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Tuesday, September 24, 2002

Volume 84 Issue 7

UBC Archives Serial

THE UBYSSEY

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AMS answers in court

AMS defends itself against allegations of censorship and supression of freedom of expression

by Chris Shepherd
NEWS EDITOR

The Alma Mater Society (AMS) was in BC Supreme Court last week defending itself against a lawsuit filed by representatives of Students for Life (SFL) and Lifeline.

The lawsuit is based on allegations that the AMS violated the rights of the Lifeline club, as described in the academic freedoms outlined in the UBC Calendar and the Canadian Charter of Rights and Freedoms.

The AMS denies that such violations have occured.

Stephanie Gray, Athena Macapagal and Michelle Laroya filed the suit on behalf of Lifeline and SFL because the groups are not legal entities and cannot file lawsuits.

In his opening statement for the plaintiffs, Craig Jones—who has been heavily involved with the BC Civil Liberties Association since 1996 and who represents the plaintiffs—told the judge he would be asked to define the relationship between students and student government when considering the case before him. Also before the judge was the issue of freedom of speech and expression, said Jones.

He suggested the AMS discriminated against the Lifeline club, because the student council banned any material related to the Genocide Awareness Project (GAP) from UBC's SUB—including photographs of the display—while other groups, such as *the Ubyssey*, have had no such restrictions placed on them.

The plaintiffs are also seeking relief for damages done during an attack on the first GAP display on campus. The plaintiffs contend the AMS is vicariously liable for the attack, because Jon Chandler, Erin

See "Trial" page 3.

LOOKING FOR COMPENSATION: Gray (centre) with council Jones (right) and intern Firestone (left). CHRIS SHEPHERD PHOTO

BC gets lightning speed network

by Anna King
COPY EDITOR

Presidents of BC's universities threw the switches to turn on a new high-speed educational and research network last Friday. The new network will vastly increase the speed and capacity for data transfer between research hubs around the world.

The network, called the BC ORAN (Optical Regional Advanced Network) project, links the province's four universities and BCIT to the rest of Canada and the world at speeds of up to 2.5 gigabits per second. Resnet, the campus ethernet network, operates at between 10-100 megabits per second.

ORAN connects Vancouver, Victoria and Prince George to CANARIE's (Canada's Advanced Internet Organisation) national network, which in turn enables researchers to access other networks world-wide.

"We can claim with some justification that ORAN is the best

See "Internet" page 2.

COFFEE TALK

by John McCrank
NEWS WRITER

Oxfam UBC kicked off the new school year Thursday with a talk by Blanca Rosa Molina—a Nicaraguan coffee farmer who is on a speaking tour in support of Oxfam International's newly launched 'What's That in Your Cup?' campaign.

Blanca Rosa Molina is a diminutive, soft-spoken woman, as well as being a member of the National Federation of Cooperatives board, the president of the Northern Nicaragua Coffee Association, which markets coffee, and a single mother.

The effort she is involved in is part of a larger campaign looking at who benefits from global trade and is focused on trying to make big corporations give coffee farmers in Central America, Asia and Africa, adequate compensation for the coffee they produce.

The 'Big Four' companies (Kraft, Procter and Gamble, Nestle, and Sara Lee) buy nearly half of the world's coffee crop, which comprises one per cent of the entire world's economy.

Oxfam is targeting the 'Big Four,' as well as governments, asking them to aid the poor by destroying surplus coffee stocks, trading in only quality coffee, and to fairly compensate farmers.

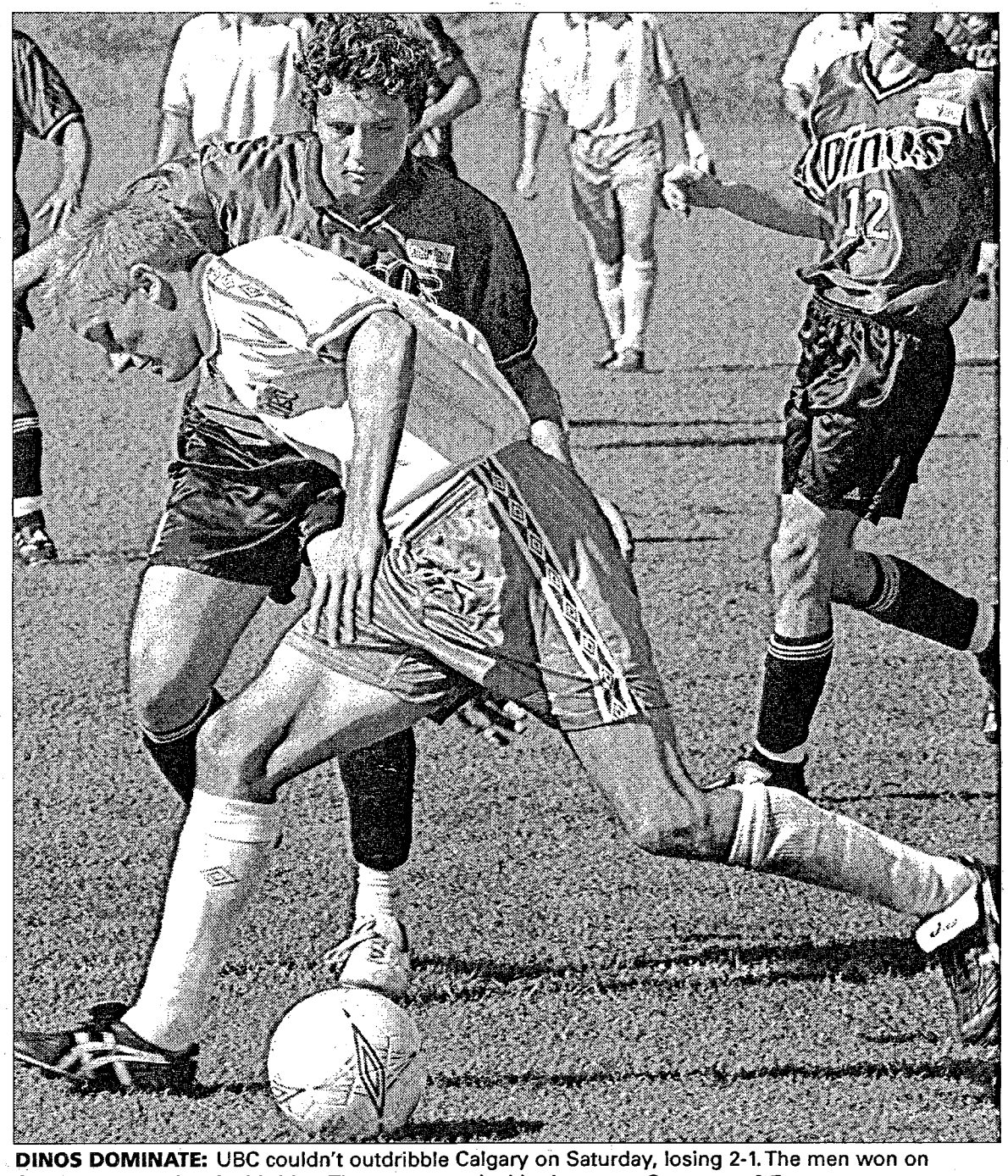
Speaking through a translator, Molina outlined the crisis in her region.

90 per cent of the economy in Molina's region is created through coffee production—but the price of coffee has fallen by 70 per cent in the past four years because of overproduction by large-scale growers and stockpiling of the commodity.

This has left about 70,000 people out of work, and has meant dire consequences for more than

See "Coffee" page 2.

Survival of the fittest



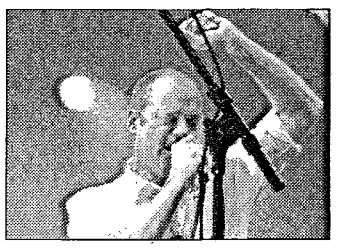
DINOS DOMINATE: UBC couldn't outdribble Calgary on Saturday, losing 2-1. The men won on Sunday, 8-1, against Lethbridge. The women rocked both games. See pages 6-7. NIC FENSOM PHOTO

THIS ISSUE:

NEWS: In court

More cover and background information for the trial. **Page 3.**

CULTURE: The Tragically Hip still rocks the henhouse



Concert reviewed. **Page 8.**

EDITORIAL: Displacing poverty in Vancouver

Abandoned Woodwards cleared of squatters. **Page 10.**

COMING FRIDAY:

FEATURE: What's on your plate?

The Ubyssey looks at what fish farms are doing to your dinner.

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Announcement

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MARXISM & WORLD REVOLUTION: THE PRINCIPLES OF COMMUNISM. Sept 24, 6 pm, SUB Rm213. A Spartacus Youth Club Public Class Series. Readings/Info: 604-687-0353

THE US LED ATTACK ON IRAQ: IMPERIALIST AGGRESSION under the guise of fighting terrorism. Sept 24, 4pm at Buch B330. UBC Marxist-Leninist Study Group invites all to join the open discussion about this dangerous situation, its geopolitical origins, & how people should organize themselves to bring about a world free of war & aggression.

