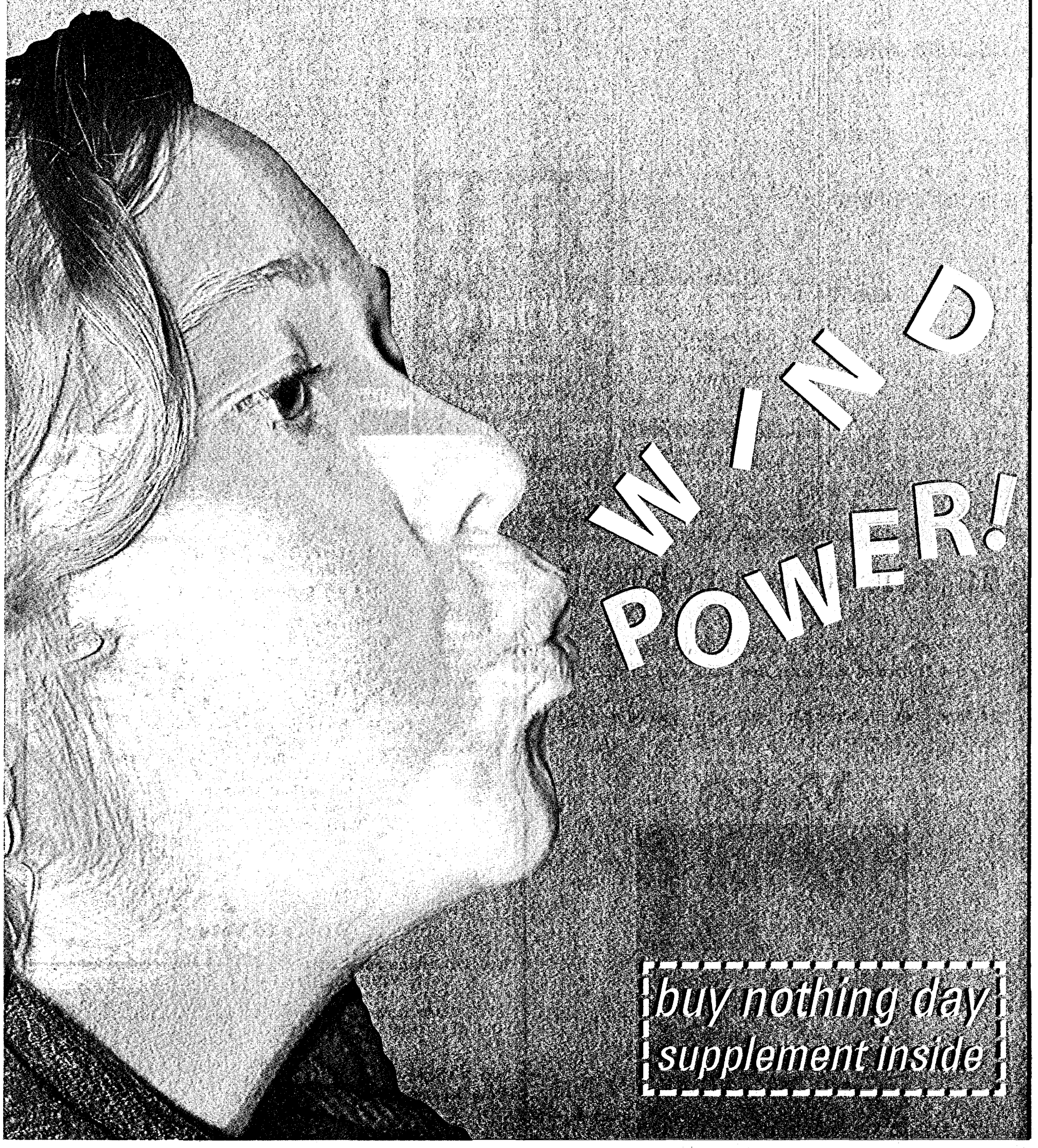
PAGE FRIDAY

THE UBYSSEY VOLUME 82 ISSUE 21 NOVEMBER 24, 2000 EWWITBUGSBINGE 1918



WIND POWER!

buy nothing day supplement inside

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CLASSIFIEDS

Volunteer Opportunities

THE VANCOUVER POLICE DEPARTMENT'S VICTIM SERVICES UNIT is currently recruiting volunteers. Through empathetic understanding and patience, your role is to empower clients as they deal with the aftermath of crime. Volunteers joining the Unit contribute between 3 to 6 hours weekly in their first year. Full fluency in English is required, but we encourage individuals with extra language skills. The next upcoming training class starts in mid January 2001. Call the Volunteer Recruiting Line at 717-2797.

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Announcement

THE CENTRE FOR INTERCULTURAL LANGUAGE STUDIES. 2nd panel discussion. Internationalizing the UBC Undergrad. experience: an open forum on campus residential life, student panel presentation and focus groups. Come join us to voice your opinion on issues like the following: How can UBC foster a sense of community on campus? What does it mean to be "internationalized"? What is the role of residential life in internationalization? What is your vision of an internationalized campus? What could you contribute? What infrastructure does UBC need to enhance internationalization? For further info, please contact Angie Lam, Tel: 822-1559, email: lama@mail.cstudies.ubc.ca Open to all. Time: 3-5pm. Date: Fri, Nov. 24. Place: Soc. Lounge, St. John's College. 2111 Lower Mall. Refreshments will be served.

STILL ART SHOW at the Design Arts Gallery (basement of main library). Works by 4th year fine arts students. Opening November 27th 7pm – 9pm. Show runs Nov 27th – Dec 1st, Hours: 11-3pm.

AFGHAN WOMEN AND THEIR FAMILIES invite you to an informational session about their struggle against oppression. Event: Sat, Nov 25 2000, 7:30pm Mt. Pleasant Neighborhood House, 800 East Broadway, $10 or by donation. For more info call 582-6743 or 431-4131.

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CALL FOR ART – Eating Disorder Awareness Week (EDAW): Feb 4-10, 2001. Do you have a story to express about your experience with disordered eating? The Eating Disorder Resource Center of BC (EDRCBC) is looking for your original, artistic expression for our public exhibition and silent auction. All ages and levels of artistic ability welcome. Submission deadline: Dec 21, 2000. Entry form and info: EDRCBC 806-9000 Email: rcbc@direct.ca

Miscellaneous

VEGGIE LUNCHES – every Tuesday 12:30 – 2: 30 pm, penthouse (3rd floor) in the grad center, 6371 crescent rd., vegetarian and vegan food, suggested donation: $4

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NEWS briefs

Safewalk to acquire additional funding

At Wednesday's Alma Mater Society (AMS) meeting, the student society approved an additional $7752 in funding for its Safewalk program.

According to Safewalk Director Sue Brown, the money will fund one additional team of walkers during peak times.

Brown said that the society has been "extremely busy."

"People have had to wait for 20 to 30 minutes...[as a result] some have have just walked home alone," she said.

Brown said the funding should bump the number of Safewalk teams up to eight.

The service has experienced a huge increase in demand since students voted to increase funding for the service in a referendum last year.

TransLink vehicle levy approved

After a lengthy debate, TransLink's proposed vehicle levy squeaked by its board of directors, but the debate is not over yet.

The levy, which passed by a 7-5 margin, would see vehicle owners pay between $40 and $120 per year depending on the weight and the classification of their vehicles.

The board also decided to pursue funding from the provincial and the federal government as their top priority, and fall back on the levy if funding cannot be located. It is widely expected, however, that government will not be willing to support it financially.

But the levy will not be official until it is debated and approved by committees and the board of the Greater Vancouver Regional District, which can override TransLink's decision.

Graham Senft, AMS vice-president of external affairs, said that the levy's survival keeps hope for the proposed student bus pass—the U-Pass—alive.

"It's a step in the right direction," he said. "Now we're back on track."

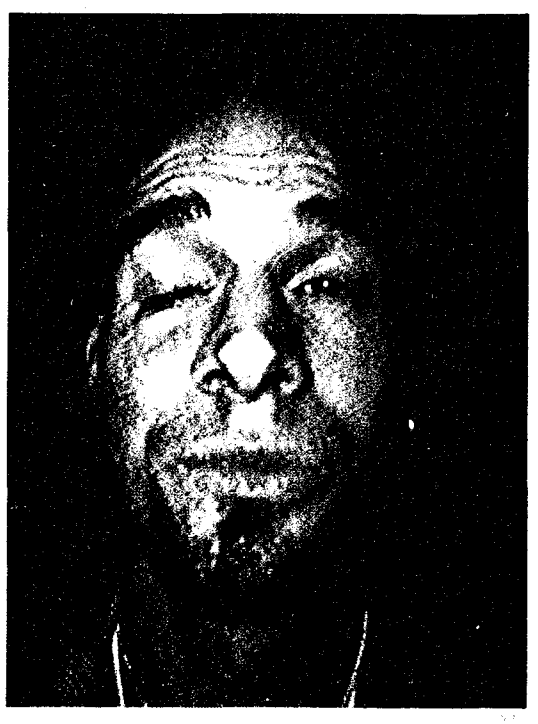
The current U-pass proposal would require that students pay $15 a month for an unlimited 3-zone bus pass, and students living in residence could be eligible for a partial reimbursement. ❖

Is there a problem?

