

Students receive preventative pill

By Theresa Felder
News Editor

The Student Health Service staff faced a busy time this past weekend as students responded to the death of freshman Alex Gedicks Nov. 13.

Many students went to Student Health for an antibiotic that prevents meningococemia, the infection that killed Gedicks. Student Health distributed 500-milligram doses of Cipro, an antibiotic that eliminates the bacteria from the body, to students who had been in close contact with Gedicks.

Staff members made themselves available early in the day on Nov. 14 in Johnson Residence Hall, where Gedicks lived, and in the Benson University Center later in the day.

"(Offering this service outside the Student Health office) made it easier for the students. They didn't have to wait in line with students who were waiting for other reasons," said Dr. Cecil Price, the director of Student Health.

In addition, Student Health doubled its staff through Nov. 15 and held a clinic to make the antibiotic and information available to students who needed it.

Two nurses instead of one were also on duty Nov. 16, according to Dr. Price. University Police officers covered duties for Student Health while staff members attended the memorial service Nov. 16, Dr. Price said.

The regular-size staff worked Nov. 17 and 18 and, though they saw more students than usual, enough workers were available to meet everyone's needs, Dr. Price said.

Approximately 375 students had come in to receive the antibiotic as of Nov. 18, Dr. Price said, though it is likely that only 20 to 25 students really needed it.

Distributing the larger amount was not unreasonable, however, he said. "Some of that was to alleviate fear."

Freshman Jen Nall, who lives in Johnson, said that she took the antibiotic just to be safe, even though she had not been in close contact with Gedicks.

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Jen Nall
Freshman

something they didn't suspect," Nall said. She said that she has experienced no side effects from the antibiotic.

Student Health was equipped with 450 doses of the antibiotic on Nov. 14, so the number of students who requested it was not a problem, Dr. Price said.

Dr. Price maintained that their giving the antibiotic to every student was not necessary, since for people who were at no risk, the drug would set up a resistance and therefore become ineffective or cause side effects.

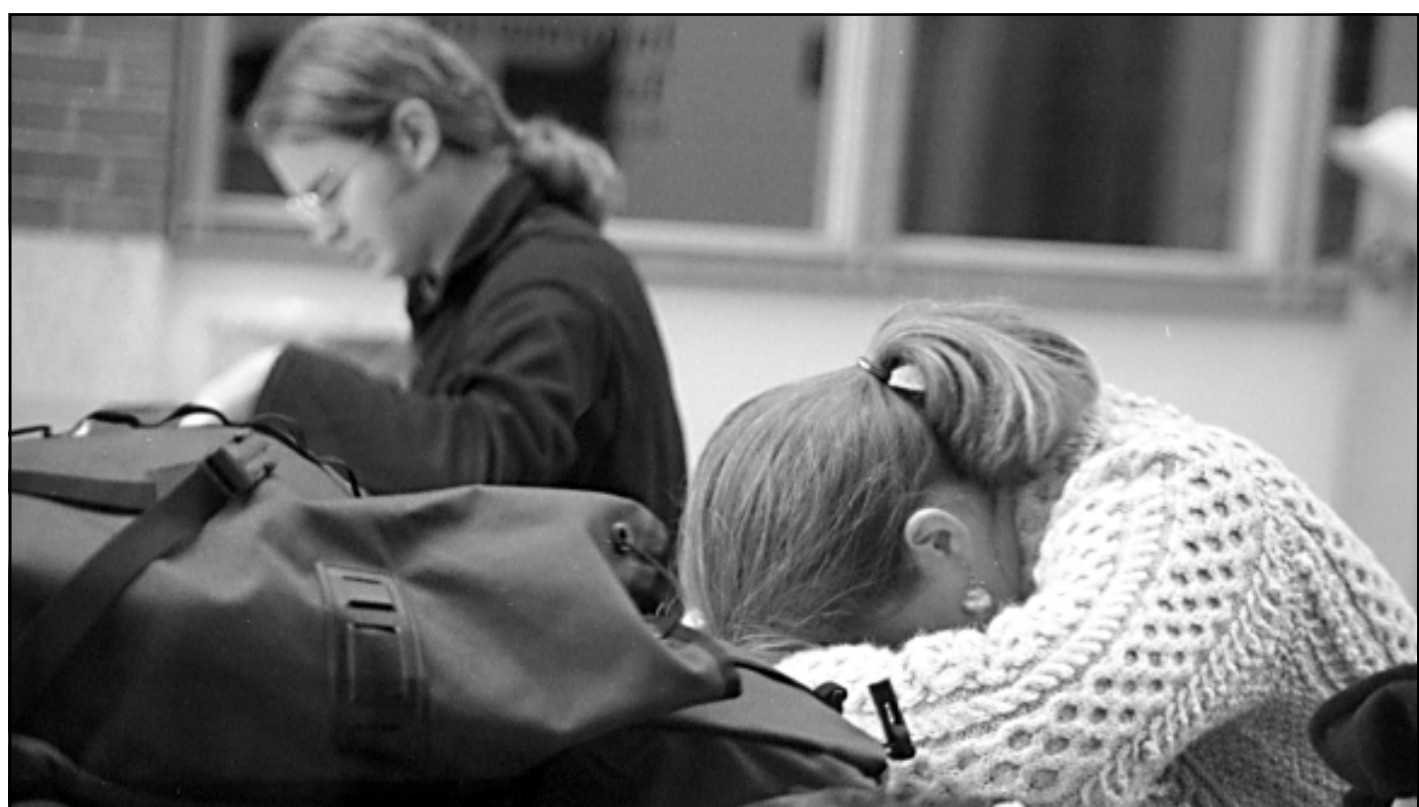
Though there is little chance of further instances of this infection or of meningitis, a disease the bacteria can also cause, some small concerns remain, according to Dr. Price. There is always the possibility that a case unrelated to Gedicks's could occur, though it is extremely unlikely, Dr. Price said.