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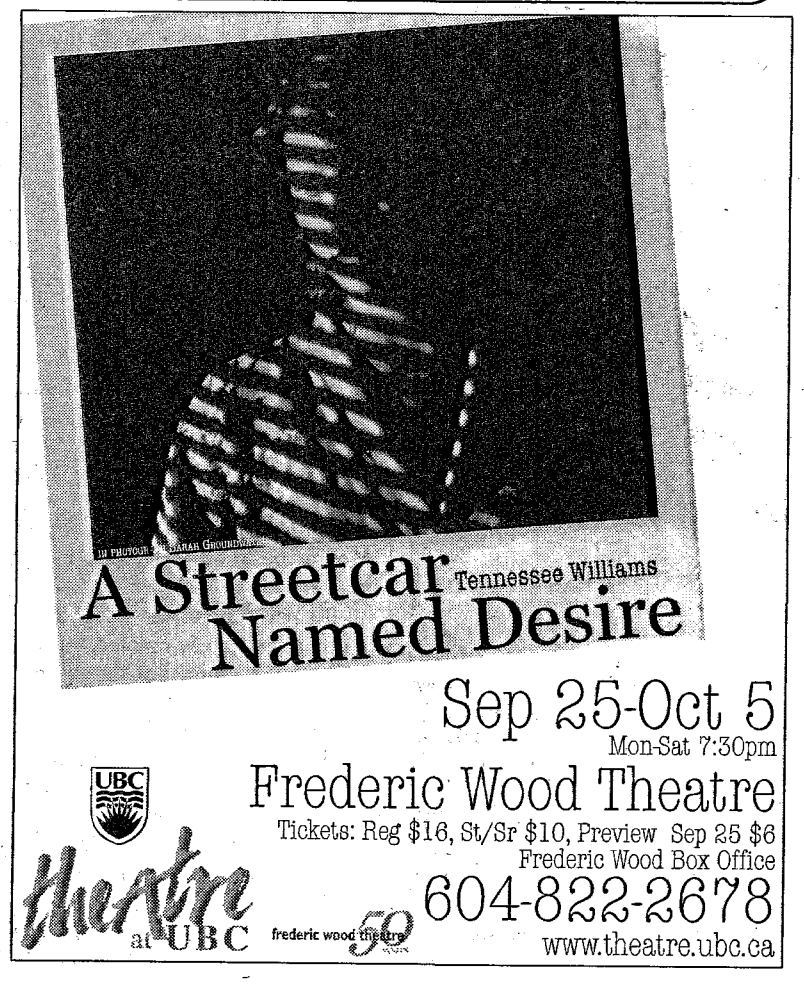

ORAN speeds up UBC

"Internet" from page 1.

network in the world," said President and CEO of CANARIE, Andrew Bjerring, at a press conference at the New Media Innovation Centre downtown.

UBC Vice President, Research Indira Samarasekera said ORAN will mean big changes for UBC.

"What it does is allow us to unite research collaborators with the best institutions in the world instantly, and have a dialogue."

Samarasekera cited UBC projects in astrophysics, climate change and genomics (the study of large numbers of genes) will benefit especially, as research in those areas requires massive transmissions of data.

Ted Dodds, associate vice-president of IT Services at UBC, said the university played a major role in the development of ORAN. "UBC provided all the technical work, from the design of the network to the architecture of the system," he said.

Dodds said ORAN will enable researchers at UBC to have virtually unlimited bandwidth.

He cited as an example UBC astronomy labs, which will be able to transmit data from telescopes—like a digital model of a galaxy—to labs in Europe within a few hours. "Before they would have to create tapes and ship them," he said.

Not every UBC student will have access to ORAN's lightening-speed power, however. Students must be associated with a research lab or project that is connected to ORAN. But while only science labs are currently connected, Dodds says he envisions social science departments linking up soon as well.

And there's no reason to stop there. ORAN's capabilities will likely be used by a wide range of departments, as well as health and research institutions around the province.

The province's plan to double the number of students in the UBC Medical School program, for example, largely hinges on ORAN's power. Lectures by UBC Medical faculty and 3-D body imaging will be webcast to UNBC and UVic for the universities' first intake classes in January 2005. Although attending university in Prince George or Victoria, these students will officially get degrees from UBC.

ORAN was developed by BCNET, a non-profit society supported by the province's universities and the provincial and federal governments. ❖

Nicaraguan coffee farmer talks free trade

"Coffee" from page 1.

400,000 people, including the families of coffee farmers.

Studies conducted by Oxfam International reveal 47 per cent of children of coffee producers are undernourished. During July and August of 2002, 120 children died because of this debilitating condition.

"In this campaign, what we are saying to people like you is that we need to be paid a fair price for our coffee—it is a good quality coffee," Molina said to the crowd.

"We are not asking for more money because we are poor, but just to pay us what it is worth", she said, adding that while producers are being paid less, customers around the world are paying the same price for their coffee, with all of the profits going to big corporations.

Molina said she survived by helping found a coffee co-operative, comprised of 1200 small producers like herself. They pool their resources, enabling them to make enough coffee for export.

Only 30 per cent of coffee that her co-op produces is sold as 'fair trade' coffee.

This revenue allows farmers' children to go to school and puts food on their tables. It also allows the local government to build roads and provide clean drinking water, since coffee revenue makes up 90 per cent of the tax base for municipal governments.

Fair Trade began in 1988 and is regulated by a group called TransFair. TransFair guarantees customers that their producers have been adequately compensated for their goods and that those producing the coffee are democratically organised groups of small farmers. As another condition to joining, Transfair requires that the groups use a certain percentage of their profits to send their children to school and must include women in the decision-making process.

Fair Trade coffee is available in the SUB at Bernoulli's Bagels, Blue Chip Cookies and the Pendulum, and more information about Oxfam's initiatives can be found at www.oxfam.org. ❖

Correction

In a news brief run in the September 20 issue of *the Ubyssey*, it was incorrectly reported that Jon Chandler and Erin Kaiser were Alma Mater Society (AMS) councillors at the time of their 1999 attack on the GAP display. Kaiser and Chandler were members of the AMS External Commission, not the AMS Council. *The Ubyssey* also incorrectly spelled Chandler's name. *The Ubyssey* apologises for the errors. ❖

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Gray et al vs. the AMS

Timeline

by Chris Shepherd
NEWS EDITOR

The complex series of events relating to the trial of last week started in the summer of 1999, and continues today. The following is a timeline of events that came out of questioning during the trial.

Aug. 1999

Lifeline members met to discuss inviting CBR to UBC to show the GAP display.

University officials, RCMP and representatives from the AMS met with Greg Cunningham, head of the CBR, about the possibility of GAP coming to UBC. From this meeting, UBC detailed certain requirements to allow GAP on campus, including an agreement over the location and provisions to pay for additional security costs.

Sept. 13, 1999

The AMS External Commission passed a motion to allow SFC to use the External Commission photocopying code and to provide SFC with funds to make a banner.

Wednesday Sept. 15, 1999

AMS council passed a resolution to not endorse the GAP display coming to campus.

Wednesday Sept. 22, 1999

AMS council passed a resolution to allow the executive to use every legal means to keep GAP out the SUB.

Friday Sept. 24, 1999

AMS sent a letter to Lifeline cancelling room bookings that the club had made for Sept. 27 and later dates. The AMS cited concerns about the safety of the SUB, though GAP was not specifically mentioned.

Monday Sept. 27, 1999

GAP was expected to arrive on campus on this day but did not due to a lack of agreement between the CBR and the university. The CBR threatened UBC with a lawsuit over the issue.

Oct. 1999

Members of Lifeline and other anti-abortion activists met to decide what could be done to bring GAP to campus. SFL is formed around this time to provide a group for the university to deal with. An agreement is met between SFL and UBC to allow the display of a smaller GAP display on university land.

Nov. 23, 1999

SFL set up the GAP display in front of the Goddess of Democracy near the SUB. Three hours after the display was erected Jon Chandler, Erin Kaiser and Lesley Washington destroyed the display.

Nov. 24, 1999

At an AMS council meeting Gray and other members of SFL made a presentation to the AMS, calling for council to repudiate the actions of Chandler, Kaiser and Washington, to remove Chandler and Kaiser from their positions and make them ineligible to hold an AMS office. Although Chandler, Kaiser and Washington were suspended by the university for a summer and fall term, council took no action.

Nov. 25, 1999

SAC passed a resolution to ban GAP material or written mention of GAP from the SUB.

Feb. 14, 2000

A lawsuit is filed against the AMS by Stephanie Gray (president of Lifeline at the time of the attacks) and other students.

Mar. 27, 2000

The Nov 25, 1999 SAC resolution was stricken and replaced by a modified version of the previous resolution, with the addition that Lifeline still has booking rights, but that GAP-related material could not be brought into the SUB.

Nov. 1, 2000

Lifeline is asked to remove memory albums from a booth in the SUB because they contain photographs of a GAP display.

Aug 29, 2002

Lifeline asked the SAC in a letter whether it is possible for them to show a video about GAP at the Lifeline Clubs Days booth, or if another Christian group could show the video. The request was denied, citing the March 27, 2000 SAC resolution and the September 22, 1999 AMS resolution to keep GAP outside of the AMS.

