the ubyssey
Snapping wet towels since 1918
volume 77 issue 22 Tuesday, November 21, 1995

Police nab aquatic thieves

by Wolf Depner

Police made several arrests last week after a rash of thefts at UBC's Aquatic Centre.

The Aquatic Centre has been flooded with thefts in the last three weeks, much to the chagrin of management and patrons. The latest series of thefts occurred last week, when lockers were broken into and valuables stolen.

By last Thursday, the Vancouver City Police and the RCMP had made several arrests in connection with the break-ins. The first arrests were made at a traffic accident Monday night when police found stolen items from the Aquatic Centre in one of the vehicles involved.

The vehicle was occupied by two males, aged sixteen and seventeen, according to Aquatic Centre staff. One of the individuals arrested Monday was arrested a second time Thursday, after he and his partner broke into fourteen lockers at the Aquatic Centre that morning, and made off with credit cards and an undisclosed amount of cash.

This time, the two individuals were pulled over for not wearing their seatbelts. At that time, Vancouver police found and recovered all the items reported stolen from the Aquatic Centre Thursday morning.

That same Thursday, two other individuals, one juvenile and one adult male, were caught red-handed by the RCMP trying to break into Aquatic Centre lockers.

The Aquatic Centre has long been a target for thieves, and according to one Aquatic Centre staff member who wished to remain anonymous, some of the thefts could have been prevented. The staff member said the Centre's management should have taken greater security measures by increasing the number of security patrols in the men's locker room where most of the thefts took place.

Aquatic Centre manager Chris Neale vehemently rejects the criticism. "We have done everything possible to prevent these thefts short of compromising the privacy of our patrons," he said last Friday. "[The thieves] are pros!"

Neale says further security measures will be implemented in the near future, but refused to announce any specific changes publicly for security reasons.

The Aquatic Centre has not been the only target for thieves looking to do some "early Christmas shopping" on campus.

TV equipment worth $1,000 was stolen from the Thunderbird Winter Sports Centre last Thursday, and War Memorial Gym also has a well-documented history of thefts. Operations Manager Shane Cameron says only the new Student Recreation Centre seems to have been spared so far.

ANNA-MARIA CARVALHO PHOTO

AMS VICE PRESIDENT NAMIKO KUNIMOTO takes note of a burnt out light during last Thursday night's campus Safety Audit. Organized by Student Board of Governors representative Heather Hermant and AMS Safety Commissioners Cheng-Han Lee and Yvette Leung, the audit's findings will be included in a report on UBC's safety problems to the Board of Governors in January. Organizers hope the audits will spur Campus Planning and Development to improve the campus' dismal lighting conditions and contribute to a greater sense of safety among students.

UBC to host conference on post-secondary education

by Simon Rogers

With Canada's post-secondary education system facing its greatest funding crisis in recent memory, UBC will host a major forum on the future of post-secondary education later this week.

The two-day forum, organized by the AMS, will bring together groups with wide-ranging ideas on the future of the educational system. Delegates include members of government, labour, business, faculty and administration, and students.

The conference kicks off this Friday with a keynote address from Skills, Training and Labour Minister and possible candidate for premier, Dan Miller.

"We hope that a good discussion will occur among all the stakeholders in post-secondary education," said David Borins, forum organizer and AMS External Affairs Co-ordinator. "The conference will set the basis for future debate in concerns regarding higher level education.

"With the upcoming election, it is important that students be most informed and actively involved in discussions over post-secondary education–the area that effects them most."

The conference consists of three separate sessions, with discussion topics including the funding crisis in post-secondary education, the role of post secondary education in the evolving provincial economy and how the system should be adapted to better meet students' needs.

The sessions will be followed by breakout groups where delegates will debate and discuss session topics. These group sessions will be recorded for a report to be published this January.

Ian McCloud, a lawyer and a delegate representing business, urges students to make their voice heard at the conference.

"It is requisite that students attend. Their concerns when it comes to post-secondary education are more likely to be global in scope as opposed to business, which are more likely to be self-interested," McCloud said.

McLoud says he's "impressed" with the AMS's organization of the event and the broad range of interests represented.

"I'm pleased that the debate to be entertained at this conference is set to reach further than just harping at the Federal government for increased funding," he said.

Students interested in serving as delegates for the conference should contact David Borins at 822-2050 or in person at the AMS Executive Offices in the SUB.

The forum begins Friday, November 24 at 11:30 a.m. in the SUB Party room.

classifieds

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Upcoming

30% of British Columbians claim to have no religious affiliation. If you are one of them, come and met some of the others at the first meeting of the

UBC Humanist Club
At International House
1783 West Mall
November 28, at 5 p.m.
(coffee and donuts provided)

Secular humanists endorse:
- Personal responsibility
- Ethics without religion
- Respect for individual differences

'Tween Classes

Wednesday, November 22

"Our Generation Is Not For Sale"

Strategy meeting to organize opposition to the "Coke Deal." with the AMS and the University, SUB 212, 2:30pm.

Thursday, November 23

Students For Forest Awareness

Speaker: Duncan Morrison, Pacific Forestry Centre - "Root Disease in Spacing Age Stands in the B.C. Southern Interior." McMillan 166 12:30pm.

Thursday, November 23

Marxism Lecture

Class series. "Introduction to the History and Theory of Marxism: Class #5: "Capitalism, socialism and communism." Presented by Spartacus Youth Club. Brittania Community Centre, 7:30pm.

Tuesday, November 28

Inaugural Meeting

UBC humanist club. International house, 5:00pm.

Tuesday, November 28

Overeaters Anonymous

Weekly meeting for compulsive overeaters,anorexics and bulimics. Lutheran Campus Centre, 12:30 pm.

Friday, December 1

Montreal Massacre Commemoration

March and commemoration of Dec. 6 massacre in Montreal, presented by the Women's Centre. Clock Tower, 12:30pm.

Interested in contributing to the Ubyssey ENVIRONMENTAL ISSUE?

Story meeting Friday, November 24 at 12:30 pm in SUB 241K. Everyone is welcome.

UBYSSEY STAFF MEETING
WED, NOV. 22, 1995 @ 12:30PM
SUB 241K
- **Environment Issue**
- **Organizing seminars**
- **Editorial screenings & elections**
- **Fashion Supplement**
- **Second term vision**
- **Other business**

AMS Update

What does Fee-Reallocation mean?

One of the referendum questions asks UBC students to re-allocate their $7.00 Athletic Fee towards specific groups. One of these groups is World University Service of Canada (W.U.S.C.)

Out of the seven dollars to be reallocated, WUSC would receive 50 cents towards the Refugee Sponsorship Program. Each year, the WUSC UBC branch uses the money from their current student levy to sponsor a refugee student to come to Canada and study at UBC. The students apply for the WUSC scholarship from their country of refuge, whether in Kenya, Thailand or the former Yugoslavia. The local committee acts as the Canadian legal sponsor to gain landed immigrant status for the student. WUSC registers the sponsored student in courses, finds a place for the student to live with the help of UBC student housing and assists the student in adjusting to Canadian life. A scholarship provided by the UBC administration plus the existing student levy allows WUSC to fully financially support one student each year. With the fifty cent increase, WUSC would be able to sponsor **two** students each year and build up a surplus for emergencies.

