



ARTS → In the mosh pit with Green Day, p.12.

SCIENCE → Worms are in our future. No, really..., p.8.

SPORTS → Soccer teams head to AUSA championships, p.16.

the Gazette

Vol. 128, No. 8

DALHOUSIE UNIVERSITY, HALIFAX, N.S.

Thursday, November 2, 1995

Is the Killam Library suffocating us?

BY DANIEL CLARK

It has been a fact of life at Dalhousie since the new buildings were opened twenty years ago — the Killam Library and the Life Sciences Centre are wonderful facilities, but we have come to expect poor air circulation.

An investigation into building ventilation at Dalhousie and the

Victoria General Hospital in 1991 conducted by Doctors Rosemary Marchant, Ken Yoshida, and Don Figley explained that "the ventilation system is not behaving optimally because the cooling coils are plugged and the directional air flow and poor work practices lead to a poor containment of pollutants."

In the Killam Library, the pollutant is carbon dioxide. Without this innocuous gas, all surface life on earth would cease to exist. However, in too strong a concentration, it causes lethargy, oxygen starvation, and if the concentration is exceedingly high, death.

The Killam Library is nowhere near that critical level of concentration, but there are still side effects.

"I am working for several hours, when suddenly I notice that my head is pounding, and I am having trouble breathing," said Sestino Colatosti, a first-year Masters in Development Economics student. "As soon as I exit the library, it's like, ZAP, all my strength is gone, and I'm about to collapse."

Chris Gray, a student assistant in the Computer Centre, agrees. "I've worked ten-hour

"I've worked ten-hour shifts in there, and at the end I'm exhausted. This isn't normal; the air just isn't fresh." — Chris Gray, student assistant in the Computer Centre

shifts in there, and at the end I'm exhausted. This isn't normal; the air just isn't fresh."

Gray's situation is compounded by the fact that the computers in the basement give off tremendous amounts of heat, and the air system does not adequately deal with it.

"It was horrible," said one student who wished to remain anonymous. "I had been working for a few hours, studying, when suddenly I was struck by a wave of nausea. The world swam, and I swear I was suffering from vertigo."

"I staggered to the washroom, vomited, and somehow made it outside. It was better then, but I still won't go in there for more than a few minutes at a time."

"Sometimes the air conditioning is working like gangbusters, and it's fine. But most of the time there is no air movement whatsoever," said Colatosti.

A library staff member, who also wished anonymity, said "The problem is [that] certain areas are poorly ventilated. As a whole we're fine, but if an area seems unusually hot, move out of it. This is a big library."

Québecers split fifty-fifty over sovereignty

MONTREAL (CUP) — On the eve of Halloween, Christmas came early for the No forces, as they won Monday night's referendum by a vote of 50.6 per cent to 49.4 per cent.

Leaders of the No side called for Québecers to respect the decision and to work together toward achieving their hopes and dreams.

"I want to address all Québecers," began Liberal leader Daniel Johnson. "I want to make sure there's a rapid reconciliation between the sides."

"I sincerely hope that Mr. Parizeau will understand the message and that he will be more modest in his expectations and in his projects for Québec, said Pierre Patenaude, a community organizer.

The No side started the evening trailing the Yes by a considerable margin.

At 9:30 p.m. EST, the No side surpassed the magic 50 per cent mark and the crowd went wild, chanting "Canada! Canada!" and "No! No!" while waving Canadian and Québec flags.

For Julie Forget, a 23-year-old engineer, it was the moment she had been waiting for all night.

"When the No side crossed over the 50 per cent mark, it was a real relief," said Forget. "I must admit I was really afraid, I didn't know what I was going to do in the event of a Yes vote. My future depended on the outcome of this vote."

The interpretation of the close vote is still unclear and reactions were varied. Echoing

the words of René Lévesque, Bloc Québécois leader Lucien Bouchard promised to continue the fight for sovereignty.

But for Lise-Marie Ferguson, 24, a law student at the University of Montreal, the outcome is a clear message to separatists.

"There isn't going to be a next time," said Ferguson. "This is it. Forget the next time."

Patenaude agreed, adding that the federal government could not ignore Québecers' desire for constitutional change.

"I'm happy the vote was so close," he said. "Because it puts the brakes on the sovereignty movement and it sends a message to the federal government that adjustments are necessary."

In their victory speeches, both federal Progressive Conservative leader Jean Charest and Quebec Liberal leader Daniel Johnson recognized the need for change.

Johnson stated, "Those who voted Yes voted for change. I tell them: I hear their message. We said no to separation. We equally said no to the status quo."

Charest emphasized the contribution made by the rest of Canada in the final days leading up to the referendum.

"To all those Canadians who came and reached out," he said, referring to last Friday's massive unity rally in downtown Montreal, "they can touch a piece of that flag and say it flies because of what they said and what they did."

Ten minutes of fame

Quorum lost before SUNS discussed

BY MARCUS LOPES

They didn't have it. Then they had it. Then they lost it again.

Consider it the plague for the Dalhousie Student Union (DSU) Council meetings: quorum.

"I've got to do it, so quorum," said DSU President David Cox as council was about to debate the referendum results on the Students' Union of Nova Scotia (SUNS) referendum question.

Council must ratify the SUNS question because even though a majority of students voted to withdraw from SUNS, it was not the necessary eight per cent of the membership, making the result non-binding on council.

But before the meeting — which lasted all of ten minutes — was adjourned, it was unanimously agreed that the DSU should withdraw from the Canadian Campus Buying Consortium (CCBC). Cox said pulling the DSU out now was the only way to get the DSU's cheque for \$9,000 back, which had already been cashed by the CCBC.

Lilli Ju, Executive Vice President (VP), said the \$9,000 is the membership fee the DSU pays to the CCBC. Ju explained that the CCBC is supposed to be a way for the various student unions to increase their buying power by working together.

"The whole concept is really great," said Ju. "We're supposed to be seeing all kinds of savings...[we're] not getting out money's worth."

And WaterGaetz, the question of Steve Gaetz's dismissal as the general manager of the Student Union Building (SUB), surfaced during the question and answer period.

"When are we going to be forthcoming to stu-

dents on this issue?" asked council member Josef Tratnik.

"Confidentiality has to be respected because it is not in the interest of this organization or Steve that this information is circulating," said Cox. "My job...is to protect the interests of this place."

Cox informed council that Gaetz's lawyer did send a letter to the DSU refuting their just cause for dismissing Gaetz. The DSU in turn sent a letter back to Gaetz's lawyer stating that they did in fact have just cause.

Tratnik said many people have approached him with questions regarding the firing of the SUB's general manager. He asked if it would be possible for the lawyer representing the DSU to come in and talk to council about this issue.

Brett Leech, DSU treasurer, reminded council that it will cost \$250 per hour to bring the lawyer in and took exception to Tratnik's comments. "Frankly, no one has come up to me," said Leech. "I don't know...most of you people don't even know who the guy was. I think it's SUB hacks, the ones who are asking the questions."

"These things happen everyday," said Cox. "The debate is whether you have just cause."

Council also agreed to the Constitutional Committee's proposed amendment to the DSU's constitution to the next Annual General Meeting for ratification. The committee proposed that By-Law XIII (regarding Policy Manual) should be struck from the constitution, excluding the sections regarding SUB Operations and finance.

The next council meeting is scheduled for November 5.

See Shadow Boxing on page 9