Sept. 26, 2002

The trial between the AMS and Lifeline and SFL representatives began. ❖

Key terms in the Gray et al vs. AMS trial

by Chris Shepherd
NEWS EDITOR

There are numerous terms associated with the trial, and understanding what they describe will be useful in reading the related stories. The following are brief descriptions of some of the terms that appear frequently:

Alma Mater Society (AMS)—created in 1915, the AMS is the student government at UBC. The AMS leases the SUB from UBC but has jurisdiction of the entire building (with the exception of a few areas controlled by UBC) and an area 7.5m around the building. The AMS is governed by five executives and a council of student representatives from the various faculties.

Centre for Bio-ethical Reform (CBR)—a controversial anti-abortion organisation from California.

External Commission—This AMS commission is headed by the vice-president external affairs and deals with other student groups and national organisations.

Genocide Awareness Project (GAP)—a display created by the CBR. The display traditionally consists of 2x4m posters with graphic images making comparisons between abortion and events such as the holocaust and lynchings of African Americans by the KKK. The GAP display that eventually came to UBC was a much smaller version of the original, using posters 1x2.5m in size.

Lifeline—an AMS club. Lifeline was created in 1996 and is a anti-abortion group that operates on campus.

Student Administrative Commission (SAC)—a commission that is responsible for the bookings and functions inside the SUB. The SAC also deals with the over 200 clubs within the AMS and oversees the creation and elimination of clubs. The SAC can pass resolutions that deal with the SUB and those resolutions have to be accepted by the AMS council to be made official.

Students for Choice (SFC)—a group of pro-choice students and non-students. The SFC was created to oppose the coming of GAP to campus.

Students for Life (SFL)—a group of anti-abortion students and non-students formed in Oct. 1999. SFL includes members and non-members of Lifeline and was created to deal with UBC in negotiations to bring a smaller version of GAP to campus. ❖

Student union faces allegations of supression of rights

"Trial" from page 1.

Kaiser and Lesley Washington were all associated with the AMS.

Chandler and Kaiser were members of the AMS External Commission and Washington was a member of the AMS council.

Jones summarised his position by stating there are contracts between students and the university and students and the AMS which guarantee freedom of assembly and expression and that both those contracts have been violated by the actions of the AMS.

Malcolm MacLean represented the AMS. In his opening statements, MacLean asserted that the AMS is not liable for the attack on the GAP display because Chandler, Kaiser and Washington were not employees of the AMS. MacLean also stated that the AMS had no knowledge of any contract that could be breached by the AMS.

Jones argued that the contract between students and UBC arises from the academic regulation on academic freedom as described in the UBC Calendar.

The regulation describes the primary functions of the university as instruction and the pursuit of knowledge, and that "behaviour which obstructs free and full discussion, not only of ideas which are safe and accepted but those which may be unpopular or even abhorrent, vitally threatens the integrity of the university's forum."

Jones said this contract was violated when the AMS cancelled room bookings in the SUB because they thought the rooms would house GAP material. Any AMS resolutions banning GAP-related material from the SUB also violate that contract, Jones asserted.

The AMS said GAP material is banned from the SUB for the safety of both the people bringing the GAP display and for the security of the building.

MacLean pointed out that free speech is limited in that it does not include inciting hate against a group of people.

MacLean went on to state that the Lifeline club was only restricted regarding GAP, pointing out that the club can show large pictures of aborted fetuses in the SUB, just as long as no comparisons are made with abortion.

The restrictions placed on Lifeline come, in part, from a SAC resolution stating that no GAP-related material could be brought into the SUB. This resolution was passed at a March 27 SAC meeting that did not have quorum, casting doubt on the legality of that decision.

Quorum is a set number of members of a group that must be present for any decisions that are made to be legal.

But the AMS said those SAC decisions were legal because they were accepted both at later SAC meetings and AMS council meetings.

Just before the trial Gray discussed what she hoped would come from the proceedings.

She would like the AMS and SAC resolutions limiting what Lifeline could bring into the SUB removed, and compensation for the damages incurred in the attack.

"We want the AMS to not do this again," Gray said.

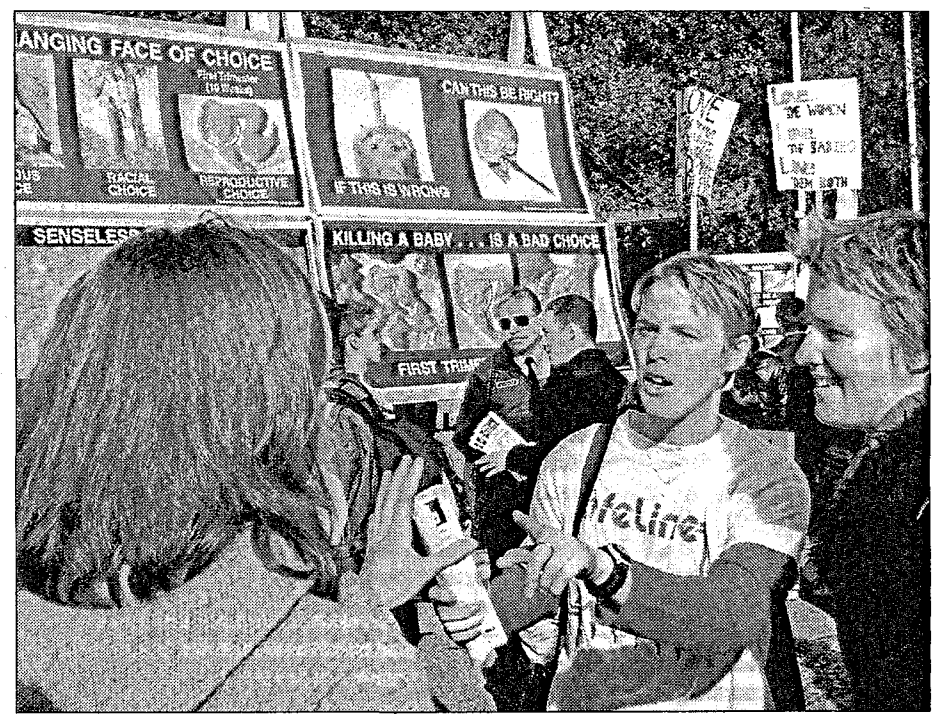
"We also want this to be a precedent setting case, so that other student societies and even universities across Canada realise that they have to protect their own students' rights to free speech," she added.

AMS General Manager Bernie Peets felt optimistic about the trial.

"We feel that the AMS acted properly and within the law," said Peets.

Since the initial display on November 23, 1999, GAP has been on-campus about 12 times and Lifeline says that there are plans for two events sometime this year. The GAP display has not been shown in the SUB.

Final arguments will be heard from the lawyers near the end of October and a final decision could take as long as five months to be made. ❖



DISCUSSING OR DISGUSTING? Students interact in front of one of many GAP displays that came to campus. TARA WESTOVER/UBYSSEY FILE PHOTO

STUDENT OPPOSITION: to the GAP display coming on campus.
TARA WESTOVER/UBYSSEY FILE PHOTO

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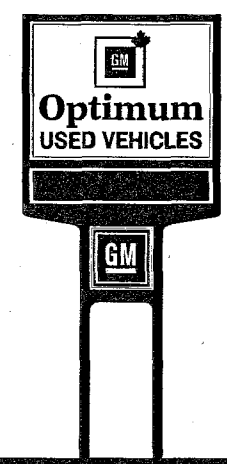

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Concordia students play the blame game

by Tina Christopoulos
QUEBEC BUREAU

MONTRÉAL (CUP)—Concordia University took a step toward open communication last week in a forum meant to address free speech on campus after a divisive protest that halted a speech by former Israeli Prime Minister Benjamin Netanyahu on September 9.

To bring students together, the university administration temporarily broke its moratorium on the use of university space for events related to the Middle East. Rector Frederick Lowy called the gathering a hopeful attempt at reconciliation for a campus rife with political divisions.

Students, however, were more intent on pointing fingers.

"You are personally to blame, Rector Lowy, you and nobody else," yelled one student into the microphone.

The student union echoed this thought at a press conference when they called on Lowy, Dean of Students Donald Boisvert and Head of Security Jean Brisebois to resign.

"They are responsible for students and they failed them," said Yves Engler, a student union executive member. "If security calls in cops that subsequently gas students they should take responsibility for it."

To help ease tension on campus, the university is offering counselling to members of the Concordia community who may be having difficulty coping with the events of the past two weeks.

Students who witnessed the violent demonstration are still shocked it happened on their campus.

"I saw a flag being burnt. It's sad," said Sarah, a business student. "Everyone has so much hate." ❖

Fishy business

by Lisa Johnson
NEWS WRITER

On September 12, the BC government lifted a seven-year-old moratorium on the expansion of the fish farming industry in the province. The announcement raised concerns from conservationists across the province.

The government also intends to stop the Salmon Aquaculture Review (SAR).