Thanks to the all of the people who signed the petition. The AMS encourages UBC students to continue their support for their fellow students who are not fortunate enough to have been born in a peaceful country like Canada.

For more information about WUSC, please contact Garett Pratt @ 228-4866.

Referendum '96 - In Search of Quorum...

We need only 3,000 students to vote YES for each of the referendum questions in order for them to pass. Issues include: Childcare, External and University Lobbying, CiTR, W.U.S.C. and Student Resource Groups, including the Student Environment Centre.

Voting will take place between January 15th and 19th, 1996, during the regularly scheduled AMS elections. Look for the referendum newspaper, which will be coming out next week!

For more information about the referendum questions, please contact Am Johal, AMS Director of Administration, @ 822-1961.

Make a difference in your university. Vote YES in the 1996 referendum.

1995 B.C. Forum on Post Secondary Education

On Nov. 24 & 25, the AMS will be hosting the 1995 B.C. Forum on Post-Secondary Education. Taking place in the SUB, the forum will be attended by leaders from various stakeholder groups, including labour, the private sector, university and colleges, government and students. The purpose is to set out key issues and problems that must be addressed in post-secondary education over the coming years.

The forum will consist of panel discussions led by leading experts. After each panel session, there will be break-out discussion sessions.

Presently, there are five student spaces open at the forum. There is no delegate fee and the spaces will be distributed on a first come, first serve basis.

If you would like more information or if you are interested in attending the forum, please contact David Borins, AMS Coordinator of External Affairs @ 822-2050.

Komugata Maru Incident

The AMS Council passed a motion to support the establishment of a statue on the UBC campus to commemorate the unfortunate racial discrimination by Canada in events surrounding the 1914 Komugata Maru incident.

CONGRATULATIONS TO COLOUR CONNECTED ON BECOMING A NEW AMS STUDENT RESOURCE GROUP!

ALMA MATER SOCIETY
STUDENT SOCIETY OF UBC

Prepared by your student society

20/20 Vision sees an easier path to change

by Irfan Dhalla

Being busy doesn't mean being left out, according to a new Vancouver-based social action group.

While many people, students included, feel too busy to lobby the government regarding social or environmental issues, this silent population may still have strong views on issues like deforestation in Clayoquot Sound or French nuclear testing in the South Pacific.

With this fact in mind, a group of concerned Vancouverites have set up a lobbying group called 20/20 Vision. The name reflects the group's philosophy: "$20 per year and 20 minutes a month to make a positive difference."

20/20 Coordinator Pru Moore says people's schedules shouldn't preclude them from becoming involved.

"We are geared for busy people, who feel overwhelmed by the number of issues, but would like to make a difference," Moore explained.

20/20's group of volunteers researches environmental and social issues and sends the details, on a postcard detailing the issue, to each subscriber. Included in the postcard are the name and address of a federal cabinet minister for the the subscriber to send a letter voicing their concern.

Moore says a large part of 20/20 Vision's issues and research come directly from research groups such as the Sierra Club, Physicians for Global Survival and the David Suzuki Foundation.

The global scourge of land mines, for example, was one of the issues 20/20 members recently targetted. Land mines continue to kill thousands of civilians worldwide each year, and 20/20 Vision members were asked to send letters of concern directly to Prime Minister Jean Chretien.

20/20 Vision consists of about twelve core members, and has approximately 300 subscribers.

Moore says approximately half of the annual $20 subscriber fee goes to postage costs, with one third going to supplies and production of the postcards and the rest toward promotional brochures. All members and researchers are volunteers.

Students interested in more information about the group should write to: 20/20 Vision, 1475 Chamberlain Drive, North Vancouver.

LGBQ: Little Sisters still waiting for court ruling

by Andrea Mason

MONTREAL (CUP)– Almost one year and over a quarter-of-a-million dollars in expenses later, Little Sisters Bookstore in Vancouver is still waiting to hear the verdict in its case against Canada Customs.

The precedent-setting court case in which Little Sisters challenged the right of customs to seize so-called 'obscene' literature was heard in the B.C. Supreme Court from October to December 1994.

Little Sisters, which carries literature for Vancouver's gay, lesbian, and bisexual communities, has had its shipments seized repeatedly since 1985. The confiscated articles sometimes included publications allowed into mainstream bookstores.

Little Sisters decided to take action last year. Fed up with having to challenge each seizure on a case by case basis, the store is questioning the legality of customs' powers of detainment.

The store argued that customs' use of the term 'obscenity' is unclear and criticized customs for targeting gay and lesbian authors and bookstores while being more tolerant of heterosexual literature.

According to Kim Mistysyn of Glad Day Books in Toronto, one of the big problems is that customs officials receive little training in pornography and free-speech issues.

The only guidance they are given is a two-hour seminar on literature.

During the trial last year, many witnesses from customs admitted to this scanty training and still others said they found homosexuality "repulsive."

"Customs obviously does not have the experience or education to deal with books. They have repeatedly demonstrated their inability to keep things consistent," declared Mistysyn.

The mistakes are revealing. Mistysyn pointed to a recent mishap surrounding the vegetarian cookbook, *The Politics of Meat.* Border guards glanced at the cover, assumed the book depicted gay sex, and seized it.

"They would have realised if they had read a little of the book like they are supposed to," noted Mistysyn. And then there is the double standard. Books depicting gay sex are routinely detained, whereas literature involving heterosexual sex is allowed through without any difficulty. According to Fuller, *The Joy of Gay Sex* was seized, while the heterosexual equivalent, *The Joy of Sex*, can be found on the shelves of virtually any Canadian bookstore.

Customs officials also routinely target independent bookstores while large chains such as Cole's are left alone. Mistysyn attributes this to the fact that border guards do not have time to look through the entire order of large shipments going to major chains.

Independent bookstores cannot afford to import books in bulk and suspicious officials are careful to search the shipments headed for stores such as Glad Day or Little Sisters.

Just last year, Glad Day's shipment of the famous American author Samuel Delany's book *Madman* was seized, while the Cole's down the street received its copies without any difficulty.

Fuller commented that other marginalised groups have also been systematically targeted recently. Pointing to problems with prominent U.S. feminist Bell Hooks' last work, Fuller said she believes customs is beginning to "widen its scope" of censorship beyond gay and lesbian books to include the literature of feminists and people of colour.

In a recent interview with *The Advocate*, Bruce Walsh of the anti-censorship coalition Censorstop commented that, "Every gay bookseller in this country has attempted to sell their bookstores, but nobody wants to buy them."

There is a lot of support for the Little Sisters initiative, as Customs has a history of conflict with gay and lesbian bookstores in Canada.

According to Mistysyn, the fact that there are only three specifically gay and lesbian bookstores in Canada makes it easy for officials to keep track of the shipments imported by these stores.

Glad Day has had its share of hassles with the border guards. After numerous instances of prolonged shipment detention without notification, the store was forced to start importing through a broker.

Although this is an extra expense, it ensures that officials will be forced to at least give notice when they seize a shipment at the Canada/U.S. border.

