crawood. Polls opened last Wednesday and closed Friday at 5 p.m. Ballot counting quickly ensued and continued into the morning hours.

Although there were no major upsets, one closely watched race was for the position of Vice-President External. The results for this position was closer the second time around, with 469 votes going to Erin Ahern and 418 votes going to Aaron Poirier. There had been a controversy over slander and accusations from both sides before the second round of elections took place. Both

complaints were heard and dismissed by the DSU Elections Committee.

The results were a sigh of relief for Erin Ahern who had previously won in the election held two weeks ago.

"I'm so thankful that it's all over," said Ahern, adding that it was "a lot of work and very tiring."

Vice-President Communications-Elect, Curtis Cartmill, feels that "it's a shame that the questions didn't get quorum," but added, "It's great that council was able to pass the *Gazette* levy."

The by-elections for two Board of Governors positions were also held at the same time, seeing both Heather Gibson and Geoff Stewart winning those two spots.

Paul Larkin, the Chief Returning Officer, said "it's a lot of undo hardship having the general elections twice." However, he added, "I think a lot was accomplished because all the needs of Dal students were made accessible. Dalhousie University may be one of the first in Nova Scotia to have braille and large script ballots."

Field gets 'turf'-lift

by Sam McCaig and Carmen Tam

Wickwire Field may be artificial turf by as soon as this September. The pricetag for the latest field proposal has been projected at \$3.3 million and construction may commence as early as May 1st.

On Sunday, April 9th, the President's Advisory Council on Athletics (PACA), the Dalhousie Student Union (DSU) and the New Council Executive voted to support the construction of an improved artificial turfed Wickwire Field. The fate of the new field is in the hands of the Board of Governors (BOG), as they consider a motion that will be presented to them by PACA at the next BOG meeting on Tuesday, April 18th.

There is a stumbling block with the latest field proposal: space presently allotted along the south side of the field for 53 parking spots. Outgoing DSU Vice President Tiffany Jay, who also sits on PACA, wants to adjust the current proposal so that the field is 10-11 yards wider and the parking is eliminated.

"The Council [PACA] and the DSU support the model of the Wickwire Field which excludes any parking on the field and urge the President to direct the University Parking and Security Committee to

seek alternatives to continued parking on the field," Jay said in a report to the Alumni Association.

She continued, "Parking on Wickwire Field started as a temporary measure when there was construction on campus that interfered with some of the regular parking spots. The thing is, parking has continued there. However, with the new field, we want to do it right and there shouldn't be any parking there. Not to mention the fact that a bigger field should increase rental revenues."

An earlier proposal had an elevated artificial turfed field with parking underneath. The price for this project was estimated at \$7.1 million. However, by the set deadline of March 31, 1995, Dalhousie was \$800,000 short and this plan was scrapped. This meant that \$800,000 of Federal Infrastructure Level money had to be reallocated to another university project or it would be forfeited. There is still \$200,000 of Federal Infrastructure Level money available for the construction of an artificial turfed field.

Students began contributing to the Wickwire Field Trust Fund five years ago which has reached \$1 million. Its revenues are generated from the \$50 Athletic Fee that every full-

time Dal student pays. This fee also goes towards varsity athletics, intramurals, Dalplex upkeep, and sports clubs. The trust fund will continue to accumulate and the Student Athletic Fee is expected to rise by \$5 for each of the next three years.

The timeframe for the budget of the newest proposal is 7-10 years and the \$3.3 million comes from five different sources. They include the aforementioned \$200,000 from the Federal Infrastructure Level money, the already collected \$1 million from the Wickwire Field Trust Fund, \$1.35 million that will be collected over the next 7-10 years from the Student Athletic Fees, an estimated \$250,000 from field rentals, and \$500,000 from the Capital Campaign. Also, there is the projected cost of \$400,000 for allocating parking elsewhere and eliminating the spots that would have overlooked South St.

Wickwire Field has come under criticism in past years as it has failed to survive a full season of two varsity soccer teams, three rugby teams, and a never-ending slate of intramural games. The constant use, combined with the fact that rain and other water run-off settles onto the field in the fall, has meant that the field continually needs to be resodded and repaired.

It's finally official. The 1995 DSU Elections and Referenda results are as follows:

President/Executive Vice-President	
David Cox/Lilli Ju:	614
Jo Mirsky/Joe Tratnik:	217
Craig Peterson/Annette Gover:	135
Vice-President Academic	
Chris Lydon:	502
Ron Legacy:	369
Vice-President External	
Erin Ahern:	469
Aaron Poirier:	418
Vice-President Communications	
Eugenia Bayada:	376
Curtis Cartmill:	483
Vice-President Community Affairs	
James Dann:	739 yes 123 no
CASA Referendum	
Yes	633
No	312
Gazette Referendum	
Yes	734
No	255
Yearbook Referendum	
Yes	432
No	558
Board of Governors	
Heather Gibson:	500 yes/ 80 no
Geoff Stewart:	440 yes/ 92 no

For more information, call 494-1106.

Big Goats win big

by Jefferson Rappell

The name may be a bit odd, but the Big Goats are for real.

In its first year as a registered society at Dalhousie, the Big Goats walked away with Society of the Year honours at the DSU Student Appreciation Night, March 24.

The Big Goats are a motley collection of people who decided to join together in the quest for intramural excellence, charitable causes, and the pursuit of a good time. Among some of the accolades showered on this deserving society are that they managed to generate over three hundred members from the Dalhousie community, were the recipient of Men's Intramural Supremacy, the Intramu-

ral Award for Participation and Sportsmanship, finished third overall in Co-Ed Supremacy, gave over two hundred dollars to their charity, Big Brothers/Big Sisters, and were given due credit for the organization of their annual pub walk and year-end banquet.

For all those looking to join the Big Goats for next year, you may want to note the words of one of the Big Goat organizers: "We may not be one of those fancy-shmancy societies, like the Arts Society, who have a whole lot of money and no real representation — we get things done and have a good time doing it."

Whatever the ingredients, the Big Goats always seem to cook up a good time... and a successful one at that.

More elections?

by Engineering Society

On Thursday, March 16, the Dalhousie Engineering Society held its annual elections. Defying voter apathy, the society managed to get a surprising 30% turnout at the polling station.

The election results are as follows: President — C. David Simpson; V.P. External — Lisa Blattmann; V.P. In-

ternal — Sam Butler; V.P. Financial — Matthew Horne; DSU Rep — Chris Ward; DSS Rep — Usamh Mughal; Sports Rep — Thomas Koch.

The 1995-96 Engineering Society looks forward to working with other societies and campus groups in the upcoming academic year. Communication may be sent to engineer@ac.dal.ca.

special election supplement
this is the last issue...we promise!