Oh, you don't know who to vote for.
Well, get informed and exercise your democratic right.

On November 27, show the Feds what you're made of.

Vote



For more election information visit www.ams.ubc.ca

a message from your student society AMS

Returning Offices

Hours: M-F 9-9, Saturday 9-6, Sunday 12-4

Burnaby - Douglas 775-7595
Delta - South Richmond 952-3720
Dewdney-Alouette 466-7160
Langley - Abbotsford 607-4400
New West - Coquitlam - Burnaby 775-7600
North Vancouver 981-1775
Port Moody - Coquitlam - PoCo 933-2900
Richmond 775-9900
South Surrey - White Rock -Langley 541-5525
Surrey Central 581-6080
Surrey North 586-2440
Vancouver - Centre 775-5055
Vancouver -East 775-7350
Vancouver - Kingsway 775-5250
Vancouver - South Burnaby 775-5090
Vancouver - Quadra 664-4000
West Vancouver - Sunshine Coast 981-1750

Where to Vote

Totem Park, Ritsmeikan House, Place Vanier and St. John's College Residents:
VOTE AT TOTEM PARK RESIDENCE

Acadia, Fairview, Fraternity Row and Village Area Residents:
VOTE AT LUTHERAN CAMPUS CENTRE (corner of Wesbrook and University)

Gage Residence, Theological Residences
VOTE AT UNIVERSITY GOLF CLUB (please note, a shuttle van will leave Gage every 10 minutes between 1pm and 6pm on election day)

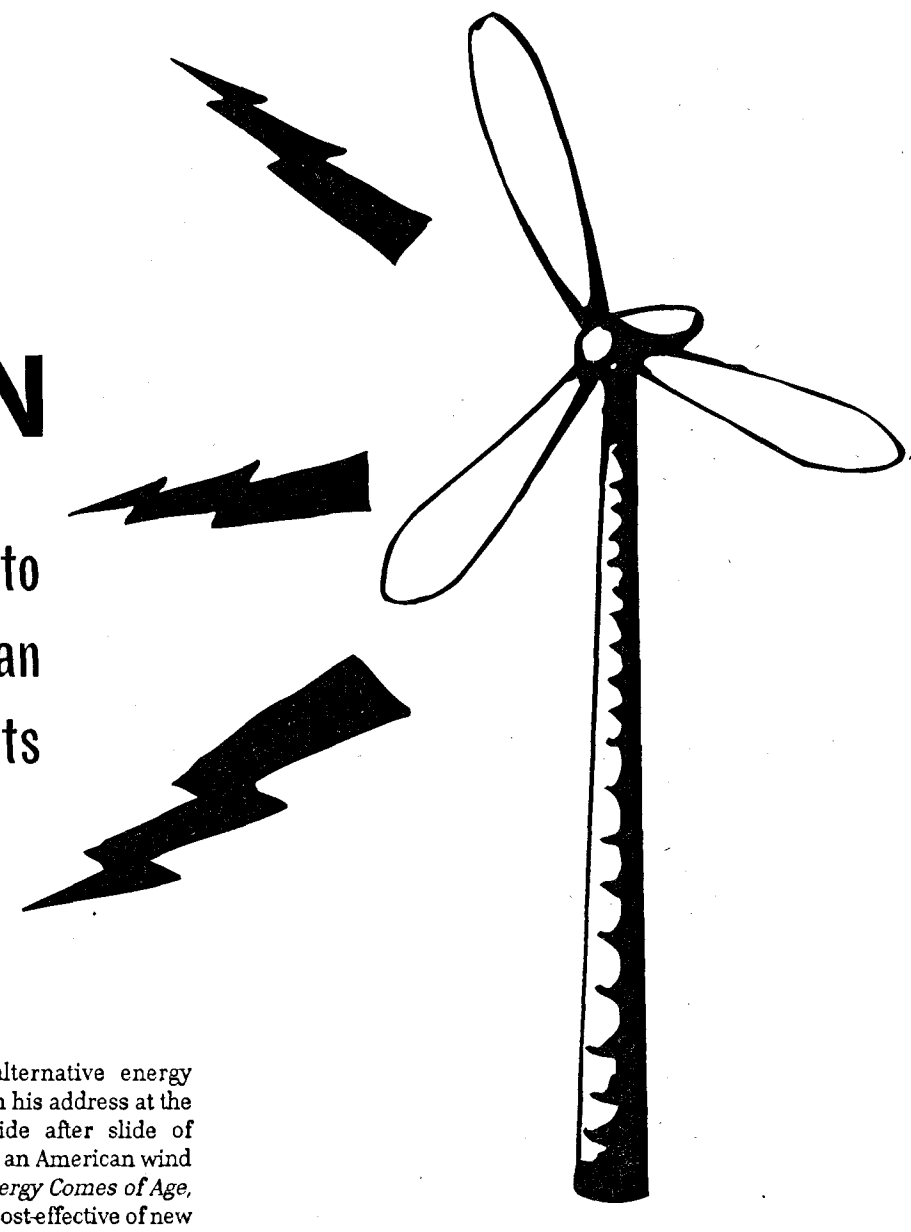
Hampton Place Residents
VOTE AT UNIVERSITY CHAPEL

Polling stations are open 7am to 7pm

Bring your voter registration card to vote. If you are not registered to vote, you must take picture ID (driver's license, passport and/or citizenship card) together with evidence of your address in Vancouver Quadra, such as a phone bill, hydro bill, invoice or bank statement)

Live off campus? Don't know where to vote? Call your returning office.

WIND CHANGING DIRECTION



Green energy. David Suzuki talks about it, the Kyoto Protocol calls for it, and BC Hydro has launched an advertising campaign to convince consumers of its commitment to it. So when is it going to happen?

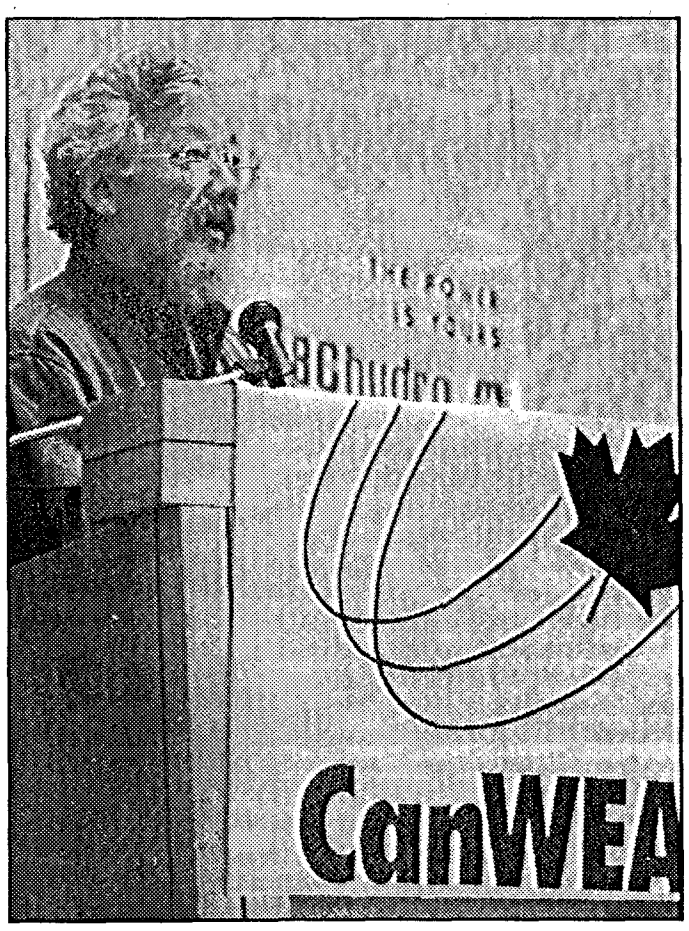
BY LISA JOHNSON

'Green energy' is electricity generated from renewable, low-impact, emission-free sources—such as wind, the sun, and water. And, like many environmentally-responsible alternatives, green energy has traditionally come up short, because its more expensive than fossil-fuel burning energy sources.

However, as fuel prices, greenhouse gas emissions, and energy demands all rise, this previously ignored type of alternative power is receiving some much-needed global attention. But experts claim that the cost of wind power, which has been dubbed the most promising of the new breed of energy sources, has become competitive with fuel burning and hydro sources.

Almost all the development and use of wind technology to date has taken place in Europe. Denmark, whose population is approximately that of BC, leads the pack, with ten per cent of its energy needs supplied by wind-generated power. The European example has many countries, including Canada, investigating the possibility of wind power themselves.