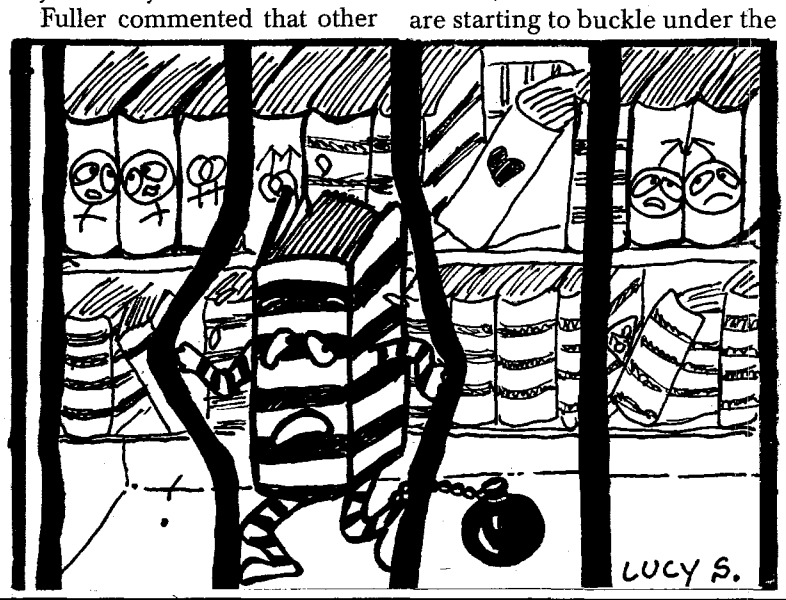
While Janine Fuller of Little Sisters said "There is less imposition of state will on the private domain in Quebec," the Montreal bookstore L'Androgyne has also been on Custom's hit list in the past.

Fuller admitted that bookstores carrying gay, lesbian, and bisexual literature are starting to buckle under the pressure. "We end up censoring ourselves," said Fuller.

The result is that some publications, such as the lesbian erotic magazine *Bad Attitude*, have "effectively been banned in Canada," said Fuller.

But Little Sisters continues to be defiant, because, as Fuller stated: "A gay and lesbian bookstore is one of the few places where gays can see their ideas and history represented."

"A gay and lesbian bookstore is one of the few places where gays can see their ideas and history represented."
-Ms. Fuller, Little Sisters Bookstore



Reformers seek coalition

by Simon Rogers and Sarah O'Donnell

In a bid for an increased right-wing political presence on campus, UBC's Young Reform Party has announced plans to form a coalition of right-wing groups.

"The left is not the only voice to be heard on campus," Young Reformer President John Weintraub said. "If the right wants to be loud and be heard, we must be united."

Weintraub hopes a coalition will strengthen the right-wing's voice on campus and challenge the conception that the right is a monolithic group.

"We're interested in generating and advancing ideas. That means we are looking for brain content, irrespective of skin colour," Weintraub said.

The Young Reformers are looking to ally with their "natural constituency"– business groups and "non-political" organizations such as the Objectivists and religious clubs who are on similar ideological ground.

Weintraub said the coalition is an attempt to "regain the support of some groups who we were alienated from in the past due to our extreme views."

Instead of taking strong positions on social issues, the Young Reformers plan to push their economic platform to the forefront of their agenda–a platform they say will not be compromised by a coalition.

"We're not going to become a political prostitute, beholden to the special interests of other groups," Weintraub said.

But it appears Weintraub will not have any easy time convincing many students of the value of his coalition.

Heather Hermant and Michael Hughes, the two student representatives on the Board of Governors who campaigned as part of the "Action Now" slate last January, said Weintraub's vision has some holes in it.

Hermant feels Weintraub is going about the coalition the wrong way. "To say you want to form a right wing coalition means nothing on this campus. A lot of people don't identify with political ideology/terminology... people gravitate towards your vision. They don't gravitate towards a label."

Even organizations Weintraub is expecting support from are reluctant to participate.

When the Young Conservatives were asked whether they planned to join the coalition, club member Michael Palacz said "Why would we want to join with [the Young Reformers]? We received more votes than them [in the '93 federal election]; we don't see eye to eye on too many issues."

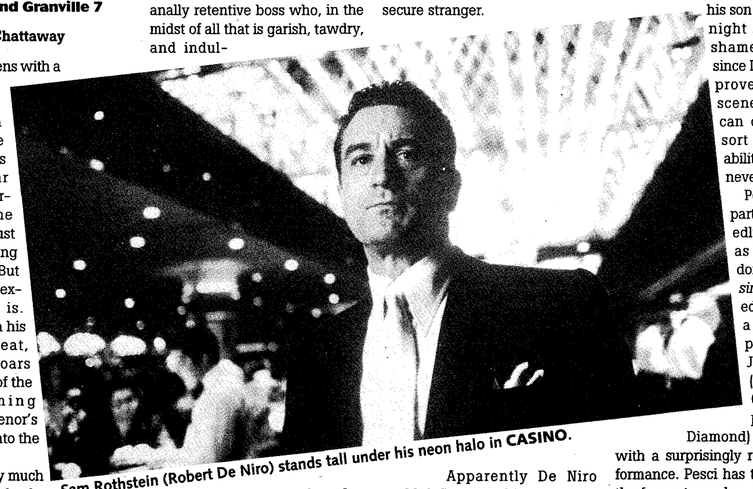
Colour Connected Against Racism and the Women's Centre had not heard of Weintraub's intentions to form a right-wing coalition, but a Colour Connected spokesperson said it is "better to know what they're thinking out in the open because that way you can take it apart. It pisses me off people are like this, but that's the reality."

Scorsese gets lucky with *Casino*

Casino
opens Nov 22 at the Oakridge and Granville 7

by Peter T. Chattaway

Casino opens with a bang — literally. Sam Roth-stein (Robert De Niro) steps into a car framed so perfectly on the screen you just *know* it's going to explode. But oh, what an explosion it is. Catapulted in his driver's seat, Rothstein soars on the cusp of the mushrooming flames as a tenor's aria bursts onto the soundtrack.



Sam Rothstein (Robert De Niro) stands tall under his neon halo in CASINO.

That pretty much sets the pace for the film as a whole. *Casino* frequently flirts with clichés — it's especially familiar if you've seen *GoodFellas*, Martin Scorsese's last collaboration with De Niro, Joe Pesci, and co-writer Nicholas Pileggi — but Scorsese invests so much energy in this venture that you can't help but be transfixed by it all.

This is all the more remarkable because Rothstein remains quite opaque throughout his flashbacked narrative. A casino manager who's got the art of gambling down to a science, he's a professional businessman who never lets on whether he actually *enjoys* his line of work, the sort of anally retentive boss who, in the midst of all that is garish, tawdry, and indulgent about Las Vegas, badgers the chef for not putting enough blueberries in his muffin. But the soul of this character stays hidden behind all these details.

This is particularly problematic when Rothstein meets Ginger McKenna (Sharon Stone), a chip-pinching hustler he falls in love with when he *ought* to be ejecting her from the premises. Instead, he marries her and gives her the only key to a safety deposit box worth a few million bucks. The script never explains why an abnormally careful gambler would let his guard down and put such blind trust in this emotionally insecure stranger.

Apparently De Niro couldn't figure out his motivation either; when Rothstein proposes to Ginger, he delivers his lines so formally it's left to *Stone* to be the scene's emotional centre (thankfully, she pulls it off).