According to a recent report by the British Columbia Salmon Farming Association, salmon production rose from 22,259 to 62,000 during the moratorium.

The ban forbade the establishment of new sites for salmon aquaculture and said requests for increases to production or size of an existing site would be considered "under exceptional circumstances only."

Failure by salmon farm operators to comply with these regulations and their own management plans is one explanation for the near-tripling of BC-farmed salmon production during the last seven years. In 2001, for instance, over half of BC's salmon farms were cultivating more than their allowable biomass of fish, either by expanding the area of their operations or by packing fish more tightly into existing pens.

Dr John Volpe, a leading researcher on salmon aquaculture in BC, was unsatisfied with the state of salmon aquaculture when the government removed the moratorium.

"Even if you accept the SAR's findings, it only gave a cautious nod to salmon farming expansion if [its] 49 recommendations were implemented," explains Volpe. "So far, only six of them have been."

According to the provincial government's 2001 Finfish Aquaculture Compliance Report, 60 per cent of BC's fish farms are operating in violation of their management plans and government regulations.

"If we can't even clean up the mess from existing fish farms, how can we expect to control new farms?" said Clement Lam of the Forest Action Network (FAN).

The moratorium was imposed in 1995 as a temporary prohibition to minimise the expansion and impact of the industry while the government and scientists analysed the industry and developed new regulations. The last regulation, which increased the amount of waste a farm could dump without obtaining a permit, fell into place September 12, along with the lifting of the moratorium.

Some fish farms grow salmon at 40 to 50kg per cubic meter, or ten times the density that they occur in nature, explains Dr John Heath, owner of Yellow Island Aquaculture.

Overstocked fish farms produce adverse environmental and health effects, such as large amounts of organic waste which builds up on the ocean floor in the form of uneaten food, feces, and dead salmon and can smother animals and plants.

High stocking densities also results in more frequent and intense disease outbreaks that require treatment with pesticides and antibiotics, explains Heath, who is also a physician. Prolonged exposure to these chemicals can select for resistant viruses, diseases and parasites, which may affect wild salmon populations.

The BC Ministry of Agriculture, Fish and Food (MAFF) is aware that violations are occurring. Its 2001 Compliance Report identified "the inconsistency between approved site-specific management plans and actual on-site operations" as their primary concern.

Laurie MacBride, who served on the provincial Salmon Aquaculture Implementation Advisory Committee before the moratorium ended, blames poor monitoring and enforcement for this lack of compliance.

"There are only six inspectors for the entire coast," explains McBride, who now works for a coalition of conservation groups. "Enforcement is almost nil."

Except for one annual inspection by the MAFF, fish farm operators monitor their own facility and report their findings to their region's aquaculture manager, a practice some groups feel don't hold farms accountable.

Unfazed by protests from conservation groups as it lifted the moratorium, the government asserted that the MAFF "will ensure that finfish farming is managed in an environmentally sustainable manner while enabling the growth of this important industry."

"But how can the public be guaranteed that this is being carried out in an adequate manner?" asked Genovali. With government reports of industry self-monitoring and low compliance with regulations, environmental stakeholders remain unconvinced. ❖

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Pushing the Boundaries

Ken Park (USA, 96 min.)
Larry Clark and Ed Lachman's sensational and controversial new film presents the loosely connected stories of four average California kids – who use sex as a means of life-fulfilling escape. Raising the bar of taboo-breaking to a new height, *Ken Park* is a daring, extremist film about atrocious, confrontational parenting and the ability of kids to survive the worst of times. <KENPA>
Fri, Sep 27, 9:45pm, Granville7 (#7)
Mon, Sep 30, 4:00pm, Granville7 (#7)
Thu, Oct 3, 10:00pm, Granville7 (#5)

Paradox Lake (USA/Poland/Germany, 85 min.)
Polish-born Przemyslaw Reut's innovative look at autism unfolds in a New York summer camp, as a sensitive counsellor's personal journey takes unexpected turns after encountering an imaginative 12-year-old camper trapped in her playful universe. Intentionally ambiguous, the film breathtakingly shifts from verité to fantasy, eventually ending up literally inside the human mind. <PALAK>
Sun, Sep 29, 9:00pm, Granville7 (#2)
Sun, Oct 6, 9:30pm, Granville7 (#4)
Fri, Oct 11, 3:30pm, Granville7 (#4)

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UBC Alumni

Various Positions (Canada, 90 min.)
In Ori Kowarsky's engaging first feature, young love collides with old-world values. A law student (Tygh Runyan) must decide between the girl of his dreams (Carly Pope) and the life envisioned by his orthodox Jewish family. With: Anne-Émanuelle Romanelli's effervescent **Fork Keeps (Quebec, 8 min.)**. <VARIO>
Wed, Oct 9, 7:00pm, Ridge
Fri, Oct 11, 12:30pm, Cinémathèque

Cultural Icons

Biggie and Tupac (Great Britain, 107 min.)
With his trademark mix of performance art, stalking and investigative journalism, Nick Broomfield timidly dips his Nagra into the mire of intercoastal hip-hop rivalries, organized crime and police corruption. Broomfield's muckraking exposé into the still unsolved murders of superstars Tupac Shakur and Biggie Smalls is both riveting and incisive filmmaking. <BIGGI>
Thu, Sep 26, 9:30pm, Ridge
Sat, Sep 28, 3:30pm, Granville7 (#4)

In the Mirror of Maya Deren (Austria, 103 min.)
Martina Kudlácek's ambitious and remarkable documentary on the life, work and thought of America's foremost female experimental filmmaker of the 40s and 50s. Featuring interviews with avant-gardists Jonas Mekas, Stan Brakhage and Amos Vogel, among others, and a soundtrack by John Zorn. <INMIR>
Sat, Sep 28, 7:15pm, Granville7 (#7)
Mon, Sep 30, 12:00pm, Granville7 (#3)
Tue, Oct 1, 1:30pm, Granville7 (#5)

Politics

DAM/AGE: A Film with Arundhati Roy (India/Great Britain, 49 min.)
Booker Prize-winner Arundhati Roy's (*The God of Small Things*) bold and controversial campaign against the Narmada Dam project in India – which led to her conviction for criminal contempt in India's Supreme Court – is chronicled in Aradhana Seth's politically pointed film. <DAMAG>
Sat, Sep 28, 1:00pm, Granville7 (#7)
Mon, Sep 30, 6:30pm, Granville7 (#3)

Gaza Strip (USA/Palestine, 74 min.)
"*Gaza Strip*, a feature-length video by American filmmaker James Longley, is a documentary to make the stones weep – as shameful as it is scary... even more painful in the knowledge that current conditions are worse... To watch [it] is to watch a ticking time bomb." – J. Hoberman, *Village Voice*. <GAZAS>
Sat, Sep 28, 2:00pm, Granville7 (#1)
Tue, Oct 1, 11:30am, Granville7 (#2)
Mon, Oct 7, 9:45pm, Granville7 (#5)

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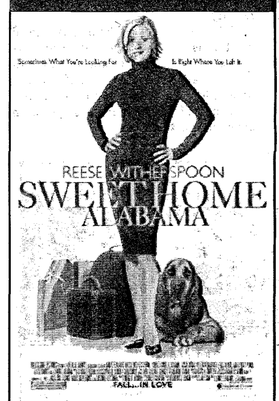

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Football Birds plummet

UBC now at the bottom of the league

By David Brindle
SPORTS WRITER

gamescore
UBC 17 SASKATCHEWAN 22

In sports, there is no worse place than the bottom. That is where the Thunderbird football team finds itself after a frustrating 22-17 home-opening loss to the University of Saskatchewan Huskies on Friday night. UBC is now alone at the bottom of the Canada West standings with a 0-3 record.

Facing each other at the opening kickoff, it was as if UBC and Saskatchewan were looking into a mirror, both with 0-2 records. Despite a UBC home field advantage before 3000 boisterous fans, including the requisite two inadequate streakers, the Huskies prevailed, and the loss gives the Thunderbirds the distinction of being the only team in the league that hasn't won a game this season. Not to take anything away from the Huskies, who played solidly, keeping their composure in the first half when the Thunderbirds had momentum and the lead, up 14-3 with two and a-half minutes left, but Saskatchewan didn't win. UBC lost.

When the game swung in Saskatchewan's favor with 1:06 left in the first half, the Birds began losing. UBC's Sandy Beveridge fumbled the ball on his own seven-yard line on a missed field goal return. One play later, the Huskies' fullback, Graeme Bell, scored the first of his two touchdowns, and the visitors had momentum at the half, trailing the Thunderbirds 14-12.

In the second half, the Thunderbirds tightened up, but tried too hard, which resulted in UBC penalties. Big penalties. Not the nickel and dime stuff, but the ones caused by mental lapses that players pay for at practice by running the stairs at Thunderbird Stadium. And although the Huskies racked up more yards in flag infractions, 16 for 156 yards, UBC couldn't turn them into points.

"We struggled with not being able to sustain drives," says UBC head coach Lou DesLauriers, "and too many mistakes. [There were] late hits and unnecessary roughness calls."