Last month in Vancouver, the Canadian Wind Energy Association (CanWEA) and the David Suzuki Foundation (DSF) held a BC Hydro-sponsored wind energy conference that brought wind experts, developers, and citizens together to share ideas and generate support for wind energy in British Columbia.



WORDS OF WINDSOM: David Suzuki speaks in favour of wind power at the CanWEA conference last month. BC Hydro is currently investigating the use of the wind as an energy source, but wind power still seems a long way off as a viable solution in BC. In Europe, though, it has been used successfully. LISA JOHNSON PHOTO

"Wind is no longer an alternative energy source," said Paul Gipe in his address at the conference. Flashing slide after slide of fields covered by tall windmills, Gipe, an American wind energy expert and author of *Wind Energy Comes of Age*, argues that not only is wind the most cost-effective of new emission-free sources, it has the potential to increase employment and tourism in development areas.

But despite his unbridled enthusiasm for wind, Gipe did cite some common concerns about wind energy, such as noisy, ugly wind turbines and their use of extensive amounts of land. Gipe admits that these problems exist, but he claims that the generation of wind energy doesn't need to monopolise land, and says that "wind is compatible with all land uses except wilderness preservation." Indeed, at Cowley Ridge, Alberta, the largest wind farm in Canada, cattle continue to graze on ranch land below the spinning turbines.

But if wind proves to be cost-effective and reliable these complaints may seem inconsequential. After all, if anyone ever really cared about the aesthetics of energy sources, coal-burning plants never would have powered the Industrial Revolution. Vancouver residents currently pay about $0.058/kilowatt-hour (kWh) for their electricity. But whether wind can be this cheap is open for debate.

"If anyone tells you definitively that wind energy costs $0.03/kWh or $0.10/kWh, they are either lying or ignorant," declared United Kingdom wind expert and *Wind Power Monthly* editor David Milborrow at the Vancouver conference. Milborrow doesn't think that these figures are unreasonable, but he asserts that the cost of generating and delivering wind power depends on place, and varies daily. In addition to the obvious variable of wind speed, the cost depends on wind consistency, the season, air temperature, and the distance the power must be transmitted.

Nevertheless, Milborrow claims that the cost range for wind power, estimated to be between $0.04/kWh and $0.07/kWh, has become competitive with traditional energy sources. He cautions against the direct cent-to-cent comparisons which have been made between wind and established sources such as coal; instead, retail wind energy is often compared to wholesale coal energy prices. In addition, Milborrow states that while the costs of conventional fuel sources are falling, wind costs are falling faster.

In order to find out what a country needs to exploit wind power, Birger Madsen, a Danish wind expert, analysed the traits shared by countries such as Denmark, Spain, and Germany where wind has been providing power for years. Topping his list is the political will to use wind, and a national commitment to reduce emissions, such as adherence to the 1997 Kyoto Protocol regulating greenhouse gas emissions.

According to a recent report by the DSF, Canada fails on both counts. Canada has the dubious distinction of having, per capita, the highest energy use and the second highest greenhouse gas emissions in the world. Though the federal government agreed to take action to reduce industrial greenhouse gas emissions by six per cent from 1990 levels, these levels have actually increased by 13 per cent since a decade ago.

Madsen also explained that a domestic turbine manufacturing industry is an important step in successful wind power generation. But none of Canada's ten wind farms currently use domestically manufactured turbines. Cowley Ridge runs on 57 American-made generators, and Vision Quest Windelectric, which runs two wind farms in Alberta, imports its turbines from Denmark.

Jason Edwater, a representative of Vison Quest and a 20-year veteran of the wind industry, has a realistic outlook on wind development in Canada, which he admits is slow.

"Sustainable development needs sustainable business," he said, adding that "you've got to make money."

Without the abundant flat, open spaces that characterise areas of Denmark, say, or Alberta, BC is not a natural choice for the exploitation of wind energy. Even so, as seen in the recent barrage of television spots and full-page advertisements in the *Vancouver Sun*, BC Hydro has begun to research the possibility of wind power on the BC coast.

Ninety-four per cent of British Columbia's power, which is sold almost entirely by BC Hydro, is hydroelectric—generated by water flowing through turbines. Even though dams are considered damaging to freshwater ecosystems and fish habitat, hydroelectricity is considered a "clean" source of power because its production emits no greenhouse gases. BC Hydro speculates, however, that BC's energy demands will exceed the power supply in five-to-seven years, creating a need for new sources of power.

Alhough 100 per cent of its public relations campaign focusses on green energy sources, BC Hydro has only officially committed to making ten per cent of its new power acquisitions green. The other 90 per cent will be combined-cycle gas fired turbines (CCGTs), which burn coal, oil, or natural gas, and produce carbon emissions. BC Hydro plans to install the first CCGT on Vancouver Island in 2003.

Andrea Estergaard, wind energy development manager at BC Hydro, defended the corporation's plan by saying that CCGTs, which will produce power at an estimated $0.04/kWh, are the cheapest and most reliable power source available.

"Before we can commit to incorporating new green energy into our portfolio," said the UBC civil engineering graduate, "we need to assess the resource and invest in technology."

To that end, BC Hydro has established a monitoring tower on the coastline near Prince Rupert that will report the speed, direction, and temperature of winds for one year. BC Hydro CEO Micheal Costello has stated publicly that he hopes to see the company's ten per cent commitment to new green resources rise to 20 or 30 per cent as results are analysed. No other plans for wind power implementation have been announced.

BC Hydro's recent sponsorship, advertisements, and future plans make it clear that vigorous campaigning by groups such as CanWEA and DSF has at least placed wind energy on the public's radar screen. But even as wind power is providing emission-free energy worldwide, it remains unclear whether wind energy will ever become a viable power source in Canada, and in BC, especially in the next five years. Unfortunately, though, one things looks sure—BC residents shouldn't hold their breath. ❖

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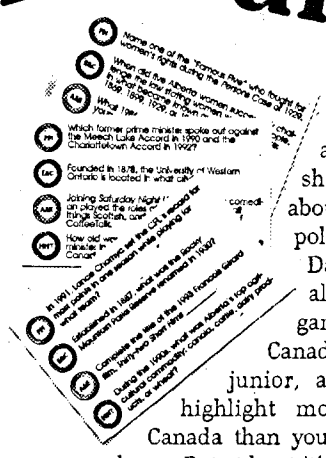
In Pursuit of Canadian Trivia, eh?

by Diana Stech



Have you ever wanted to take a stand against the Americans? To show them that Canada is about more than just icebergs, polar bears, and maple syrup? David Manga, creator of the all Canadian Trivia board game, sure did. And his three Canadian trivia games—original, junior, and millennium edition—highlight more obscure facts about Canada than you probably ever wanted to know. But at least it's Canadian.

Manga, now 28-years old, has always been interested in Canadian history. Born and raised in Ottawa, Manga, who now resides in Victoria, says he got the idea for the Canadian trivia games during a heated round of Trivial Pursuit at the age of 24. "It was Christmas holiday," he says. "I was playing Trivial Pursuit and I got fed up with the American content of the game." Manga then set out to Canadianise the board game world, and teach young Canadians the details of their home and native land.

The details are thorough. For instance, did you know that Joe Clark was 39 years old when he became Prime Minister in 1979? Or that Canada Dry offered their first sugar-free soft drink in 1964? Or that Banff National Park was called Rocky Mountains Park Reserve before it was renamed in 1930? You're probably not alone if you didn't. And you're probably not alone if you don't really care. But this is precisely what Manga wanted to do with his board games—revolutionise Canadian consciousness and ensure that we know all the meaningless and insignificant facts that define who we are as Canadians.

Although patriotic duty was certainly a factor in his decision to undertake the board game project, the fact that Manga needed a job also helped. He was one semester away from finishing his university career, when the board game idea hit him over the head, and he ran with it, dedicating his life outside of class to find and create questions.

Today Manga sits in the café of the Quality Inn Hotel, sipping a small glass of grapefruit juice. He puts the glass down, leans back in his chair and crosses his arms. "The research was not too tough," he says. "You've just got to write the questions."

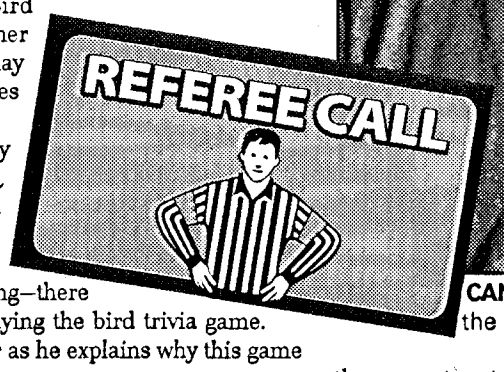
But where on earth did he find the questions? "You could get questions anywhere," he answers, getting serious. "You could get questions off cereal boxes...newspaper articles, *Maclean's*, anything."