The script is similarly laconic when it comes to the Rothsteins' home life. We see their baby, but only after a narrator *tells* us about the kid (perhaps the thought of Sharon Stone *pregnant* was too much for the Image Control department). Much later, we see their daughter at the age of eight, but only *after* the parents' custody battle begins. Nothing we see of the Rothstein family comes close to the textured irony of Nicky Santoro (Joe Pesci) brushing smuggled diamonds out of his wife's hair or making breakfast for his son after a late-night hit. It's a shame, really, since De Niro does prove, in other scenes, that he can display the sort of vulnerability most roles never offer him.

Pesci, for his part, is as wickedly delightful as ever — he dominates *Casino* so assuredly that even a stalwart psycho like James Woods (who plays Ginger's pimp Lester Diamond) capitulates with a surprisingly reticent performance. Pesci has to be one of the few actors who could slap an ex-girlfriend, toss her down the stairs and out the door, and *still* get an audience's sympathetic laughter with a terse "Be careful." One minute he's the most violent, irrational prick you ever saw; the next he's actually trying to talk some sense into his fellow wiseguys.

If it seems like *Casino* has no greater aim than to plagiarize our memory of *GoodFellas*, well, perhaps that is the case. But the ol' moral ambivalence is buoyed along by a grab bag of nifty film tricks — funny subtitles, X-ray close-ups, irises and tints — that keep the film so interesting, you barely notice its three hour length (at most, it feels like two and a half).

Like the institution for which it is named, *Casino* may be excessive and redundant, but it's so alluring — even addicting — that you forgive Scorsese for rolling the dice just one more time.

Sincerity put to music

Mercedes Sosa
Nov 18 at the Queen Elizabeth Theatre

by Chris Chiarenza

From the moment she walked on stage, Mercedes Sosa had the crowd moving in their seats, if not on their feet, and it didn't stop until long after the lights came on.

The Argentinian-born folk singer filled the theatre with a voice as pure and strong as they come. Switching back and forth from songs of poetic protest to beautiful ballads to upbeat classics, the larger-than-life singer had her admirers standing, dancing, clapping and crying. Spontaneous standing ovations broke out at several points during the show and in the end her fans continued to applaud and chant her name long after the final encore ended. Even those who could not understand a word of Spanish could not help but be moved by the purity and power in her voice. In a word, it was beautiful.

Sosa sang mainly songs from her latest album, *Gestures of Love*, but perhaps the most moving and lively moments of the show came when she sang older favorites as 'La Maza' and 'Todo Cambia' and when she finished the concert with the Latin American classic 'Maria Maria.' These were the songs the audience came to hear her sing. For many, they were reminders of the country that was once their home as she sang of the injustices that forced them to leave.

But you didn't have to experience the injustice to understand the message. It was a message of peace, of understanding and of coming together. But with her positive attitude it was mostly a message of hope.

Sosa was backed by an accomplished group of musicians who lived up to the unenviable task of doing justice to her voice. The communication between her and the band was like that between best friends, and they conveyed this feeling to the crowd. Whether she was singing or reciting prose or addressing a member of the audience directly, Sosa seemed truly happy to be there with us, almost as happy as we were to be there with her.

If I had to find a negative aspect, I would have to say that it was that it ended. Mercedes Sosa is a truly unique and exceptional performer, a potent blend of sincerity, integrity and talent that is rarely seen in Vancouver.

Libraries and other exotic places

Barbara Hodgson:
***The Tattooed Map* [Raincoast]**

by Peter T. Chattaway

With its intricate graphic design, fold-out maps, surreal plot twists and mysterious first-person narrative, *The Tattooed Map* would appear at first to draw from the same well as the *Griffin & Sabine* trilogy. But Barbara Hodgson — who founded Vancouver-based Byzantium Books in 1992 with *Griffin* author Nick Bantock — insists her first novel is of a somewhat different breed.

"I think that's a likely comparison, as there are so few illustrated novels," she says. "But we [at Byzantium] are going to try to make sure that people can see that there's a real wide range of illustrated novels, and appreciate the differences."

For one thing, *The Tattooed Map* is designed like a journal, not a set of letters and postcards. While the main text is set in clean polished type, the margins are cluttered with receipts, pictures, newspaper clippings, and quick handwritten travel budgeting. "In *Griffin & Sabine*, the illustrations show the way that the characters express their ideas visually, but in [*The Tattooed Map*] the illustrations show how the characters observe the world around them."

The journal is begun by one Lydia Usher, who is touring North Africa with her travelling companion, and former lover, Christopher. One morning she wakes up to find what appear to be flea bites on her wrist, but soon a growing pattern emerges: the marks on her arm become a map that only she can see. When she disappears, it's up to Christopher to continue the narrative and find her.

Hodgson got the idea from an incident in a Cairo youth hostel. "I was sleeping in the top bunk, and I realized that there were a lot of bugs in the mattress, and I couldn't get down from the top bunk and get my insect repellent because I'd wake everybody up. So I was stuck up there, being bitten to death. I woke up the next morning and, sure enough, I had a number of insect bites on my arm, but I *also* had a stamp on my hand that I couldn't recall having received.

"I asked the other women if they'd heard anyone come in during the night and nobody had, and I showed the stamp to the youth hostel employee and he didn't recognize it from anywhere. So I drew it in my own journal and thought, 'Someday, maybe I'll figure this out.'"

BLURRING THE LINES: Barbara Hodgson mixes reality and fiction in The Tattooed Map.

While the origins of that stamp remain a mystery — Hodgson says it would be "swell" if her book came to the stamp artist's attention — Hodgson moved the story out of Egypt and set it on the other side of the African continent. "For me, the appeal of Morocco was that you're never quite sure what time it is, and I found myself very open to suggestion [there]. If somebody had said, 'Time has slipped here, and you're not really in the 1990s,' I would say, 'Yeah, I could believe that.'

"I really wanted to emphasize that these characters are displaced — not only in place, because that's what you do to yourself when you travel, but they *are* displaced in time."

This temporal flux is conveyed in part through maps, lithographs and souvenir photos that are older than *Casablanca*, though Hodgson won't say which ones are authentic. "I tried to blur the difference between reality and fiction so that, throughout the book, there are places that *do* exist, but there are also places that *don't* exist. I wanted it to be so blurred that it didn't make a difference.

"Whether or not the newspaper clippings *did* exist at one point, or the guest registry existed at one point, or whether they're forged, it's all something that contributes to that sense of mystery."

Hodgson says she wrote the book to express the "power" of travel, but not all journeys take place overseas. A significant portion of Christopher's tale sees him roaming about an anonymous but suspiciously familiar "campus library." ("What a dump!" he writes. "Can't even walk down the aisles without bumping your head on the humming, flickering fluorescent lights hanging from the low, low ceilings.")

Hodgson laughs when I ask if she had UBC's Main Stacks in mind. "They were certainly a model! I don't know if the librarians at UBC would be offended or if they would nod their heads and say, 'Yeah, it's true,' but I did spend an incredible amount of time in the library there."

And who knows what sort of stamp they'd stick on her hand if she fell asleep in *there*.

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The importance of being good & snarky

The Importance of Being Earnest
at the Freddy Wood until Nov 25

by Sam Arnold & Tessa Moon

It is a lovely and absurd divan that waits in front of the curtain at the Freddy Wood Theatre's production of Oscar Wilde's *The Importance of Being Earnest*, a fitting foreshadowing of the elegantly dotty play to follow.

When the curtain rises, it is seamlessly absorbed into a delicious set that hands the first round of well-deserved applause to Scene Designer Christine Reimer.