Another possibility is that a case could arise from a person's being exposed in the same way and at the same time Gedicks was. That is also unlikely, since so many people who could have been at risk took the antibiotic, according to Dr. Price.

"The reason we gave the antibiotic was to prevent those cases," he said. Anyone who was exposed faces risk of infection for up to 10 days but would not be in danger after that period of time, Dr. Price said.

No further incidents of the infection have been reported on campus or in the community, according to Dr. Price. "There is no sign that Alex gave it to anyone," he said.

"Most of the time it's an isolated thing," Dr. Price said. He said that there is no reason to fear that a widespread outbreak will occur. "We haven't seen any evidence of that," he said.



Noel Fox/Old Gold and Black

Studying hard

Freshman Laura Florio naps in the Wilson Wing of the Z. Smith Reynolds Library. Students are anxious to finish assignments so that they can head home for Thanksgiving break.

SG plans for house in Capital

Legislature works to arrange for a university residence in D.C.

By Jessica Williams
Contributing Reporter

Student Government is continuing its efforts to encourage the university to fund a study center in Washington.

At the Nov. 18 meeting, the legislature passed a bill recommending that the university "expedite the process of obtaining a residential study center in Washington, D.C."

The idea for the study center was originally included in the Plan for the Class of 2000 and had been brought up before that as well.

In a survey conducted in 1989 by Jack Fleer, a professor of politics, a number of faculty departments, such as politics, economics, history and communications, expressed interest in the program.

Last spring's door-to-door SG survey

also showed student support for the program. About 67 percent of students surveyed said that they would consider participating in programs in Washington.

"Practically speaking, there is a large amount of students interested in internships in Washington, D.C. It would be an incredible offering to have some place for them to stay," said senior Scott Plumridge, the president of SG.

Junior Jon Giokas, the co-chairman of the Academic Committee, said that most schools have programs through which students can intern in Washington for a semester.

University students wishing to study in Washington usually go through programs set up by American University. However, Giokas said, many of those credits cannot be transferred.

By funding a house in Washington, stu-

dents would have the opportunity to study there and intern for a semester or a summer.

According to Giokas, the next step in acquiring the house is to present a proposal to John Anderson, the vice president for finance and administration. Giokas said the proposal will probably be presented next semester. He said that he does not know how long acquiring the house will take.

Junior Tina Carlucci, the SG speaker of the house, said that SG will continue this project next semester.

"I'm excited about the Washington, D.C. proposal because it's a project that students, faculty and alumni can work on together," Carlucci said. She said that she would like to see the project come to fruition before the end of the year.

According to Giokas, the idea for obtaining a house in Washington was initiated several years ago.

SG legislature meeting has controversy over funding

By Dan Durand
Contributing Reporter

The Nov. 18 Student Government Legislative Assembly erupted in controversy over money to be allocated for the Jewish Student Organization, a new religious group on campus.

While several other important bills passed without so much as an audible dissent, an Appropriations and Budget Committee's bill took up more time than any other issue as a political drama unfolded over the fate of \$137.90.

New business began briskly, as SG passed a bill which effectively passed SBAC's recommendations for the 1998-1999 budget amid much back-slapping. The legislature then moved on to what seemed a much less significant bill.

In an unorthodox move, freshman legislator Jacob Kline proposed to add an amendment to Bill No. 21 the moment it was brought to the floor. The motion to propose proceeded after it was narrowly passed in a rare roll-call vote.

Once recognized, Kline proceeded to unveil visual aids and spoke on the reasons he felt that the JSO was entitled to \$500, as opposed to the \$362.10 arrived at by the committee.

JSO, a new organization, had asked for a special

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Keith Mataya
Sophomore Legislator

allocation from the Appropriations Committee to fund their activities this year.

Kline also implied that the Appropriations and Budget Committee had been hasty in their deliberations and had unjustly deprived the JSO of funds necessary for its operation.