When he was developing the board game, Manga would work 12-hour days, seven-day weeks, processing information and writing questions. He laughs as he recalls that he often got only three hours of sleep a day. But, he assures, he wasn't tired because, "when you start writing the questions your mind's going so quickly" and won't stop for sleep.

Of course, as anyone who has completed assignments on little sleeps knows, there's always a chance you'll make mistakes. Manga smiles and admits that he made a few, although, he guarantees, they were immediately fixed.

For example, a question about the 17th century explorer Samuel de Champlain cited his year of arrival to Canada as 1906, rather than 1609. But hey, what's a few hundred years? Another question transformed Margaret Atwood's book *The Handmaid's Tale* into *The Handmaid's Tail*—a title that even the most moderate feminist may have problems with.

Canadian trivia games are not the only board games that Manga has created. He has also produced a Hockey Trivia game, a North American Bird Watchers' Trivia game, and another game called "Pictionary with Play Dough." All three of these games are cracking the US market.

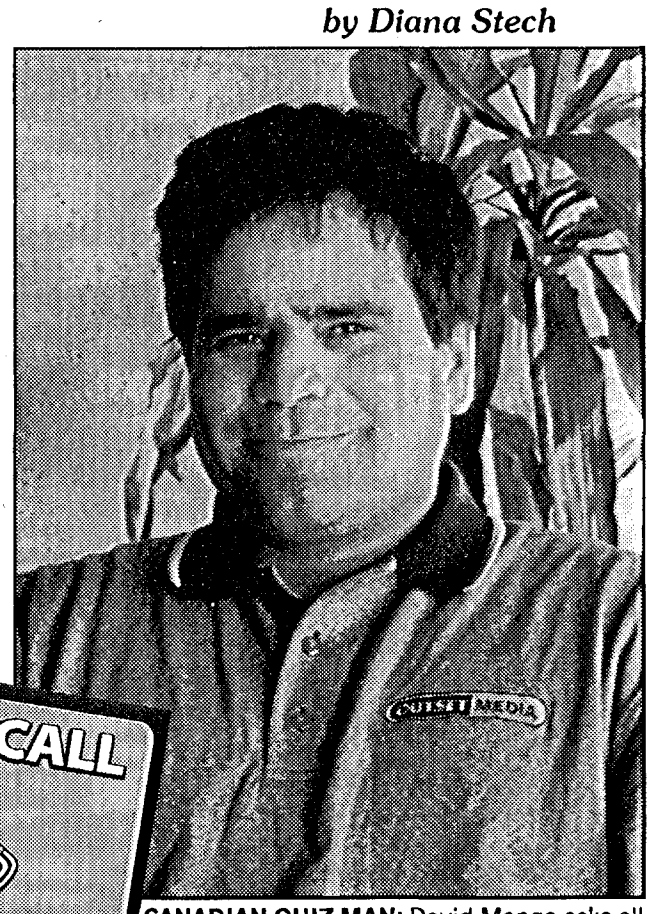


The only game that initially received doubt and criticism, Manga discloses, was the North American Bird Watchers' Trivia game. Surprisingly, however, his detractors have been proven wrong—there are people out there who are buying the bird trivia game. Manga leans forward in his chair as he explains why this game works.

"Do you know any bird watchers?" he asks, putting his glass of grapefruit juice on the table and gesturing widely with his hands, "Have you ever tried buying him a gift?...What can you buy them? A bird feeder? A birdhouse? There's only so many bird feeders and bird houses you can buy somebody."

Manga finishes and throws up his hands. With a smile, this unassuming businessman discounts all criticisms stating that the North American Bird Watchers' Trivia game is anything less than brilliant.

Manga says that the thing about board games is that they are often given as gifts. It's usually grandparents who are buying them for their grandchildren to keep them off of the computer at Christmas time. It's educational but the "kids really love playing the game."



CANADIAN QUIZ MAN: David Manga asks all the questions. DIANA STECH PHOTO

Manga finishes his grapefruit juice and places it down on the table in front of him. He stands up and puts on his blue gortex jacket over his black and white polo shirt bearing his company's insignia—Outset Media. Decked out in true Canadian-style (where business and capitalism meet the outdoorsy frontiersman), Manga gives a last remark about his questions, "they're always Canadian."

And Canadian content is much more than polar ice caps and snow. Perhaps the only criticism that can be made about his games may be his failure to include the last essential element in Canadian consciousness—our beer. ❖

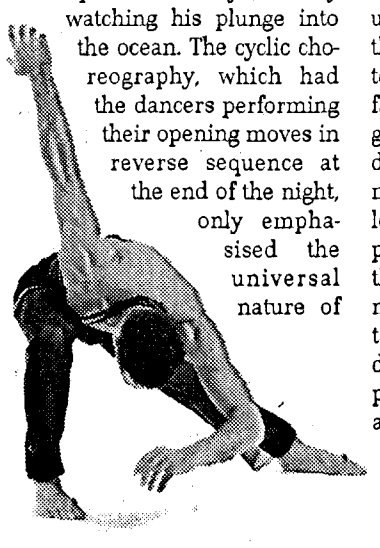
Uneven, provocative moves

IN THE BLINK OF AN EYE
at the Vancouver East Cultural Centre
until Nov. 25

The video montage was unexpected. Giant images swayed across a screen that filled the far wall of the Cultch. As the screen slowly lifted up, four figures emerged from behind it, moving in the hypnotic rhythm of a slow-mo run. Despite the jaywalker-filled adventure drive down Commercial and the balcony's vertigo-inspiring stairs, this evening was off to an excellent start.

In the blink of an eye was choreographed around several Greek myths, including the story of Dedaelus and Icarus, the father and son who escape imprisonment in the labyrinth that held the Minotaur by building wings of wax. Icarus ignores Dedaelus' warning, flies too close to the sun and falls into the sea as his father watches helplessly.

Wings were a motif throughout the dance, arms flapping for takeoff or feet whirling into a precipitous fall. One of the most effective moments of the entire piece was when two of the dancers mimed, one hand mimicking his plunge, the other holding an imaginary telescope to the eye, coolly watching his plunge into the ocean. The cyclic choreography, which had the dancers performing their opening moves in reverse sequence at the end of the night, only emphasised the universal nature of the theme.



In addition to the wildly varying score, which veered from cellos to disco, the dancers provided their own accompaniment through breaths, steps, and on two memorable occasions, wordless cries. Were they Daedalus' agony and Icarus' fear? Both times the sound of the human voice was startling, ambiguous and rather unsettling. There were also moments of complete absurdity, and the surreality of kitschy disco moves performed with absolute earnestness and good dance technique resonated.

Although there were some really powerful moments of unison, the dancers were sometimes unsynchronised, especially during the leaps that characterised the latter half of the show. Some of those falls didn't look all that choreographed, either. But two of the dancers had an especially commanding stage presence, whether leaping and rolling with explosive power across the stage or sticking the landing with perfect technique. And when they did get it together, all four were tremendous to watch. All in all, it was a provocative, if uneven, performance that made for a fun and energetic night. ❖

–Regina Yung

GUYS AND DOLLS
at the Vancouver Playhouse Theatre
until Dec. 9

Hey, Dolly!

by Lisa Denton

After a 14-year hiatus, musical theatre is back at the Vancouver Playhouse with the sassy, comedic period piece *Guys and Dolls*. After years of smaller scale productions, the Playhouse's decision to perform a musical with a large ensemble comes as a welcome change. And what better way to provide entertainment than with the dancing flappers and gambling rogues that inhabit 1930s New York.

Guys and Dolls takes a cheerful look at the underbelly of the city of sin with its vast array of characters. Its dialogue provided delicious quips of humour while playing on the immorality of those who lurk underground along with the subway cars. On the other extreme, there are the missionaries who wish to purge the city of sin. When both worlds collide, chaos ensues and the end result is a hilarious amalgamation of dancing, singing and slapstick humour.

Veteran Playhouse performer Tom McBeath plays the part of a scheming gambler, Nathan Detroit. His voice provides a strong lead to many of the more upbeat songs, but the spotlight is almost stolen away by his two bumbling sidekicks, Benny Southstreet (Shawn Macdonald) and Nicely Nicely Johnson (Stephen E. Miller), who possess the physical traits and humour reminscent of comedians Laurel and Hardy.

Legendary Vancouver performer Jeff Hyslop choreographed the many dance numbers. Whether it's the tap-dancing ladies of the nightclub, the Hotbox or the sultry Tangos in a Cuban café, the dance numbers burst with energy as singers belt out their lines and moves effortlessly. And speaking of the music, a live orchestra situated behind an opaque screen at the back of the stage, brings authenticity to the show. But the musicians are so far back from the audience, the weakened sound doesn't fill the space of the venue. Futhermore, the occasional use of a screen in front of the actors causes a flat one-dimensional feeling that doesn't let the audience into the actors' space. The distance creates an odd feeling of separation between actor and audience, almost a boundary between two distinct domains. Thankfully, this presentation is used sparingly and the actors are able to move forward to project to the audience.