Once the play begins, however, the set is eclipsed by the foppish verbal fencing of Algernon Moncrieff (Christopher Hawkey) and Jack Worthing (Joel Spicer), two Victorian dandies who spend their time drinking wine from polished little glasses, flashing brilliant smiles under polished moustaches, mincing on polished little black shoes, and eating little cucumber sandwiches.

To pass the time between breakfast muffins and high tea, they vie for the most studiedly trivial of Victorian affectations and affections.

Gwendolen Fairfax (Rebecca Harker) and Cecily Cardew (Catriona Leger) are the female complements to the two "earnest" gentlemen, determined to marry men by the name of Ernest.

A comedy of mildly morbid errors ensues as the "bunburying" Algernon takes on the role of Jack's mythical brother Ernest Worthing, presumed dead at the very moment he turns up to fall in very instantaneous love with Cecily, while Gwendolen — believing her own beau Jack to be named Ernest — turns up to drink oversweetened tea and find Cecily engaged to a man similarly called Ernest.

Much precisely enunciated name-calling by the two women beautifully portrays the loopiness of polite society.

The remainder of the cast — including the excellent Lady Braknell (Sarah Redmond) of the shrill voice and firm aversion to railway station babies; the droll and inexplicably hilarious butler/gardener (Rauganhaan Yu); the baby-misplacing governess Miss Prism (Sharon Feder); and a nicely bewildered old stick of a vicar (Jonathan Sutton) — each do justice to the author's machete-like wit and cynicism.

Importance is a piquant combination of historical research and creative theatre, and—friendly heckles from the Creative Writing faculty notwithstanding—it seems to have suffered not at all from its "manhandling" by the internationally renowned editor Errol Durbach.

Liberally sprinkled with classic gems ("eating muffins looks like repentance"), it's a prime rendition of Wilde's best and snarkiest.

Joel Spicer and Rebecca Harker star in Oscar Wilde's THE IMPORTANCE OF BEING EARNEST.

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A memo from Dave to Dan

To: Dan Miller, Provincial Minister of Skills, Training and Labour
From: David W. Strangeway, University of British Columbia
re: Post Secondary Education
Dear Dan,

I was happy to hear that you will be attending this Friday's conference on post-secondary education here at UBC. I, too, will be among the conference delegates, and look forward to hearing your thoughts on a subject many of my colleagues tell me is at a critical juncture, namely the future of post-secondary education in the province, and indeed, the country as a whole.

Fortunately, we here at UBC will be spared the effects of any cuts in the short term, thanks to our implementation of our equitable "burden sharing" agreement. Our current tuition policy painlessly passes the scheduled cut-backs directly onto students in the form of tuition fee augmentation–a policy we administrators view with considerable pride.

But as President of BC's oldest and most distinguished post-secondary institution, I must express my concern over the long term impact of continued funding cuts to the university.

As the minister reponsible for post-secondary education, you are charged with a difficult task. Protocol precludes me from declaring any official political endorsement, but I feel compelled to wish you the best of success in your upcoming bid for the province's highest political office. Your success is doubly impressive given your lack of a university education. (Did I mention I used to work for NASA?)

We have endeavored to find creative solutions to the current fiscal crisis. Some of our initiatives have met with tremendous success; others have proved less efficacious. Our University Boulevard clearcut program, while a useful model for some of our keener Forestry students, ended prematurely and was less profitable than it might have been. Mr Tube Steak has proven to be a cooperative corporate partner, but returns have been less brisk than many of us anticipated. (I personally can't get enough of those tasty weiners!)

As you know, our agreement with the generous folks at Coca Cola has met with a degree of "friction" from some of the more intransigent members of our university community (i.e., students), but nonetheless, we anticipate a healthy relationship with our multinational friends in the future. Disney has already claimed the Mountie uniform; perhaps we can interest them in a Campus Cowboys franchise.

While many have expressed concern over the possible fiscal impact of the somewhat unfavourable publicity generated by the situation in our political science department, the complication may prove fortuitous after all. Several major television networks have expressed interest in purchasing our story for docudrama purposes, and there is even talk of a mini-series. (I understand Marlon Brando has been tentatively cast to play my own portly self.)

Advertising in the Calendar has been a huge success, and the Registrar's office informs me that we will soon be moving to a glossy perfume-scented page format in time for the 1997-98 Winter term.

Despite our best efforts, however, we fear our dwindling budget simply will not be adequate to cover basic university expenses. Green fees at the university golf course are scheduled to skyrocket by as much as 80%.

Clearly, this is unacceptable, and I am confident you will take steps to remedy the situation.

Sincerely,
–David Strangeway

P.S. I've enclosed a sampling of moon rocks as a token of my esteem. Enjoy.

the ubyssey
November 21, 1995
volume 77 issue 22

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On a dark rainy night,Lu cy Shih was waving to the passing cars for a free ride down to Joe Clark City. Jenn Kuo was driving her car down the street, but refused to pick a poor lost Rod Holloway puppy. Peter T. Chattaway was chewing a piece of Scott Hayward bubble gum, and he spat it at Jesse Gelber. Sarah O'Donnell needed a place to powder her face, so she took out her Tessa Moon skin cream and began to apply it. Matt Thompson was standing at a corner of the street smoking a Simon Rogers cigar. Detective Wolf Depner was trying to find his keys in his pockets when he dropped a Sam Arnold figurine into a puddle of water. At Ben Koh's Poster Store, Chris Chiarenza was trying to steal a Pat McGuire Poster when Irfan Dhalla walked in said: "Wah Kee Ting has just been run over by a twenty-ton truck!"

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letters

Oh my God they're moral

The tack (tacky?) boards around campus are always overflowing with notices for meetings of various competing religious groups, offering everything from fellowship to salvation, from cookies to good times. This is, of course, fine for the declining majority of people who still find some comfort in religion. But what about the others who don't?

Your readers may be interested to learn that (according to Statistics Canada, 1992) 30.7% of the population of B.C. is not affiliated with any religious organization. Many of these people would consider themselves to be agnostics, atheists, humanists, rationalists, skeptics, pragmatists, among other designations. For the benefit of the growing proportion of such people on campus, there is a proposal to estabish a HUMANIST CLUB at UBC.

For those unfamiliar with humanism, suffice it to say that it is a rational life-stance which asserts that human problems have to be solved by human beings; that scientific methods are preferable to divine revelations; that sound moral conduct need not have a religious component; and that this present life is all we shall ever have, so we must try to make the best of it for all.

For faculty, staff, and students who wish to get involved in the new HUMANIST CLUB, an inaugral meeting is scheduled for Tuesday, November 28 at 5:00p.m. in the Boardroom at International House at 1783 West Mall. Taking one cue from the religious clubs, coffee and cookies will be available, as well as information and literature on humanism. Funding will be sought from the AMS.

Glenn M. Hardie
Secretary, BCHA

United Way raises more than eyebrows

This year's UBC Student United Way fundraising campaign has begun and is off to a great start! The United Way is a blanket charity that raises money and redistribures it to the hundreds of charities that are affiliated with it. The funds raised, whenever possible, are distributed to charities within the community they were raised. When donating to the United Way one can make a general donation or specify what charity s/he wants the money to go to. The United Way is an extremely efficient organization. Its administrative expenses are kept to a bare minimum which allows the organization to give 96% of the funds raised directly to charities.