On the positive side, Rob Kenney, back in the pocket at starting quarterback after missing the first two games with a back injury, gave the Thunderbird offense a new dimension: a passing game.

"Robert Kenney did a good job of throwing the football," said DesLauriers. "He spread the ball around, and gave better coverage."

Kenney's favorite target of the night was his back-up, his way-back back-up: the T-birds' number four pivot, Troy Therrien.

"Yeah, four minutes into the game, Coach said, 'Troy, you're on,'" Thierrien said of his early start on the field.

He went at wide receiver—the first time he'd played the position since he was eight years old—and proceeded to catch UBC's second and last touchdown at 5:18 of the second quarter when he took a seven-yard strike in the end zone. Listed as one of the Thunderbirds' promising players, Therrien finished the game with six catches for a team-high 88 yards and even got a chance to throw the ball on a desperate reverse late in the game. "I get one play to be quarterback," Therrien said, "and I end up at the bottom of a sack. It's the first time I've been hit out there in a while."

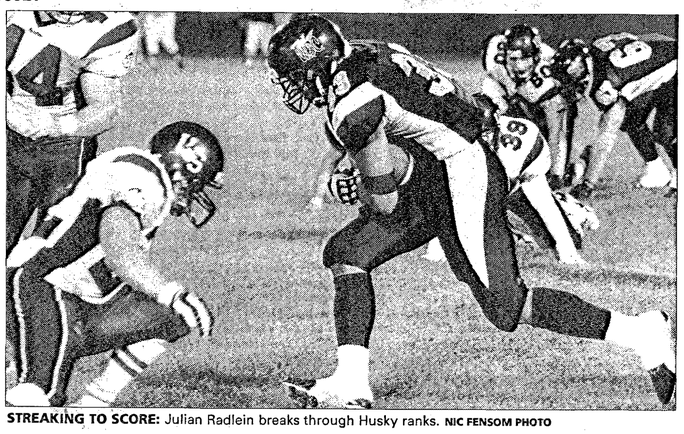
It's also the first time the Thunderbirds have gone to air in a while. The running game bottomed out early on with Kenney at the helm. After Julian Radlein's 113 yard game against Manitoba in week two, UBC's running game managed only 34 yards on 17 carries compared with 211 yards against the Bisons.

On defense, multi-tasker Javier Glatt shone as usual. UBC's two-time all-Canadian led all players with 12 tackles, broke two passes, and added a forced fumble and a fumble recovery. He also lined up at fullback and returned kickoffs—one wonders if there is anything Glatt can't do.

What now for the Thunderbirds? Nothing changes, and that likely includes the downward spiralling team record, at least for a week. The team doesn't have the option of moving players around—the fact that a back-up quarterback stepped in at wide receiver and was the offensive star of the game attests to a lack of depth.

Although the Birds may be able to excuse their two season opening losses-two tough road game losses against nationally ranked Manitoba (#2) and Regina (#4), Friday's loss to a beatable Saskatchewan squad was not so easy to explain away.

De uriers asserted that Saskat wan was better than their early ord suggested. As for the upcon g battle against Calgary, ranke h in the nation, he conceded that t Birds have a rough road ahead. Calgary will be tough. So far this se on, we've played two of the top te s. I don't know—we're not lookin t making the playoffs right now, v e looking at playing Calgary. The p ers and the coaching staff remai upbeat. There's no trouble motiva g the team despite being 0-3." So s like the Birds expect to be on the tom for a while. ❖



STREAKING TO SCORE: Julian Radlein breaks through Husky ranks. NIC FENSOM PHOTO

Rowing

The Canadian Men's Eight boat was golden at the World Championships in Seville, Spain this Sunday. Beating the Germans and the Americans as they sliced up the Gualdaquivir River for first place, UBC grads Kyle Hamilton, (3 seat) and Ben Rutlege (4 seat) shared in the national victory, winning Canada's first rowing gold in three years.

Field Hockey

Yes, there's championship fever sneaking through the lawns once again as the Women's Field Hockey team held on to their number-one spot in the nation this weekend. The first tournament of the season saw the Birds hammer Manitoba 7-0 in Edmonton and down the hosting Alberta Pandas 1-0. There were a few missed notes in the winning anthem however, as the Vikes shut out the Birds 1-0, and UBC couldn't exact a win over Calgary, ending in a 1-1 tie.

Ice Hockey

It's still the pre-season, so the Birds didn't take their twin losses to Calgary over the weekend too badly. UBC is now off to Alberta for the Brick Invitational on Saturday and Sunday. ❖

Women's soccer team soars

by Jesse Marchand
STAFF WRITER

The Calgary Dinos women's soccer team will now have to share the podium in the Canada West Conference as the Thunderbirds have leapt into first place after winning two shut-outs this past weekend.

Saturday's game was a nail-biter against Calgary, whose standings are currently 4-2-1 while UBC hasn't yet lost a game this season. After 50 scoreless minutes of play, a penalty kick by team captain and midfielder Kristine Jack put in the only goal of the game, making it a 1-0 win for the Birds.

Coach Dick Mosher was quite happy with the way things went on Saturday. "It was pretty well a fifty/fifty game," he said of both teams' intensity. He also pointed out that the penalty kick gave UBC something to "capitalise" on. "I thought it was one of our better games," he added, "maybe not our best, but certainly one of the better games we have had so far."

The game on Sunday against the Lethbridge Pronghorns, however, was different in terms of the intensity the Birds put out onto the field. A far inferior team, the Pronghorns let five goals in, without scoring a goal of their own.

"It's definitely always a different game when you're playing Calgary than when you're playing Lethbridge," said striker Rosalyn Hicks when comparing the two games. She concluded that the difference was in technical skill, and although they won by a landslide on Sunday, she felt that technically the Birds played a better game the day before.

gamescores
UBC 1 CALGARY 0
UBC 5 LETHBRIDGE 0

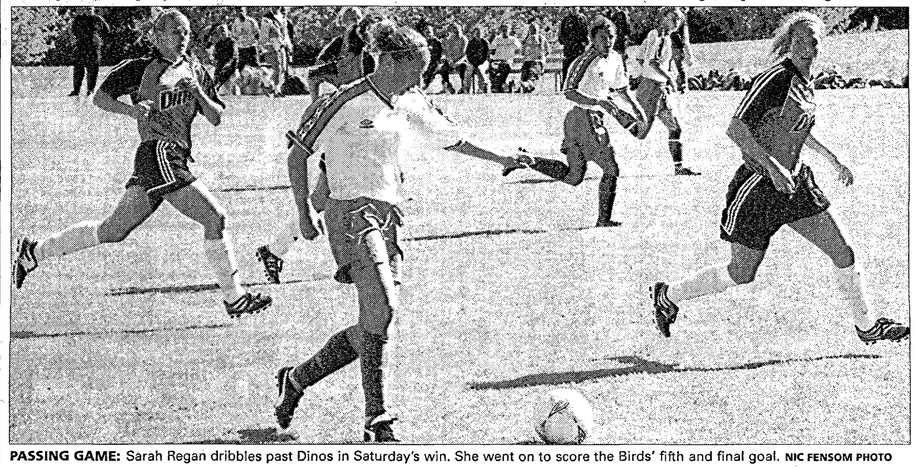
UBC's performance on Sunday was not completely devoid of technical prowess, though. The game started out quite aggressive, with the teams looking matched in skill and intensity. The weather was sunny and hot, and play seemed intense. But the Pronghorns cooled off just over 13 minutes in when Lethbridge goalie Stacey Gammon went out to trap the ball and missed, giving centre midfielder Lianne McHardy a chance to sink UBC's first goal into a wide open net. The Birds turned up the heat two minutes later when a pass from Anja Sigloch enabled Kristine Jack to chip it in the top left hand corner of the net, leaving Gammon with no possibility to stop it.

While Hicks thought Lethbridge's goalkeeper was nothing to write home about, it was shots like that one that made her confident in the ability of her team. "I didn't think she was a factor," said Hicks of the opposing keeper. "Anytime you're playing against a team, a good shot's gonna go in regardless of the keeper." And the shots kept going in. Five minutes after goal two, midfielder Heather Smith kicked it in with an assist from striker Sarah Regan. The rest of the first half showed the Birds to be the obvious aggressor and the Pronghorns as a technically inferior team. Lethbridge's goalie continually fumbled balls, and with less than two minutes left in the first half a kick from Lianne McHardy sent Gammon fumbling on a trap again, leaving an easy shot for Rosalyn Hicks.

The second half was lacklustre for the Birds who, according to Hicks, had already achieved their goal in the first half. Not that Lethbridge had stopped trying, as Hicks had mentioned it was "a physical game" and the second half saw many penalties, including two missed penalty kicks on the part of UBC. The Birds, however, were not to be undersold. Just to add more to the bird feeder, Sarah Regan kicked the fifth goal in with an assist from midfielder Keiko Read.

Overall, UBC coach Dick Mosher thought it was a good weekend for the Birds but indicated that the team still has areas to work on after the close game against Calgary. "We have to show a little more imagination going into the attacking third," said coach Mosher. "We are giving up a number of opportunities which are resulting in a number of corner kicks against us," he added, "but the girls know, and we are working on improving those aspects of the game."