Guys and Dolls is a fun, lively production that will satisfy anyone's craving for a comical musical theatre. While the production isn't grandiose or lavish, it fits quite nicely into the Playhouse theatre, testing the actors' abilities while presenting a joyful performance. ❖

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Look on page 10 for all the info.

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MEETINGS
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Culture. Tues@1:30pm
News. Tues@12:30
Sports doesn't have meetings, just come in and ask for Tom
On Wednesday we have staff meetings at 12:30.
The Research Department will be holding a meeting on Monday at 2:30 - if you are good at finding things out. Come see Graeme.
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SUB 24|K

Why Vote?
Climate Change
Genetic Engineering
Electoral Reform
Clean air & water
Globalization
Because some issues are too important to be ignored!
A vote for the Green Party builds the vision for a better Canada.
Elect
Doug Warkentin
Make your vote count in Vancouver Quadra!
Contact Doug
Email: dwarkentin@idmail.com
Phone: 684-3850
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Federal Tory priorities misplaced, say critics

by Cynthia Lee

A national university faculty association is worried that the Progressive Conservative Party's emphasis on virtual learning is a misplaced priority.

The Tories' federal election platform on education includes proposals for a national program to help universities collaborate to develop courses using "new learning technologies" and an "E-learning Resource Library" that would enable an exchange of virtual learning content across Canada.

"We must ensure that our universities and colleges become leaders in the application of new technologies in education," reads the platform.

But Jim Turk, executive director of the Canadian Association of University Teachers (CAUT), asserted that the government should pay more attention to problems caused by "underfunding" post-secondary education.

He cited a ten per cent drop in the number of faculty, larger class sizes, and decreasing library collections in Canadian schools as issues that should be given priority.

"In the face of that, spending money on electronic education seems to be a misplaced priority," he said.

Turk is also concerned that the real intention behind the recent trend of government and school investment in online education is to ultimately replace face-to-face classroom learning.

While he admitted that online education is useful for supplementing classroom learning, Turk said that it is a poor substitute for in-person experience.

Meanwhile, national student groups show mixed reactions to the platform.

The Canadian Alliance of Student Associations (CASA) has indicated that the Conservatives' proposals are in line with its own priorities for students.

CASA National Director Mark Kissel applauded the Tory proposal to completely eliminate taxation of scholarships and the plan for a tax credit system that would be in place for ten years after graduation for a student remaining in Canada.

He also spoke favourably of the proposal for a repayment program contingent on income.

"That will help every Canadian student," he said.

But the Canadian Federation of Students (CFS) disagreed with these conclusions.

The CFS has been a vocal critic of an income-contingent repayment scheme, maintaining that such as system would discriminate against lower income students and drag their debt out over a longer period.

Michael Temelini, the CFS government relations coordinator, added that the Conservatives' plan for tax credits will not benefit many students, as most students aren't in a relevant tax bracket.

Bill Clarke, the Conservative candidate in the Vancouver Quadra riding, defended his party's policy.

"Well, hopefully if you are a graduate you are going to have a good job," he said, adding that the Tories are proposing a scheme from which recent graduates can benefit because the taxable level starts at an income of $12,000.

Clarke, who was elected MP for Quadra between 1972 and 1984, said the plan could help students "wipe out" their loan in ten years.

But Temelini said that tax cuts and loan repayment do not address what the CFS perceives as the root problem for students.

"The crisis in Canada is not repayment of debt. The crisis in Canada is a debt-accumulation crisis," he said, pointing to the $25,000 average debt load per university student.

Clarke said the Tories would not address this problem by offering free tuition.

He pointed to the funding problems faced by BC universities in light of the five-year-old provincial tuition freeze that had not been accompanied by additional government funds in its first few years of implementation. ❖

Election Briefs

MP raving over low youth voter turnout

In an attempt to attract young voters to the polls, Libby Davies, the incumbent NDP candidate for Vancouver East, is distributing rave cards advertising the federal election.

"There's a 12-hour rave on Nov. 27, says MP Libby Dee. It's an 18-plus event, admission is free and you can register at the door," reads a press release from her campaign office. "It's called the federal election."

The cards are aimed at first-time voters, and Davies has indicated her concern that many young people have lost faith in the electoral system. Youth voters are less likely to vote than their older counterparts.

"I make it my business to communicate on many different levels on many different ways. My job is to go out to where people are, not to wait for people to come to me," she said.

Davies added that the cards have received "a really good reception."

Gage residents hit the greens to vote

Students living in Gage Residence have a long way to walk if they want to vote in Monday's federal election.

The 1400 Gage residents have had their polling station assigned as the University Golf Course.

As a result, the Alma Mater Society (AMS) has decided to run a shuttle bus between the two locations every ten minutes between 1pm and 7pm.

Graham Senft, AMS vice-president of external affairs, said that Elections Canada could not find a closer location for the fourth on-campus polling station aimed at Gage residents.

"Unfortunately, Gage and the golf course aren't anywhere near each other," he said.

Polling stations will also be located at Totem Park Residence, the Lutheran Campus Centre, and at the University Chapel. Voting runs between 7am and 7pm Monday. ❖

NOVEMBER 24, 2000

buy nothing day

A UBYSSEY SUPPLEMENT

TOM PEACOCK PHOTO

A 24-hour consumption fast

by Jay McKinnon

Today—November 24—is an opportunity for people to buy something totally out of the ordinary: nothing.

Yes, once again, Buy Nothing Day is here. It is the holiday of choice for environmentalists, anti-capitalists, culture jammers and anyone who feels a little empty inside when Calvin Klein products don't bring the sex appeal they promised. The challenge of Buy Nothing Day is simple and obvious: a self-inflicted 24-hour moratorium on consumer purchases.

Reportedly dreamed up by Vancouverite Ted Dave in 1993, Buy Nothing Day has become an international day of goofy détournment, taking consumerism and twisting its meaning. In years past, November 24 has seen aliens walking through Australian shopping malls, credit card-cutting ceremonies in Seattle, and anti-shopping banners hung in the Mall of America. In Vancouver, Buy Nothing Day has become a tradition on Robson Street, where participants try to cheer up weary shoppers and share the true spirit of the season.

The social, psychological, economic, and environmental effects of the North American consumer culture are depressing topics. Many people around the world live on a daily income that is less than the price of a cup of coffee, and for those living in poverty, even in North America, every day is Buy Nothing Day.

Despite government promises, child poverty, homelessness, malnutrition, and limited access to health care persist even in wealthy nations.

The "impoverished student" is an icon of popular Canadian culture, along with Tim Horton's donuts and *This Hour Has 22 Minutes*. Nevertheless, attending a university remains a domain of privilege. Buy Nothing Day offers an opportunity to consider, as we rarely do, the effects of our purchases and the cost of our material wealth to others, even as poor, starving students.

"We want to remind people who overconsume in the First World that they are living off the backs of future generations," said Kalle Lasn, the editor-in-chief of *Adbusters Magazine*.

While encouraging citizens to think about the dark side of consumerism and the shady politics behind the products they buy, Buy Nothing Day is not a day of mourning. It allows participants to side-step all that heavy stuff—at least the guilt—while being responsible.

In an era when religious holy days have become Hallmark holidays, Buy Nothing Day offers us an opportunity to step back and reflect on how it feels to not indulge in the Neat, the Nifty or the New And Improved. We often forget that we are citizens by birth and consumers by training. Before we were Toys'Я'Us kids, the generation that chose Pepsi, a crowd that decided to Just Do It or a target market for others trying to hawk their wares, we were human beings living in a fragile global ecosystem.

Buy Nothing Day gives every one of us a mandate to forget the Joneses (we can always catch-up tomorrow, if it's *that* important) and experience a day without purchases. The truly radical among us may even decide to refrain from watching TV and watch the sunset at Wreck Beach instead.

Consumer abstinence isn't easy, but going cold turkey for a day can be fun and just might change the way you see the world. ★

INSIDE

WAL-MART FOOTSOLDIERS INVADE SMALL TOWN

Sarah Morrison's hometown of Courtenay is becoming yet another casualty in the war against big-box stores.

BACK PAGE

COULD THE BRAND NAME ON YOUR T-SHIRT BE WORTH MONEY?

Tom Peacock tells all on how some people are trying to get companies to pay them for wearing clothes bearing corporate logos.

Start feeding them when they're young.

McDonald's

Shopping sucks

by Aaron Licker

Christmas time is here and has been since November 1. 'Tis the season to be jolly, and to spend copious amounts of money. That's right: holiday shopping!

The period between Thanksgiving and Boxing Day is possibly the most involved two and a half months of any serious shopper's year.