Kline then outlined a proposal under which an additional \$137.90 would be given to JSO for copies, gas money to attend the local Temple Emmanuel and to provide at least part of the money needed for their annual Sader.

The floor was then opened to comments on the proposed amendment and control was immediately taken by other members of the Appropriations and Budget Committee, who began by reprimanding Kline for discussing committee business not for public ears in the open legislature.

Junior Tina Carlucci, the speaker of the house, supported this notion, ending all discussion concerning the committee meeting of the previous Tuesday. The discussion then proceeded with perhaps less tension, but no less controversy.

Several students then spoke in favor of Kline's proposed amendment, culminating with support from sophomore Julie Eling, the JSO president, but the tide proved too strong to turn.

Appropriations and Budget Committee members remained loyal to the bill's original form and argued that \$362.10 was a reasonable figure that had been carefully determined.

They said that although \$500 was the maximum appropriation, this was not always given, regardless of the size of the organization.

Although money for food was not normally given, they had allocated a full \$200 despite the lack of precedent.

Additionally, they said that of the \$100 needed for copies, only \$50 was given because the funds would only be required for a single semester, as SBAC had recommended that JSO receive \$1,066.40 in 1998-1999.

Some even seemed angered that Kline had questioned the wisdom of the committee. "I don't think that others would appreciate it if we found fault with their

committees," sophomore legislator Keith Mataya said. "The issue here is whether or not the legislature believes we (the Appropriations and Budget Committee) are incompetent."

Others made the mistaken assumption that Kline was acting out of a personal religious obligation, to which Kline responded succinctly, "I am not Jewish."

Additional requests made after deadlines are against committee guidelines, claimed the opponents to the amendment, and SG cannot justify bending the rules for any organization.

Finally, whether on the strength of the arguments against it, or because apathetic members wished to bury the issue and proceed, the amendment was defeated.

Making up for lost time, SG breezed through four other bills, all concerning charters for new student clubs. The final bills of 1997 passed without question through the exhausted assembly.

One bill recommended that Residence Life and Housing make it easier for Greeks to move into the new Polo Residence Hall, and the other recommended the establishment of a house for study in Washington.

The recommendations regarding Polo contradicted sentiments expressed by Connie Carson, the director of residence life and housing, when she made the presentation to SG on Nov. 4.

Gedicks celebrated as fun, involved



Courtesy of Wes Waters

Alex Gedicks (reclining) and friends hang out in a Johnson Residence Hall lounge. Many of Gedicks's friends attended the memorial service held for him Nov. 16 in Wait Chapel.

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to Hartford, Conn. in January to begin his two-year missionary mission for the church.

Members of the LDS faith traditionally spend time in a community where the church sends them — sometimes in the United States and many times in a foreign nation.

"He served his mission here at Wake Forest. He was a beacon of strength and light," freshman Megan Clark said during the memorial service.

"His desire was only to serve and help others," Gary Deloiser, the pastor of the Winston-Salem First Ward Church, said during the memorial service.

Edward Allen, a longtime friend, gave Gedicks's eulogy at the request of Gedicks's parents. He told the audience stories about Gedicks' activities before his arrival at the university. Allen told the story of a "Gang Day" Gedicks initi-

ated at his high school. It was sponsored by the "good gang" Gedicks started.

Gedicks was heavily involved in his high school as editor in chief of the newspaper, a member of the baseball team and the founder of a croquet club. He was also an Eagle Scout and attended Boys' State.

Two ROTC students, freshmen Stephanie Anderson and Nathan Huff, talked about how Gedicks was always enthusiastic about drills no matter how early it was or how nasty the weather was.

Anderson and Huff then presented Gedicks's parents with the flag that had been flying at half mast in the Benson plaza over the weekend.

"He had great faith, winsomeness and fun. He was an outstanding student and will be missed by an extraordinary number of people considering the short time he was here," Chaplain Ed Christman said.

University delays filing tax form, will file in '98

Old Gold and Black Staff Report

It will be a few more months before the 1996-97 salaries of the university's highest-paid and top-ranking officials are released.

According to Lea Ann Iles, the director of financial services, the university has been granted an extension on filing Form 990, a form required by the Internal Revenue Service of all non-profit corporations.

The form, normally released Nov. 15, gives the compensation packages for the university's highest-paid officers.

Iles said the Controller's Office requested the extension because many of its staff members, including Controller Maureen Carpenter,

were newly hired this year and needed time to learn the procedures for completing the paperwork more thoroughly. The deadline is now Feb. 15.

Last year's form gave the salaries for 1995-96. Then, the highest earnings, \$777,756, were netted by Dr. Charles Branch, an associate professor of neurosurgery.

Hearn made \$447,748 in pay and other compensation in 1995-96, a total that made him the fourth highest-paid university president in the country.

Only the presidents of Northeastern University (who received a large one-time retirement package), Vanderbilt University and the University of Pennsylvania earned more.