Next weekend the women will be on the road facing a triple-threat: the teams of Regina, Saskatchewan and Alberta. ❖



PASSING GAME: Sarah Regan dribbles past Dinos in Saturday's win. She went on to score the Birds' fifth and final goal. NIC FENSOM PHOTO

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8) Other business
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The Ubyssey Student newspaper would like to cordially invite you to the Wednesday, September 25, 2002 staff meeting. It will be an esteemed event, and open to everyone. We hope you come.

12 noon, SUB 24

Tragically, still pretty good

THE TRAGICALLY HIP
with Sam Roberts
at the Queen Elizabeth Theatre
Sept. 19

by Aman Sharma
CULTURE WRITER

AMAN SHARMA PHOTO

It's become very fashionable to dislike the Tragically Hip these days. Some might say the old men just aren't cool any more, and their music stopped being interesting a few albums ago, if it ever was. Luckily for their fans, the Tragically Hip have never given a shit about fashion.

Their latest visit to Vancouver was in support of their newest (and in my mind, most thoughtful) album, *In Violet Light*. The Hip sauntered in and took over the Queen Elizabeth Theatre for a soirée last Thursday night, riding under the tour banner of "The Tragically Hip—in the flesh."

The opening act was MuchMusic's current CanCon horse, Sam Roberts. The group sounded good, and judging by the head bobs in the crowd, many people enjoyed them. For me, Sam Roberts was similar to a piece of Double Bubble gum. After about five minutes, the flavour was gone and it was too tough to chew. There was a lot of 'rah rah Canada' in his set, and for the most part it seemed that the band was trying too hard. From the drummer's Team Canada T-shirt to the band's failed attempts to get people dancing, the whole thing reeked of misplaced priorities.

It seems this cult of Canadiana overshadows the fact that the evening is about a musically tight, lyrically outstanding rock'n'roll band, which deserves to be evaluated outside of the worship of nationalism. In my mind, the art of the Tragically Hip lies in a shared experience they've created, not in an accident of geography.

Johnny, Paul, Gord, Gord and Bobby (collectively known as The Tragically Hip) were tight from the very start. They were untouchable, giving the crowd a top notch set. Johnny Fay was engrossed in his work, hammering out the beats while Downie and the Gordanaires ran the gauntlet.

On this night, the entire band seemed thoroughly motivated for the entire two-hour set. Paul Langois, in particular, didn't take a moment's rest, ripping out great rhythm guitar sounds the entire night. In support of his teammate, Gord Downie delivered an outstanding performance. I didn't notice one instance of the frontman giving up on a note; instead he gave the proletariat verse the breath and fervor it deserves. The band ran through songs like "My Music @ Work," "It's A Good Life If You Don't Weaken" and "Ahead By A Century." The understated, hardworking passions and poetic viscosity of songs like these are what made this performance one to remember. ❖

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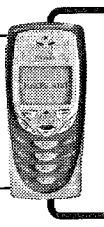

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Mai-oh-Mai!

Vancouver trumpeter blows them away

VINCE MAI & MAI-BAND
at the Vancouver East Cultural Centre
Sept. 18

by Vampyra Draculea
CULTURE WRITER

Last Wednesday, critically acclaimed local jazz trumpeter Vince Mai brought his unique blend of jazz traditions to the Vancouver East Cultural Centre for two hour-long sets of wonderful musicianship. The ads promised that Mai would be playing smooth Latin jazz, and he definitely delivered. The band played seamlessly, sliding from solo to solo fluidly, letting the audience soak up the terrific music from their new CD *Subte*.

Every member of the band performed several solos, each of them displaying just how talented and skillful these musicians are. Mai, of course, probably had the greatest number, but it is his band, after all, and his music. Locally prolific keyboardist Brad Turner also had some great toccata-like solos, as did percussionist Pepe Danza, who threw his whole body into his solos and even seemed to be chanting during one particularly intense passage. Bassist Marc Rogers, who flew out from Toronto to play the gig, did an amazing solo which demonstrated just what sort of range, flexibility, agility and speed the bass is capable of. For the most part everyone always seemed eager to hear more solos from all of the band, and the applause was thunderous after just about every solo.

As the bandleader, Mai simply waited for each solo to flow naturally and find its own conclusion before bringing the rest of the band back in to return to the full swing of the music. He did seem a bit shy about talking to the audience, but maybe he just felt the music spoke for itself.

The show was not without a few snags, however. Mai, who alternated playing trumpet with flugelhorn and additional percussion, seemed to be having some issues with his flugelhorn, frequently shaking it as though trying to dislodge some sort of obstruction. Vocalist Rebecca Shoichet was often nearly inaudible, but I suspect this was a problem with the PA mixing levels. (When I could hear her, she had a delightfully sweet soprano voice that blended well with the whole ensemble.) On the last number, guest percussionist Raphael Geronimo temporarily disappeared, and then joined the piece in progress. He went on to do an incredible percussion solo towards the end of the piece, titled "Nova Bossa".

Perhaps the most annoying snag, though, was the member of the audience who got bored during Rogers's stunning bass solo, prematurely and rather sarcastically yelling "yeah baby" after only a few minutes of the intricate solo. Rogers seemed uncertain of what to do, and ended the solo a few beats later.

Overall, however, the concert was a striking display of just how great our often under-appreciated local jazz is. I'd recommend Mai's *Subte* to anyone who loves good music. ❖

Keeping them guessing

GUS GUS
at Sonar
Sept. 15

by Erin Hope-Goldsmith
CULTURE WRITER

I had just gotten back into town after a weekend of camping in the forest and was feeling a bit too grubby for a concert, but the Icelandic band Gus Gus put me right at ease. Not that they're grubby; they aren't, but they do have a great don't-care-ishness about their image, and their music has a spacious and open feeling.

The female singer danced wearing 80s crimped hair, cargo pants, sneakers, and a frilly prom dress; the male singer wore a tan outfit which resembled a ranger's uniform. The other members of the band hung out in the background and worked with video and mixing with electronic equipment. Gus Gus's upbeat music is a mixture of electronic sounds, DJ spinning, live vocals and keyboards. The trancy beat keeps your feet, hips and shoulders moving (or, if you're a stiff person, at least it keeps your head bobbing).

The singing seemed to be partly in Icelandic and partly in English, and the female singer's mysterious vocals were enhanced by her cat eyes and gypsy-like dancing.

The show included random digital videos projected on the backdrop— white cars disappearing into red circles and reappearing as black cars, Icelandic mountain scenery, a girl squatting in front of said scenery—the imagery was entertaining and tastefully used. Perhaps if I understood the lyrics they would have had some connection with the videos, but I suspect not. They were fun to watch for their own merit.

The show that Gus Gus put on at Sonar was lively, humorous, and full of beautiful sounds. The perfect thing to welcome a tired camper back to the electronic age. ❖

WHERE DID YOU GET THAT DRESS? From Iceland, home of Gus Gus. KAT SINGLE-DAIN PHOTO

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K-OS Live @ The Pit Pub
K-OS at the Pit Pub on September 28th, 2002. Doors at 8:30pm. Tickets are available at the SUB box office, Scratch Records and Zulu Records for $12.

queer society

Queering Society: Addressing Homophobia and Heterosexism
October 11, 1:00 - 4:00 pm • Dodson Room, Learning Commons, UBC Main Library • Speakers: Anne-Marie Long and Timothy Rahilly

This workshop offers an exploration into ways that homophobia and heterosexism affects our lives. We will unlock the meaning and effects of homophobia and heterosexism while offering strategies of resistance and transformation. Participants will enrich their understanding of the types of homophobia & heterosexism that exist as well as learning strategies for handling homophobic incidents.

volunteer and internship fair

September 25 & 26 Volunteer Fair
September 27 Internship fair
10 am to 3 pm SUB Concourse

Find out about exciting volunteer positions with dozens of key non profit and charity organizations such as: WAVAW, The Red Cross Society, Kitimavik and the TREK Volunteer program. Come prepared with your resume and apply for cutting edge internships with organizations such as Recycling Council of BC and Canada World Youth.

e-mail newsletter

Have you signed up for the AMS bi-weekly email newsletter?
If not, you are not accessing all the latest on bursary information, tuition, events & concerts, speaker series and the best jobs on and off campus. To sign up, go to www.ams.ubc.ca. Best of all, once you sign up, you can email us with your event information or news and it may appear in print.