But is shopping really so pleasurable that we need to destroy the earth for the sheer joy of consumption?

Eighty per cent of the world's resources are used by only 20 per cent of the population, and so much of the product stagnates on shelves.

But is shopping really so pleasurable that we need to destroy the earth for the sheer joy of consumption?

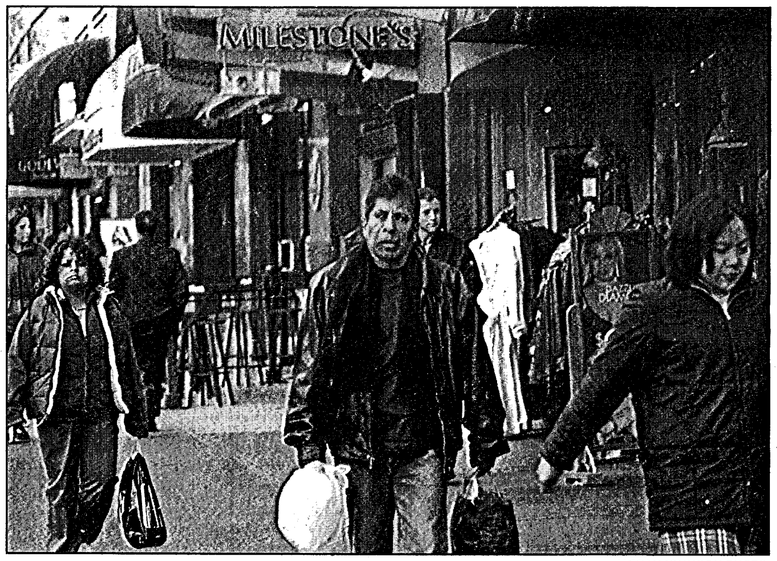
You spend hours looking for that useless ornament that just sits on a friend's shelf, or another utensil that your mother will never use in the kitchen. You could avoid buying today, but the pressure to holiday shop threatens to overtake almost everyone, and insists on the purchase of random gifts.

But why do we bother? The shopping experience is, at the best of times, a hard, unforgiving activity. Consider these harrowing scenarios that might be your fate.

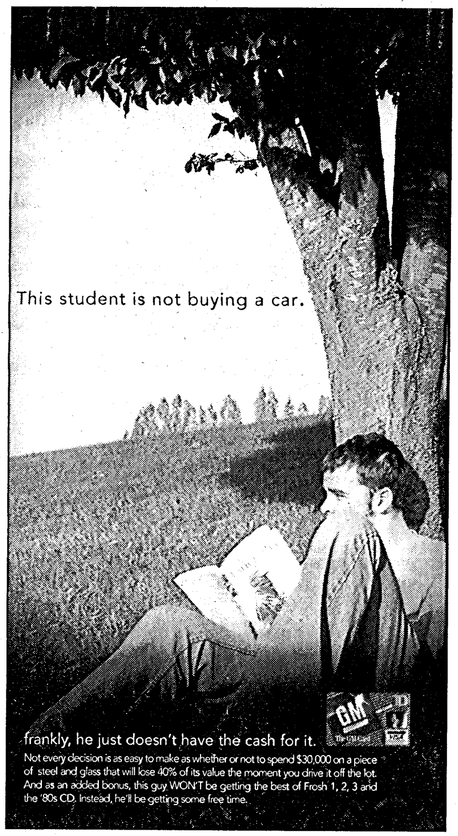
You work overtime for three weeks in a row to buy that trendy scooter for your dad. Then the agony of finding out that he thinks it's lame ruins your Christmas. Later, you walk for miles in Metrotown looking for another wool scarf for your mom. You finally find the perfect scarf only to discover that it is made by children in a Burmese garment factory.

And the very system that your Christmas dollars support is completely indifferent to your existence. After slogging along Robson Street in the freezing rain and wind, you are refused entry into a trendy store because of your wind-torn clothes. You go home, cold and defeated, shut out by the very system that you are trying to propagate.

These hypothetical events could happen to you. So why be a sadist? Why inflict hours and hours of ceaseless agony on your body, when you know that the presents you get your loved ones will be too small, the wrong colour, or completely useless to them? Why do it? Because the god of commercialism has changed the name of Christmas to Consumas, and you have all been duped. So fight consumerism and buy nothing, at least for one day. ★



MEGAN JOHNSON PHOTO



consumption is good the Bay

VROOM!

A look at the pervasiveness of car culture

by Regina Yung

There's this commercial: you know, the one where the guy is out with his blonde girlfriend, and this leggy brunette walks by and it looks like he's checking her out. Thing is, he's really ogling the car. The girl and the car have become interchangeable status symbols. Does this worry anyone else? Perhaps we could commodify air next, or even breathing. But I am going to talk about cars.

Don't get me wrong, I love cars. If a sleek, silver number swans on by, I'm likely the one getting neck strain trying to figure out its make and year. Of all the reasons to invest in a new car, surely this is the most trivial, but it is an important consideration for some. For many, it's the most important consideration, because despite all we have to say about mileage and safety, the car in mainstream culture fulfills a more metaphorical role than just a method of transportation.

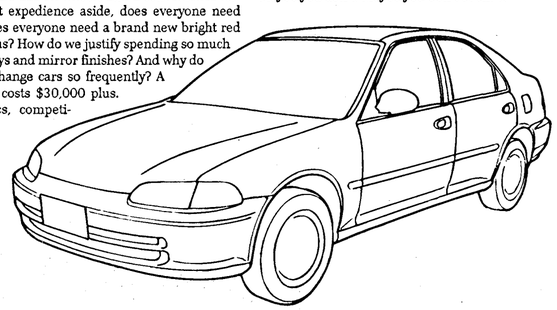
Through advertisements, driving a car has become the first step towards fulfilling the North American dream. Remember the hoopla surrounding your 16th birthday? When you got your learner's license and this increased the respect people showed you? We attach a lot of importance to being able to drive. Why? What do we think we will gain? Before you keel over, I'm not saying you have to abandon your faithful clunker or gleaming mirror-polished machine (in Moonbeam—latest colour, very nice).

Cars are ads on wheels and a convenience forever. But expedience aside, does everyone need one? Does everyone need a brand new bright red v8 phallus? How do we justify spending so much on car toys and mirror finishes? And why do people change cars so frequently? A new car costs $30,000 plus. Aesthetics, competition, the ultimate ego-boost and/or impulse buy—utility is obviously not the primary motivator here. But as an image changer, image holder, yes, cars may warrant changing often. People like to reinvent themselves, you know.

Within our cars we are indestructible bullets of computer-guided steel, steering our way through the other little bubbles of privacy, and occasionally swearing at them. The single-occupant vehicle (SOV) is the icon of the techno age, enclosing and surrounding each one of us in our personal plastic and fiberglass bubble. But we all know the air fresheners and Sanrio dolls are a cover-up for something more. This is complete autonomy and individual expression by the power of global positioning systems. Someday they will add a Starbucks and an Internet uplink, and we will never leave.

This love of the SOV, of the sport utility vehicle (SUV), of the acronyms of privilege is part of the problem. Your sleek moonbeam steed is destroying community centres, it's hurting the environment. You know this, and you are complicit in the slow death of the planet.

It doesn't have to end like this. None of this would be possible without the construction of the car as a vehicle for self-image, the car as a projection of ourselves onto a roadweary world. All I ask is that you think about your car, about what it does for you and why you think you need a new one. Maybe you don't. Maybe you don't at all. ★



Wal-Mart wants to just walk right into town

The American big-box store wants in on Courtenay, B.C.

by Sarah Morrison

In a few years, my hometown is going to be one of those big-box towns. You know, one of those places in which you can drive past miles and miles of warehouses and reach no centre. Courtenay, situated on Vancouver Island with a population of 60,000, will soon become one of those cities. That's because Wal-Mart is worming its way into the city, and residents have been up in arms trying to prevent its advance. Living an hour or so north of Nanaimo, we residents have seen what happens to a town that is invaded by large corporations.

What's worse is that Wal-Mart doesn't want to just set up in town, the company wants to alter Courtenay's city plan in order to accommodate itself.

I think Wal-Mart is evil, and I don't want it in my town. But beyond my simple hatred for the corporate giant—which is poised to be the biggest American corporation next year, surpassing General Motors in revenue—there is a bigger and scarier issue at hand. Wal-Mart is destroying the downtown cores of hundreds of small cities in Canada and the United States. I don't want this to happen to Courtenay.

What's worse is that Wal-Mart doesn't want to just set up in town, the company wants to alter Courtenay's city plan in order to accommodate itself. Years before the arrival of the sweat-shop-supporting corporation (Wal-Mart buys products made in sweatshops in countries like Burma), Courtenay had designed a city plan, which focused on preserving our city's rural atmosphere in the future.

Self-dubbed as the "Recreation Capital of Canada," much of our town's revenue comes from tourism dollars. Hence the small-town main street, with small business owners from the Valley running specialty shops, and a grocery store that buys produce from local farms.