Each year the UBC students have a campaign to raise money for the United Way. This year the student committee, headed by Monica Mathur, is hoping to raise $15,000.

To do this the committee has set up a competition between the constituencies. Each constituency has been given a target to reach based on the umber of students registered i the faculty.

The competitio will run until February 16, 1996 at which point a prize will be awarded to the constituency that has met or most exceeded its goal. There will be an earlybird prize annouced on November 30 to the constituency that has raised the highest proportion of its total goal.

So far the fundraising is going well with many faculties running events. Science has had 50/50 draws to raise money. The Health Sciences Association had a twister competition and the AUS is having a BZZR garden on Friday Nov. 17 and donating all the profits to the United Way. Other fundraising events that have taken place include the "Hanging On" poster sale where advertising posters donated by companies were sold for $1 each, a party at the roxy and the "Heavy Metal Mile" which gave people who donated their spare change a chance to win prizes.

The UBC Sudent United Way Committee would like to thank all the constituencies that have begun their fundraising and all the students who have been supporting the campaign by making donations. The committee would also like to encourage all students to participate in the activities put on by their constituency. Also, if you are interested in helping out on the United Way Committee, please contact Monica Mathur at the University Commission office 822-8725.

UBC Student United Way Committee.

Got an opinion?
Write us a letter,
but remember to sign it and give us your student number

LETTERS POLICY: Letters to the editor must be under 300 words. "Perspectives" are opinion pieces over 300 words but under 750 words and are run according to space. "Freestyles" are opinion pieces written by Ubyssey staff members. Priority will be given to letters and perspectives over freestyles unless the latter is time sensitive. Opinion pieces will not be run unless the identity of the writer has been verified. Please include your phone number, student number and signature (not for publication) as well as your year and faculty with all submissions. ID will be checked when submissions are dropped off at the office of The Ubyssey, otherwise verification will be done by phone.

Volleyball women outclass, overpower Vikes

by Scott Hayward

With a decided height advantage, superior technique and greater overall athletic skill, the UBC women's volleyball team steamrolled over UVic this weekend.

After beating the Vikes 3-0 on their home turf in Victoria on Thursday night, UBC returned home and won an easy 3-0 match Saturday. Setter Jeannette Guichon left the match in the second game with an ankle injury, but will be back to battle Manitoba next week.

"We're a bigger team overall, more skilled, and have better players."

—game MVP Joanne Ross

"Victoria started pretty well," said UBC coach Doug Reimer. UVic jumped out to a quick 3-1 lead in the first game and stayed close in the early going. The Birds soon hit their stride, however, and walked away with a 15-7 victory.

Not including their smaller setters, UBC's average height was 6' 1/2", almost as tall as 6'1" Lydia Petrosevic, the Vikes' only player over six feet tall.

The T-Birds owned the net, smothering Victoria's offence and spiking with impunity.

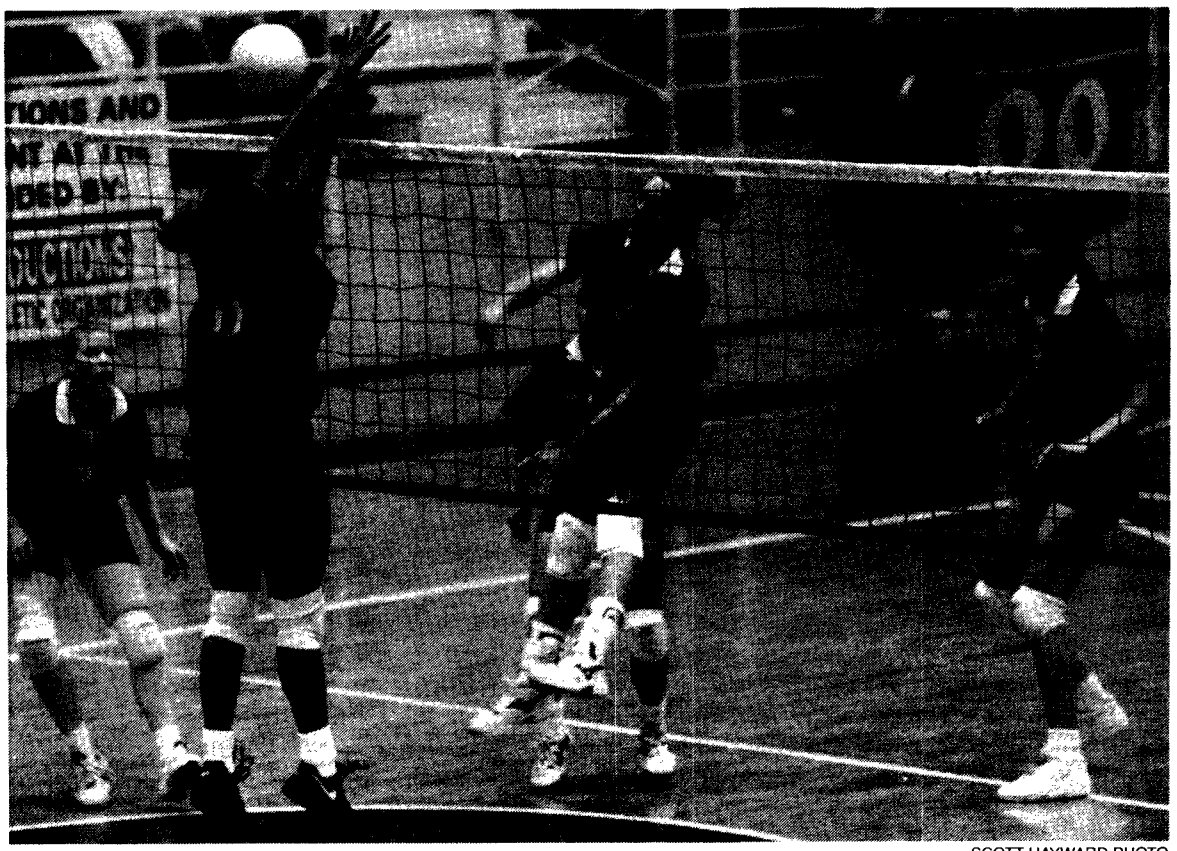
UBC lead all the way in game two, cruising to a 15-6 victory in game two and stopping only briefly when Guichon injured her ankle.

"A UVic player was underneath the net and I landed on her and it rolled over," said Guichon, who was able to walk off the court. "It's not bad, it's a little sore."

MacKenzie Pateman came in to replace her and the offence continued their dominance. The Birds scored an easy 15-1 victory in the final game of the match.

Guichon's injury did not appear serious, but with the match well in hand, Reimer saw no need to take a chance.

Reimer was pleased with his team's performance. "Joanne [Ross] was definitely a force. With our group this year, it's pretty solid in all positions," he said.



SCOTT HAYWARD PHOTO

TANYA PICKERELL drops the hammer, giving UBC a 15-7 win in the first game of its sweep of the Victoria Vikes Saturday night, as teammates Christine Wohlleben (L) and Joanne Ross (R) look on.

Game MVP Ross said the win was "a combination of everything; we're a bigger team overall, more skilled, and have better players," she said, singling out teammate Jenna Lunam's 14-point serving streak.