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united way

United Way Kick off event
Come out to support the United Way on September 25th from 11-12:30pm on the SUB South Plaza. For only $5 you will receive a burger, pop and a draw ticket for a fabulous prize. All proceeds will go to the United Way. Make sure to get there early and have your burger cooked by one of the campus celebrity chefs including: Martha Piper and the AMS executive! If you would like to volunteer for the event, please contact: united.way@ubc.ca

bursaries

Attention Bursary Students!
The UBC Winter Bursary Program due date is on October 1, 2002. To apply, or for more information, go to: http://students.ubc.ca/finance/bursaries/

health plan

Need help paying for your Health Plan?
Health Plan Premium Assistance Fund

Partial or full reimbursement of the health plan fee ($180) is available on a need-basis from the AMS and GSS. The application for reimbursement requires detailed financial information. Please note that the deadline is October 15, 2002 for applications for the period of September 1, 2002-August 31, 2003. The deadline for applying for the Assistance Fund is February 15, 2003 for those students who enrolled at UBC for the first time in January 2003. Students can fill out an application on-line at:www.gss.ubc.ca/health/application.html.

queer life

Queer Life at UBC
What do you do you have to say on the topic?
Please join us for hot pizza and discussions between 6:30 pm and 8:30 pm every Monday at the Graduate Student Centre, (6371 Crescent Road) Room 200. For more information, you can check out the AMS Pride web site, or contact allan.english@ubc.ca

THE UBYSSEY
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"We are VR!!" shouted Michael Schwandt. "Our goal is to save the luscious Lisa Johnson. If we are lucky, we can eliminate the sinister Gargonauts Aman Sharma, Johnny Hua and Vampyra Draculea by using John McCrank as a lever to aid us in turning things." Soon Erin Hope-Goldsmith, Kat Single-Dain, Karen Cheung and Nic Fenson burst upon the scene, to aid their VR Trooper comrades Hywel Tuscano and Anna King in the fight against darkness. "Gandalf!" they cried, "we must avenge Gandalf!" After a quick drink at Nic Fensom's filthy tavern, the group went on to face their nemesis. Leading the throng of Gargonauts were the disgustingly evil Chris Shepherd, Kathleen Deering and Daniel Silverman. The battle was long and arduous, and after the tragic losses of Dave Brindle and Jesse Marchand, the Troopers desperately searched for their two most beloved members. Worry had set in, and Sarah Conchie and Duncan M. McHugh began to sob for the loss of their friends. But when two strange figures arose from the dust and grime, the group raised their voices in unison and exalted, "Hail, hail! We have Parm Nizher and Laura Blue!"

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Commitment to housing must be kept

Considering it's been empty for more than ten years, the Woodward's building downtown has certainly been garnering plenty of attention. Mind you, this is not just any building. Formerly the flagship store for Woodward's, the now-defunct department store chain, the 656,000 sq.ft. structure at the corner of Hastings and Abbott is—for better or worse—a Vancouver landmark.

The building, built in 1903, was Vancouver's first department store and—for many—symbolised the young city's growing wealth and sophistication. Most people who lived in Vancouver prior to 1992 (when the store was vacated) will remember the elaborate Christmas window displays. Or accompanying grandma to $1.49 Day. Or a time when Hastings Street wasn't synonymous with drug use and poverty.

The past decade has been tough on the Woodward's building, though. While its giant 'W' still towers above Gastown, the building itself has lost any trace of its former grandeur. As the building suffered, so too has its neighbourhood, as more and more buildings become vacant and show more and more signs of neglect.

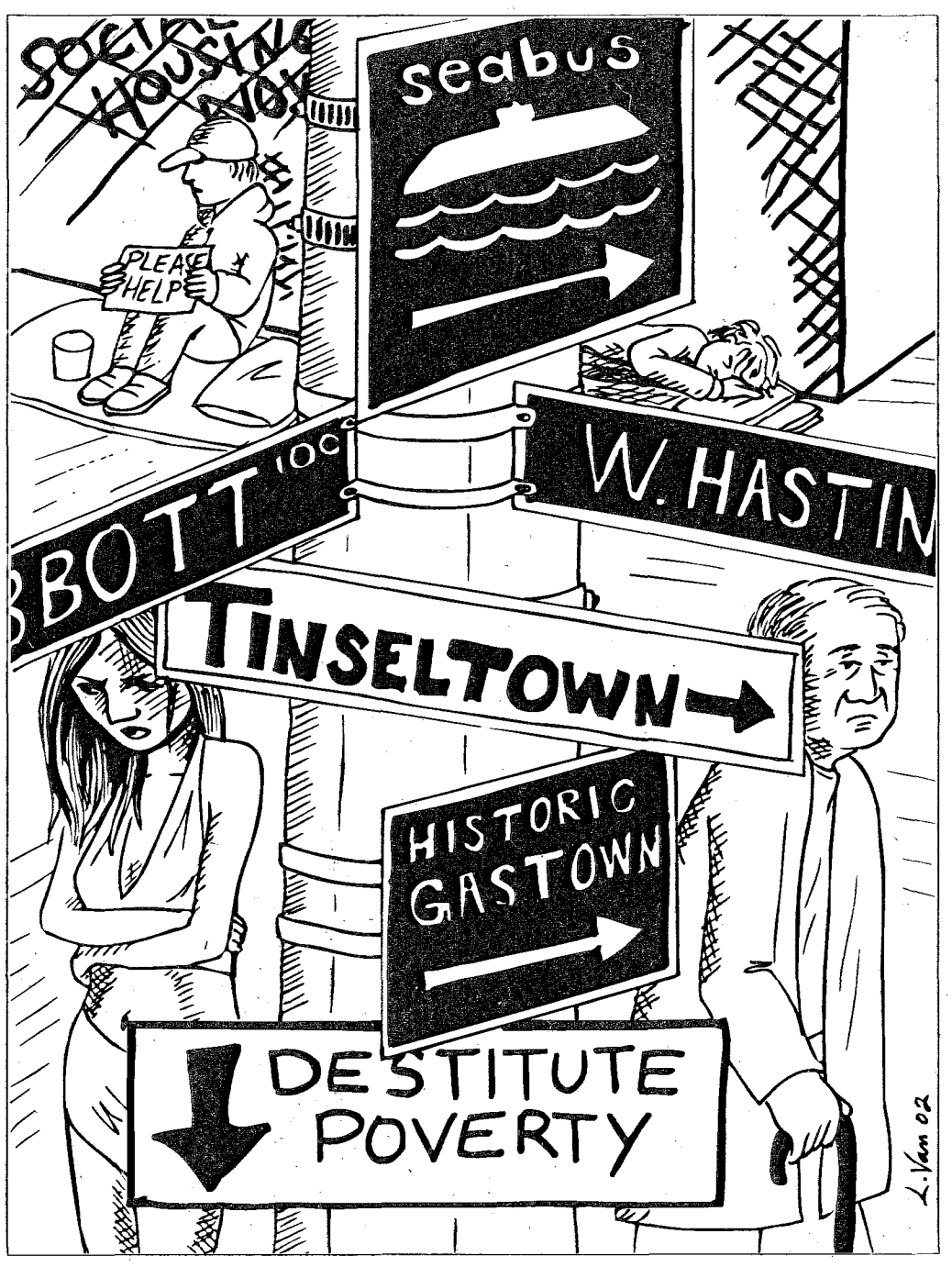
In March 2001, it looked as though Woodward's luck may have turned around. The building was sold for $21.9 million to the provincial government, that unveiled an ambitious $90 million plan to turn the building into 300 co-op housing units.

It was a moment of almost unbelievable generosity for Downtown Eastside lobbyists who had been begging for more affordable housing. However, with the landslide victory of Gordon Campbell's Liberals that fall, the plan was quickly quashed. George Abbott, Minister for Community, Aboriginal and Women's Services, dismissed the plan, saying that renovating the building would be a waste of money.

For the residents of the Downtown Eastside, this was a tremendous blow. The hope that had been invested in the plan evaporated and—combined with the realties of BC's current political climate—desperation set in.

Not surprisingly then, a week ago Friday, a tent city sprung up around the boarded up walls of the building. A ladder led to the second floor, which had become a haven for over 50 squatters. Any hopes of continuing to protest from the upper floors of the decrepit building were soon crushed, however, as Vancouver police moved in this past Saturday, following an enforcement order handed down by the BC Supreme Court the previous Monday. The cops proceeded to clear the area with a battering ram, riot gear and pepper spray, arresting 54 people.

It's a far cry from the promise of peaceful eviction that floated through the news last week. After telling the SFU *Peak* that the Vancouver City Police "were fully understanding of the housing issue" in the Downtown Eastside, Vancouver Police Inspector Ken Frail was among those who evicted squatters from the property Saturday.



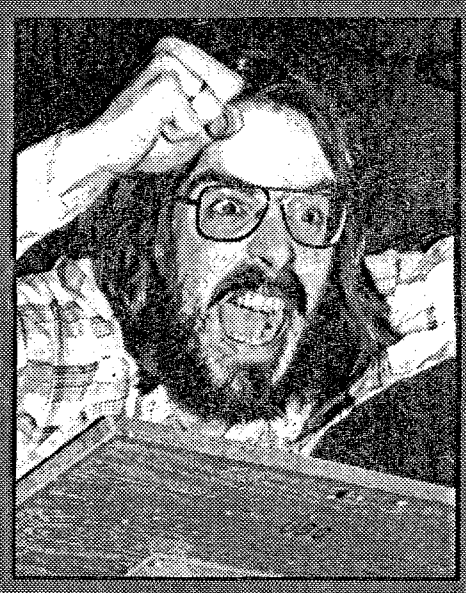
But, of course, expecting the police to do as they say is foolish. One could argue that they were merely acting on the orders of a government who has broken much bigger promises with much less sensitivity.