But Wal-Mart, which sells merchandise so cheap because it keeps its costs low, wanted to buy less-expensive industrial land in South Courtenay, near Driftwood Mall. The city plan had zoned the area for industrial purposes. So the Wal-Mart corporation looked into rezoning it.

Originally, the city commissioned Urbanics Consultants Ltd. to examine what kind of an impact a Wal-Mart would have on the town, a study which said that it would have negative economic and environmental impacts.

But Wal-Mart insisted on another study, and the company's developer paid for Climans Group Inc., which had done consultations for Wal-Marts all over Canada, to do a second evaluation. These consultants reported that Wal-Mart would be a great benefit to the town.

And so Courtenay officials held a public hearing. Over four nights, residents were given the opportunity to voice their opinions on the Wal-Mart rezoning issue to the mayor and the city councillors. They were able to tell those in charge of the final decision how a Wal-Mart would affect them as citizens.

The response to the hearing was huge, and the room was packed. Around 35 people spoke in favour of rezoning. Supporters talked about how Wal-Mart could help solve the lack of employment opportunities for youth in Courtenay.

But over 150 residents showed up to oppose the plans, including small business owners. Representatives of chain businesses like Canadian Tire also made an appearance. The city denied the company's request to rezone some land to expand its current store.

All the while, Wal-Mart was sponsoring a local soccer team on the condition that the players go door-to-door for them and getting paid to ask neighbours to fill out a survey on whether they supported bringing a Wal-Mart into town. Even though my mom is vehemently opposed to the proposal, she refused to fill out the survey, afraid of having the company know in writing that she opposed it.

But despite the hearing, despite the massive number of people who protested, wrote letters, and voiced their unquestionable opposition to building a Wal-Mart in our town, the city council voted 'yes' to Wal-Mart.

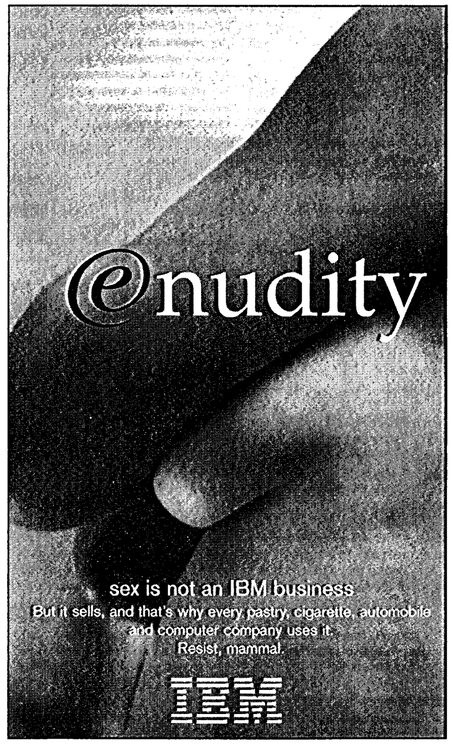
Several individuals and businesses are now appealing the Council's decision, citing procedural errors. But it looks like Wal-Mart's arrival in Courtenay is inevitable.

This is less an issue of buying nothing than it is about the importance of buying locally and supporting small businesses instead of massive, multi-national corporations. We are the ones who gave power to corporate giants like Wal-Mart—which is more wealthy than many developing nations—and it's time that we take it away. ★

Forget this Mike guy, we want you to know that you don't have to listen to him. in fact, "Mike" probably isn't even really a guy, he's most likely a corporate creation thought up by an advertising agency to make you think Mike's Hard Lemonade is all independent and cool. They want you to think Mike is some guy squeezing lemons in his basement and sticking it to the man, but, really, even if Mike was a real person, how could he squeeze that many lemons all by himself? Face it, Mike's a fake. Ignore the hype and drink something else.

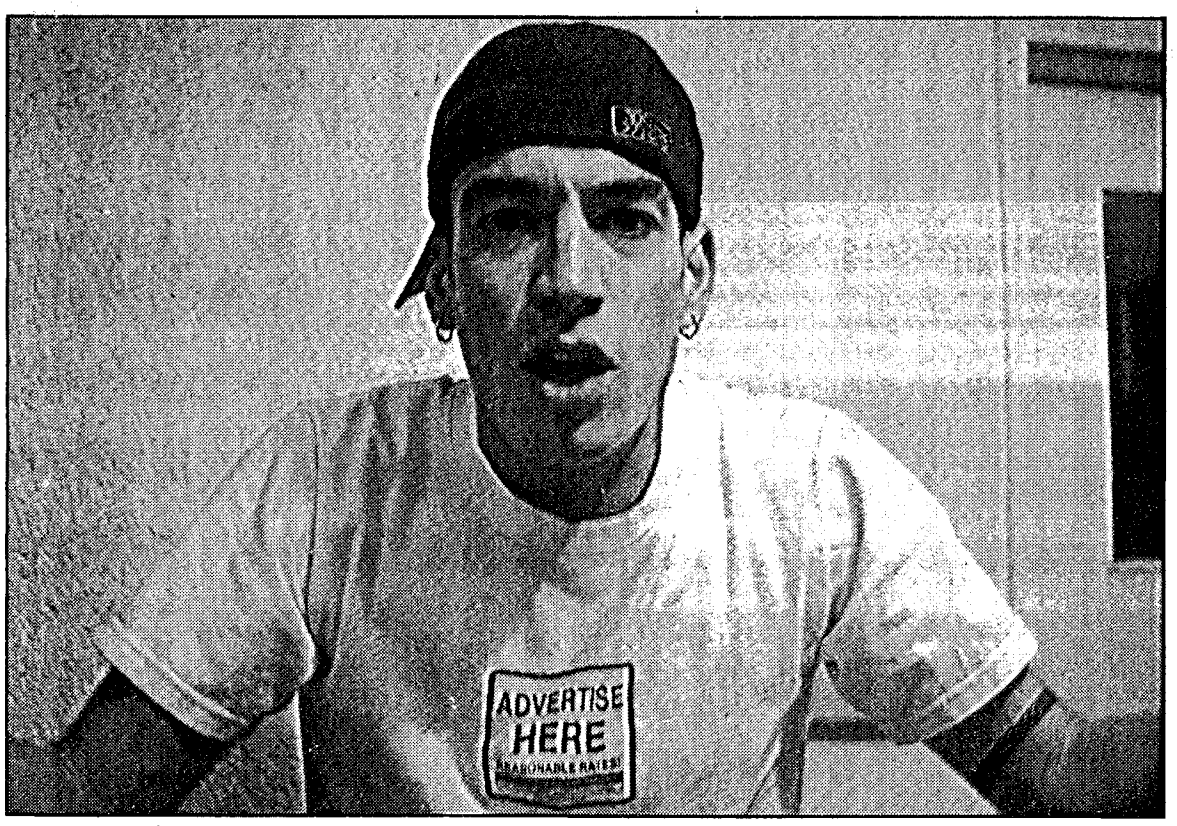
mike's hard lemonade

An excellent source of hangovers™



You are an ad

by Tom Peacock



BUT IT'S OKAY, because you can charge for it, says Ryan Miller of the Advertising Bodies Alliance.
TOM PEACOCK PHOTO

The Advertising Bodies Alliance (ABA) wants you to wake up to the truth that you are a walking advertisement. But once you've accepted that, the ABA doesn't want you to throw away your clothes; they just figure that you should be able to charge for the advertising space on them.

How? It's simple—you fill out an invoice and send it to the clothing company's accounts payable department. You charge the company, according to the size and prominence of the logo you wear, how long you have had the garment, how often you wear it, and how effectively you promote the company's image ("I truly reflect the image this company is trying to promote," "I don't look like a model but I still work hard"...).

If they don't pay up, then you refuse to work. "Basically I don't think that identity and consumerism should be so loosely linked," Ryan Miller of the ABA task force explains during an interview in his East Vancouver basement suite.

The ABA uses a three-pronged attack. They hit the streets—selling the t-shirts, handing out postcards and stickers, and getting people to fill out the invoices; then they hit the accounts payable departments with the invoices; then they hit the marketing departments with postcards that boldly state: THIS SPACE NOT FOR RENT or AD SPACE IS NOT FREE.

They're trying to get people to recognise their own worth, Miller says. They're trying to encourage discussion about personal space and identity and trying to make people think about the products they wear as being a reflection of themselves.

They want people to recognise that they don't have to buy in to anything if they don't want to, that they don't have to work for something and not get paid.

They're also trying to sell some t-shirts. But the ABA is non-profit and totally broke, Miller protests. It's not like they want everyone to wear their shirts, he says. They don't really care what you wear; that's not the point.

The ABA does not preach style. "We're just trying to help people realise that they don't have to work for something and not get paid," Miller insists.

But how much should I get paid for sporting my swoosh sweatshirt? The ABA decided to base its rates on the livable wage in developing countries.