Reimer agreed, saying that Lunam has been pretty steady all year. He believes the Birds' will face their toughest competition from Alberta (who split a pair of games with the Birds last week) and Manitoba, who will square off against the Birds next week.

Next week's series on the road will be their last before the Christmas break.

No.	Player	Kills	Digs	Blocks
2	Joanne Ross	7	10	2
3	Janna Lunam	8	8	1
4	Mackenzie Pateman	0	2	1
5	Christine Wohlleben	7	6	0
9	Tanya Pickerell	5	5	2
12	Jeanette Guichon	0	4	1
14	Kim Perree	7	7	1

Kats top Rugbirds in close match

by Rod Holloway

The Rugby Birds finished their first half of league play with a solid performance in a 14-10 loss to the perennial first division powerhouse Vancouver Kats.

The game began under a bleak autumn sky at Balaclava Park, and play reflected the dour conditions as both forward packs settled down to a hard day in the trenches.

The Kats opened the scoring at the 20 minute mark when Phil Burnett, on loan from New Zealand's Auckland Grammar Old Boys, crossed the Birds' line. Neither side could produce another try in the first half, but Mark Matthews added a penalty for Kats. The Birds pressed hard and nearly scored at the break, but ended the half down 8-0.

The teams took turns asserting territorial dominance without scoring early in the second half, but pressure from the Birds eventually forced a Kats penalty and T-Bird fly half Ian Stewart split the posts for UBC's first three points.

Scrum half Rich Stone intercepted a pass shortly after and sped 50 metres for a try. Stewart converted to put the Birds up 10-8.

The lead was short lived, however, as UBC allowed the Kats to mount an attack from the ensuing kick-off and eventually conceded a penalty. Matthews' kick put the Kats back on top 11-10.

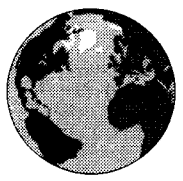
With three minutes remaining, the Birds prepared to receive the kick-off and mount their own attack, but failed to control the reception. The Kats came back and the desperate Birds conceded another penalty, ending the match at 14-10.

SCOTT HAYWARD PHOTO

ABOVE THE CROWD—UBC player hauls in the high ball.

Coach Barry Legh was pleased with the team's improved performance against a top first division side, but was upset that UBC let victory slip through their fingers.

The Birds are back in action on November 25 against defending Fraser Valley Champion Burnaby.



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FACULTY OF ARTS

Prizes for Excellence in Teaching

Once again the University is recognizing excellence in teaching through the awarding of prizes to faculty members. The Faculty of Arts will select five (5) winners of the prizes for excellence in teaching for 1996.

Eligibility: Eligibility is open to faculty who have three or more years of teaching at UBC. The three years include 1995-96.

Criteria: The awards will recognize distinguished teaching at all levels; introductory, advanced, graduate supervision, and any combination of levels.

Nomination Process: Members of faculty, students, or alumni may suggest candidates to the head of the department, the director of the school, or the chair of the program in which the nominee teaches. These suggestions should be in writing and signed by one or more students, alumni, or faculty, and they should include a very brief statement of the basis for the nomination. You may write a letter of nomination or pick up a form from the office of the Dean of Arts in Buchanan B130.

Deadline: The deadline for submission of nominations to departments, schools, or programs is 29 January 1996.

Winners will be announced in the Spring, and they will be identified as well during Spring convocation in May.

For further information about these awards contact your department or call Dr. Errol Durbach, Associate Dean of Arts at 822-3828.

Men's Volleybirds vanquish Victoria Vikes

by Scott Hayward

UBC's men's volleyball team beat up on the Victoria Vikes twice last week to even their season record at 3-3.

UBC lost the first game of the series 15-12, but stormed back to win three in a row and take the match 3-1 in Victoria last Thursday.

Back at home in War Memorial Gym Saturday night, UVic again came close to stealing the first game but UBC hung on for a 16-14 win and then dispensed the disheartened Vikes by scores of 15-6 and 15-4.

Coach Dale Ohman is pleased with his team's 3-3 record despite the loss of star player Michael Kurz. "I would have been happy to be 2-4 considering that we were playing two of the top three teams in the country at home to start the league," he said.

Saturday's first game was a close one, with the Vikes' spike serving keeping UBC off guard, while the Birds dominated the net. The score stayed close until Victoria scored five unanswered points to force match point at 14-11. UBC hung on and came back to tie the game at 14.

With the Birds leading 15-14, Graeme Middlekamp served up an ace on the back line to win the game. UVic players thought the close ball was going out.

"I was still disappointed that they came into our own gym and stayed even with us all through the first game, especially after we beat them up fairly badly on Thursday," Ohman said.

"I was sick the whole night. I should get sick more often."

—game MVP Dale Ambrose

"We were very lucky to escape with a win in the first game, but on the other hand it's a good win for the guys–they were down 14-11, and you don't win many games when you're down 14-11."

UBC gained confidence after taking the first game. "I think we toughened up on our passing and passing a little bit," said rookie Shaun Nevitt. "Dale Ambrose had a great game in the middle. It was really nice to see our middles on track again."

Ambrose, who fought off a case of stomach flu to lead the Birds with 11 kills on the night ("I should get sick more often," he later joked), took tournament MVP honours.

"The key to our game was passing the spin serves," Ambrose said. "I think because of that our setter, Jamie McKay, could set all his options. That kept Victoria guessing."

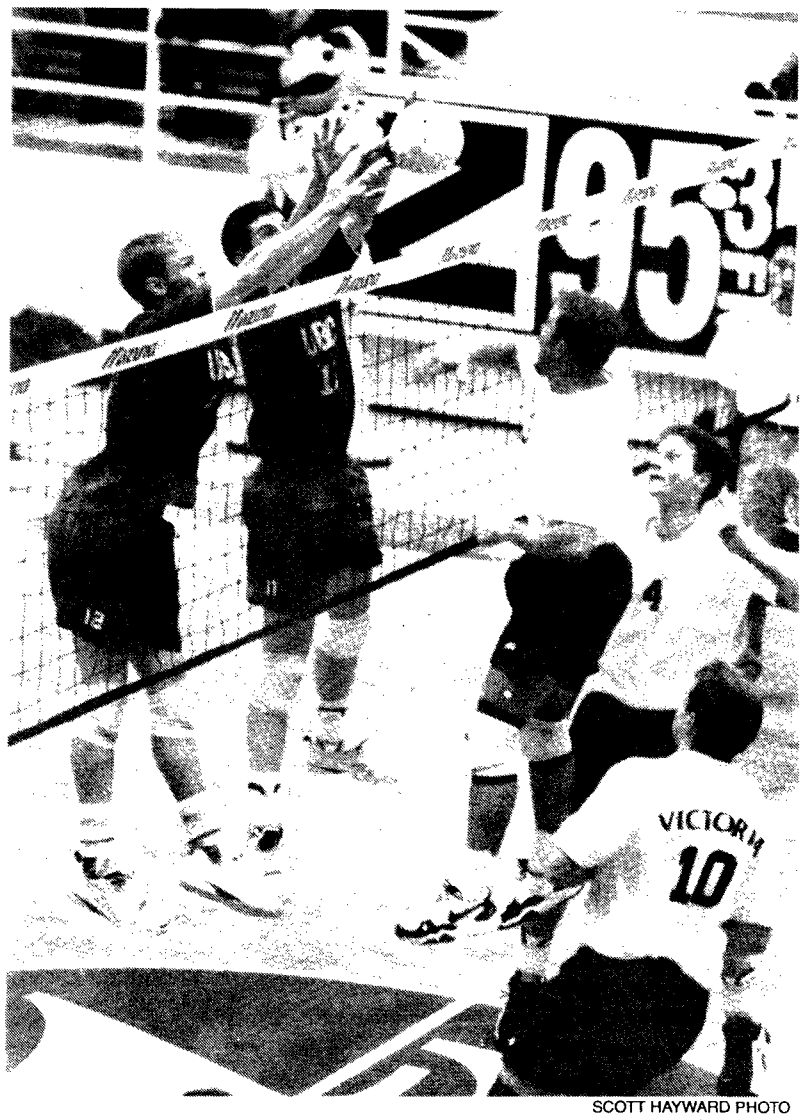
UBC took an early lead in the second game, scoring six consecutive points to take a 13-4 lead and cruising to a 15-6 victory. The Birds dominated game three, building a 12-1 lead on mistakes by an unnerved UVic team, and won a 15-4 final.