It is also a government that has a highly developed sense of irony. The week before Affordable Housing Week, Abbott announced that 37 social housing projects were under review, and in March 2002, he announced that of those 1,700 units, only 700 were approved for construction. The rest, including the Woodward's redevelopment plan, were axed. Instead, the government put the building on the selling block, looking to recoup its $22 milllion. Abbott's reasoning: that the project was in danger of becoming the "fast-ferries of affordable housing."

While most don't feel the loss of the three catamarans that are now rusting away unused, the housing issue hits much closer to home. The squeezing has begun, and instead of providing a way out for most of those who now find shelter in Woodwards' doorways and on park benches, the government is simply herding them elsewhere to make room for the 'clean-up' of the Hastings Corridor.

This is not a solution. Gentrifying the area around Hastings and Abbott isn't going to address the issue of poverty and homelessness on the Downtown Eastside, which should be of the utmost priority for any plan that looks to renovate the Woodward's building. The situation downtown is far more critical than Premier Campbell can fathom, certainly more important than Vancouver's bid to host the Olympics.

Campbell told reporters on Friday that he will not "meet with people that are breaking the law." This is absurd, considering that by killing the Woodward's housing project, he is effectively forcing Vancouver's estimated 1000 homeless people to break the law every night, as they 'loiter' in public spaces in an effort to find a place to sleep. Campbell was also concerned that the building was not a "safe place to be" for the protesters. How much safer are the streets? ❖



Surely something about this issue made you mad.

Not crazy, bearded-man mad but, you know, mad enough to want to write us about it.

Well...what are you waiting for?

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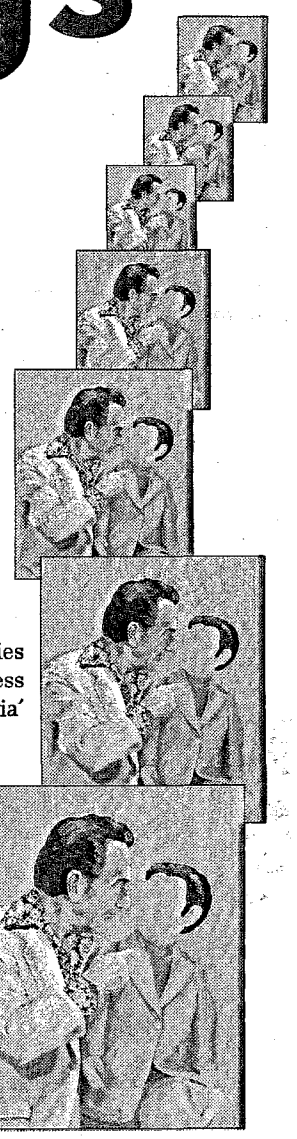
UBC grad art not for the dogs

DOGWOOD
UBC MFA Graduate Exhibition
at the Morris and Helen Belkin Art Gallery
Sept. 13-22

by John McCrank
CULTURE WRITER



This year's Master's of Fine Arts graduate exhibition, *Dogwood*, featuring the works of Gavin Hipkins, Ann Shelton, Tim Lee, Natasha McHardy and Sean Alward, wrapped up on Sunday at the Morris and Helen Belkin Art Gallery. Much of the show consisted of photo-based work, following in the footsteps of the Vancouver photo-conceptualist tradition made famous worldwide by artists such as Jeff Wall, Ian Wallace and Ken Lum.

Gavin Hipkins showed photos from the series *The Next Cabin*. These works explore the less savory sides of 'Supernatural British Columbia' and the North American west coast.

In her photos from the series *Erewhon (Nowhere)*, Ann Shelton juxtaposes images side by side, each image informing the other, to form an overall narrative. In one coupling of photos, "Woodlands/Riverview, Vancouver, Canada" and "Pink booth, Madonna Inn, San Lois Obispo, USA" we are shown a cell inside Riverside psychiatric institution with whitewashed walls and bars on the doors and windows, next to a close-up photo of pink padded upholstery in a diner booth. Put together, these images conform to our concept of a mental institution, with soft colours and padded walls, while simultaneously showing us the bleak reality. As a whole, the photos tell a disturbing story of mental illness, crime and incarceration.

Tim Lee (with Stephan Udell) contributed a two-channel video installation called "Funny Face, George and Ira Gershwin, 1927" to the show, that humorously examines aspects of fame and identity through optical illusion.

Providing one of the most creative uses of a medium at the show, Natasha McHardy displayed a series of portraits in photographic style that were entirely composed of discarded chewing gum. The images, collectively entitled *Bubble Gum Portraits*, with the various shades of gum making up the tone of the pictures, all show romantic scenes of couples passionately embracing and kissing. The use of bubble gum was interesting, in that while we see strangers' saliva coming together, both on the image and in it, to create scenes of beauty and romance, we cannot separate the fact that there is something inherently dirty about it.

Sean Alward was the lone painter in the show, with several oil paintings on wood panel, many depicting faceless business people engaged in dialogue. One painting, a diptych entitled *Head*, shows a man sitting on a couch with his relaxed arm stretching out onto one panel, while on the other panel we are shown his head and torso. The man's head is almost surreal, merging into itself in a style reminiscent of Francis Bacon. The relaxed posture of the man, painted in thick loose strokes, offsets the disturbingly distorted face, leaving the viewer uneasy and unsure of the psychological intent.

Overall, I enjoyed the show and look forward to seeing the work of these artists as they attempt to follow the paths of those that came before them from the local art scene and onto the world stage. ❖

Yo! Hockey needs a fan, y'all. So does soccer. Just think, you could be chillin' with the ice birds or kickin' back with the kickers. sports@ubyssey.bc.ca

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A lesson in direct democracy

NAOMI KLEIN at the Vogue Sept. 19

by Lisa Johnson
CULTURE WRITER

The author of *No Logo* talks about how to COPE with today's politics.

The Coalition of Progressive Electors (COPE) executed a skillful branding exercise Thursday night at the Vogue, using anti-corporate author and journalist Naomi Klein as a spokesperson for their "pro-democracy" platform.

And I'm okay with that.

Some activists complain that Klein has branded herself. (In her second book, *Fences and Windows*, she has delivered her latest offering on the "globalisation debate" with a visual and organisational format that will strike *No Logo* readers as comfortingly familiar, with crafted synergy between the books and their associated web-sites, www.nologo.org and www.fences-fund.org.)

Yet, I think they're paying her a compliment.

What is so refreshing about Klein and, to some extent, the COPE civic platform, is that their critique of the mainstream has a vision for the future, and they aren't afraid to use strategy—even *branding* strategy—to pull it off.

No Logo and *Fences* analyse the recent past of the anti-corporate, pro-democracy movement (which everyone else shorthands as "anti-globalisation"), but her sold-out talk on Thursday focused on what she sees as the movement's hopeful future: direct local democracy.

In countries like South Africa and Argentina, with struggling or collapsed economic and social systems, she explained, people are already moving towards direct action and local democracy to win back services and jobs lost during government privatisation and deregulation.

THOSE AREN'T NIKES ARE THEY? Naomi Klein signs her book.
LISA JOHNSON PHOTO

"Forty thousand people a week lose access to electricity in South Africa. When electricity was privatised, another forty thousand lost their jobs," she said. "So there is a direct action group there, the Soweto Electricity Crisis Committee, that figured 'we have a lot of out-of-work electricians and a lot of people without electricity,' and began reconnecting people."

In Argentina, where Klein and her husband, Avi Lewis, are making a documentary, similar direct action movements are happening. During that country's economic collapse last December, foreign investors rapidly pulled out from their Argentinean holdings, leaving factories that had produced food and clothes empty. Since then, she reported, Argentinean people have gained the means to re-enter the factories and start producing goods, with some operations officially turned into workers' co-operatives. "They didn't quite 'seize the means of production,'" she explained, chuckling. "They just went there and picked up the keys."

Filled with pithy phrases like this, Klein's glib delivery came off strangely at times. She did manage to make her serious topics surprisingly entertaining by peppering them with very real, cut-to-the-chase observations. This tactic's downside, as in the Argentina case above, was its making hard-fought victories sound like easy and obvious solutions. Easy or not, Klein stressed that Canada should take lessons in local democracy from countries like Argentina and South Africa. "We are told that the problems in these countries are the result of their corrupt leaders and there is nothing generalisable about them, but that's not true," said Klein, citing parallel problems with deregulation and privatisation in Canada.

Klein's concerns echoed those of COPE mayoral candidate Larry Campbell, who spoke before her about the government's handling of BC Hydro privatisation and drug abuse prevention for Downtown Eastside residents. "These are issues that the public is clear about what they want and are being ignored by their provincial and municipal governments," he said.

Klein encouraged people to use tools like money, politics and "surround sound activism" to get the public back into the decision-making processes of government and industry, beginning at the local level.

With this focus on strategy, the star author gave her fans a direct democracy mission statement: "We need to change the mechanisms of government," she said, "to make ourselves less easy to control." ❖

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