Ohman was pleased with the play of Nevitt, who is fighting with fellow rookie Guy Davis for a spot on the regular roster. "Davis played his first full match without having to be substituted in or out, and he just played great," he said.

"I told both the boys that I would reverse it tonight, that this was Shaun's match tonight and that Guy set the standard Thursday. He made a few mistakes but he didn't make runs of mistakes, so it was nice to see."

The team is off until Christmas, and Ohman plans to use the time to develop individual skills.

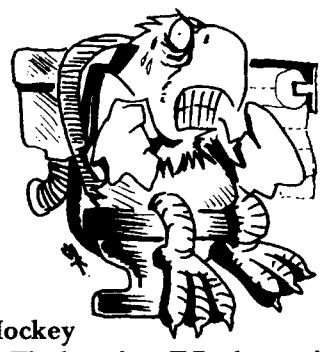
The Birds are back in action at the Mizuno Excalibur tournament at York University in early January, after which they will resume league play against the fourth ranked Winnipeg.



SCOTT HAYWARD PHOTO

THE BIG BLUE WALL— Jeremy Westereng and Mike Dalziel stuff a spike off the hand of Victoria's Cory Pettersen.

No.	Player	Kills	Digs	Blocks
1	Shaun Nevett	9	9	1
4	Jamie MacKay	5	3	5
8	Dale Ambrose	11	3	6
11	Mike Dalziel	9	6	3
12	Jeremy Westereng	5	13	5
15	Graeme Middelkamp	0	7	4



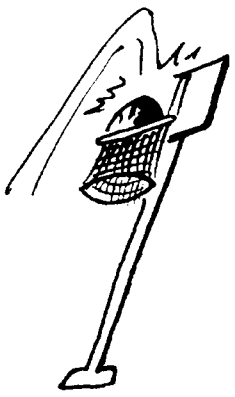
Hockey

The last place T-Birds traveled to Saskatchewan this weekend and came away with only a point. They matched the Huskies Friday night with a 3-3 tie and almost stole another point on Saturday. Ryan Douglas had a pair of goals as the Birds ended regulation time in a 4-4 tie, but Saskatchewan scored in overtime to beat UBC and take the weekend series.

Bird Droppings—shorts

Basketball

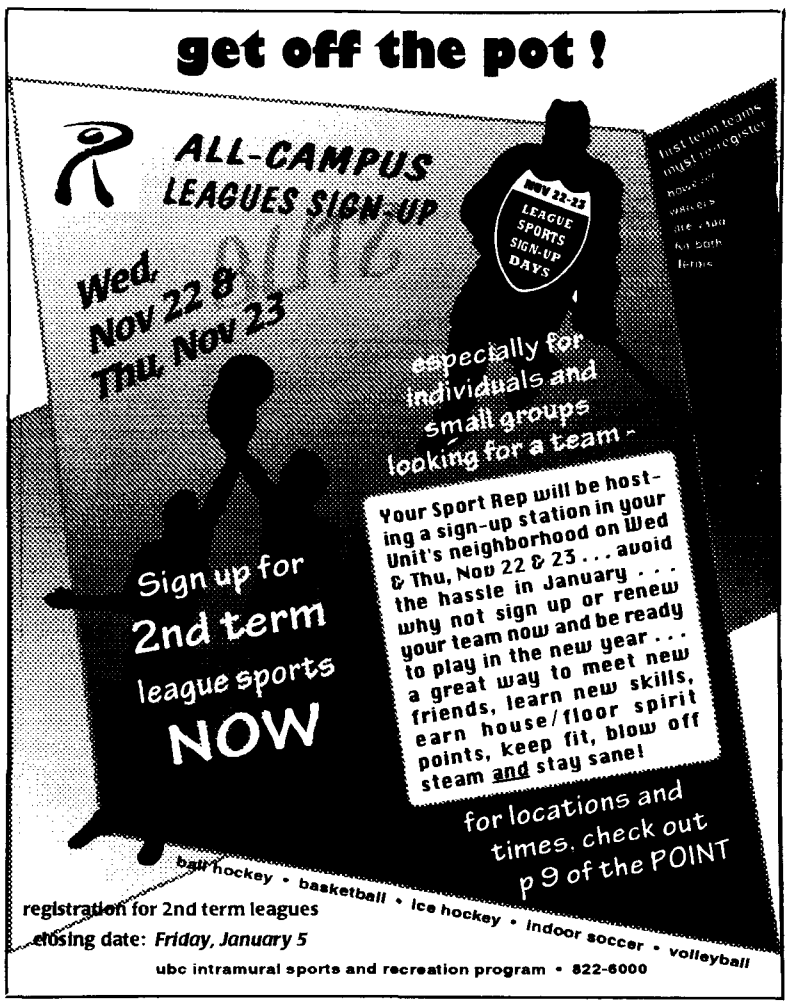
The women T-Birds were overpowered by the Dinosaurs last weekend, dropping a pair of games in Calgary. UBC lost 74-62 Friday night with Lori Kemp and Kim Phipps scoring 14 and 13 points respectively. Kemp's 11 point effort on Saturday was not enough as the Dinos won 67-55.



The Bird men split a high-scoring weekend with Calgary after Ken Morris was diagnosed with a broken bone in his left hand. Coach Bruce Enns hopes Morris will be back in early January.

John Dumant scored on free throws with 9 seconds left in the game to buoy UBC to a 106-104 victory Friday. Dumont led the Birds with a phenomenal 41 points, with Eric Butler picking up 14 points and 14 boards.

The Birds and Dinos lit up the scoreboard again Saturday night, but Calgary came out with a 107-106 decision. Dumont had another hot night with 29 points, followed by Dave Buchanan with 21.



UBC Awards

William G. Black Memorial Prize

William G. Black Memorial Prize - a prize in the amount of approximately $1,600 has been made available by the late Dr. William G. Black. The topic for the essay will be designed to attract students from all disciplines. The competition is open to students who are enrolled full-time at UBC and who do not already possess a graduate degree. A single topic of general nature related to Canadian citizenship will be presented to students at the time of the competition. Duration of the competition will be two hours. Candidates should bring their student card for identification.

The competition will be held:
Date: Saturday, November 25, 1995
Time: 10:00 A.M. - 12 Noon
Place: Angus 110

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