But the 'torture' of having to wear Tommy Hilfiger or Nike gear around town doesn't really compare to slaving away in a third-world sweat shop for just enough cash to live on.

"We're not trying to trivialise the exploitation of workers in developing countries. We want to draw similarities between the way those companies nickel and dime all those they deal with from producer to consumer to advertiser, in search of the greatest good: higher profits," Miller explains.

The ABA was started by the "media team" of a Vancouver art project called 'Public Untitled.' The project was created by a Vancouver youth art collective called 'collective-echoes.' The people in collective echoes decided to take their art to the streets in the form of various public 'interventions,' art happenings that invade public space.

"[The ABA] is very much an art project," Bill Cheung explains. Cheung is one of the founding members of the ABA. He was on the media team with Miller, when they were sitting in someone's apartment and came up with the idea for the movement.

"We wanted to get people thinking about art in a new way...how people thought about their personal space within public space. And then we thought about people's clothing, and then we got on to what eventually became the Advertising Bodies Alliance," the 26-year-old Simon Fraser University grad explains.

The Public Untitled project consists of semi-permanent art sites that have, over the past year, challenged the boundaries normally placed on art in the city.

One site consists of ground stencils tracing the paths of lost streams across concrete. Another is the "super exclusive" Mount Pleasant Golf and Country Club, an 18-hole, totally free, anyone-can-join mini golf course that ran through people's back yards and across streets in the Mt. Pleasant neighbourhood.

For their part, Miller, Cheung and the rest of the project's media team manned themselves with megaphones and took to the city's malls and shopping strips to challenge public space, and incite argument and debate among the mute public about issues that the team thought should concern them.

"Most of us had our own rants written down, but once I just walked up and down Robson saying things like, 'Robson street is now closed. I repeat, Robson street is now closed. There will be no more shopping today," Miller says. Getting in people's faces was the method, but getting them to think about their world was the point.

"We were basically getting paid to make culture, to be culture makers," Miller explains.

Miller's contract with collective-echoes ran out a few months ago, but the ABA still gets funding from the non-profit organisation, and the ties between the two are still strong.

Meanwhile ABA is bursting into the spotlight. They have a spot next Monday on the CBC-TV's *Street Cents*. On it, Miller will jump around, tearing off logoed shirt after logoed shirt until he's left wearing one of his own, maybe the one that says AD SPACE IS NOT FREE, or the one that says, ADVERTISE HERE, REASONABLE RATES. Miller also appeared recently in a segment on VIV.

Miller and Cheung are excited about the attention the Alliance has generated so far, and with the ABA website scheduled to be ready in a few days, they hope it's stature will grow.

"What we're finding in Vancouver is that there's some awareness about that, but there's some people that are kind of oblivious too. But we think that Vancouver could be sort of a home base of this philosophy," he said.

"I've had parents come up to me and tell me they've had to sew old designer labels onto their kid's new jeans, because the kids are going to be embarrassed wearing them," Miller exclaimed, adding that he wants to take the movement to schools to raise awareness amongst the youngsters who are a huge part of the target market for expensive brand name clothes.

And it's not about getting the money back that you're owed, it's about the act of charging for it, and reclaiming your personal space, Cheung insists.

"We wanted to get people sort of thinking about why they wear their clothing, and where they derive their sense of identity and self-esteem. And we want people to really think about whether they want a ready-made lifestyle, to think about finding within themselves a certain identity that they can portray in their clothing," he said.

"It doesn't matter what social stratum you're in. If you know who you are, and what your worth is as a person, and your personal space, you're going to defend that." ★

How Buy Nothing Day is being celebrated...

LOCALLY

Swap meet
To help UBC students reuse and recycle, a swap meet will be held today in SUB 212A from 12:30pm to 2:30pm. There will also be a Nothing Boutique all day in front of the SUB.

Ecological footprint lecture
Mageel Senbel, a speaker from UBC's School of Community and Regional Planning, will discuss "Your Ecological Footprint" in SUB 212A at 2:30pm.

Critical Mass bike ride
Buy Nothing Day coincides with the regularly scheduled Critical Mass bike ride on the last Friday of every month. UBC's Bike Co-op will leave from the Bike Hub at 4:30pm for the event, beginning in front of the Vancouver Art Gallery at 5:00pm. The Bike Co-op will also hold a free bike tune-up at the Goddess of Democracy between 11:30am and 1:30pm today.

Street party
In downtown Vancouver, a street party including some street theatre will honour Buy Nothing Day. The party starts at 5:30pm at the Vancouver Art Gallery.

Bartering
Echo, a recycled clothing store (17th Ave. and Main St), is hosting a Barter Day. Patrons can barter for items or pay for their purchases with food bank donations.

ACROSS CANADA

Smithers, BC
A dedicated ruckus crew will be busily postering and participating in semi-legal activities to raise awareness in their community.

Calgary, AB
Mr. and Mrs. Corporate will lead a parade of black-clad, UPC-encoded, blindfolded people, or "blind-consumer sheep," through the streets.

INTERNATIONALLY

This year people in over 40 countries will participate in the festivities.

Oakland, CA
Satan Claus will be handing out gift exemption vouchers at a shopping mall.

Chapel Hill, NC
The Internationalist Bookstore will strip its shelves bare and set up a place to chill—free from commerce.

Boulder, CO
Here the concept of Buy Nothing Day has been expanded to Why Shop? Week, which started on November 19.

Kyoto, Japan
On Mu-bai-day, Zenta Claus will meditate and relax in a busy shopping area. Meanwhile, his helpers will encourage passerbys to join him. Music and Street theatre are also planned.

Eindhoven, Netherlands
Niet-Winkeldag Street theatre crews will provide ironic entertainment to purchase-mad shoppers.

Vienna, Austria
Celebrating Kauf Nix Tag, Santa Claus-costumed folk will hand out "100% off" stickers and sing the Kauf Nix Song.

Sydney, Australia
Brave and brazen volunteers will be setting up a stand to give away free cookies and juice in front of a Starbucks.

London, England
A SuperSwops store will open—complete with a window display and change rooms. But there won't be a cash register, only swapping. ★

No fixed address:

Getting the Downtown Eastside out to vote

by Miriam Torchinsky

The Downtown Eastside is Vancouver's skid row. It has one of the lowest literacy rates in BC, the poorest postal code in Canada, and the highest HIV rate in the developed world. Many of the residents have no permanent address, and live in shelters, in hotels, or on the street. But the area has a surprisingly low transiency rate–the area is a neighborhood, with many associations and community groups devoted to issues concerning the local residents and working for community rights. People tend to stay for a long time and become a part of the community, often because they have nowhere else to go.

Ten percent of the voters in the Vancouver East riding live in the Downtown Eastside (DTES), and with the federal election only three days away, there is still much controversy about making voting accessible for DTES residents.

New laws are in place that allow people without a permanent address–such as those living in a shelter or on the street–to vote by citing a shelter or a community centre that they frequent as their address. This legal change is important in all ridings where homelessness is a problem, but it is especially relevant in Vancouver East, where so many of the voters have no permanent address.

There are three polling stations in the DTES, but critics of the voting system claim that none of these is easily accessible to lower-income or homeless DTES residents. Voting for federal, provincial, and municipal elections traditionally takes place at the Carnegie Community Centre, located on the southwest corner of Main and Hastings. The Carnegie is a public library turned community resource centre that serves 2000 people every day. This year, there will be no polling station at the Carnegie.

Muggs Sigurgeirson, vice-president of the Carnegie Community Centre Association (CCCA), thinks that the polling stations chosen by Elections Canada are going to create problems for DTES residents trying to vote. The problem, says Sigurgeirson, is one of social geography.

"It's not so much location, it's people's voting habits, what they feel assured by and comfortable with.

"Voting can be a complex procedure, you have to figure out the ballots, there's pressure, there's hype, and one of the things that makes it easier for people is to do it in a place that they're familiar with. That's our concern. People are accustomed to Carnegie–it's a place where to grapple with the complexity of voting, they would at least be on their own turf."

Many of the homeless people and drug users that live in the area spend time outside the Carnegie, and a tourist walking by for the first time will be surprised to see people openly smoking crack and using injection drugs.

No one is allowed into the Carnegie while high, however, and so the inside of the building at least remains a haven from the drugs outside. The Carnegie is the heart of the DTES, where residents feel comfortable and welcome.

Elections official Mac Bryson, the chief returning officer for the Vancouver East riding, says that his office is sympathetic to the difficulties of the voting procedure in the Downtown Eastside, but added that it did the best it could.

"We realise that the homeless have a problem with voting, and we're trying to do everything we can in order to make it available for the homeless to vote," says Bryson.

"For the Downtown Eastside we're constrained by the number of places that are available for [polling stations]. We wanted to put one into the Carnegie Centre, which is in some dispute by some of the parties, but my assistant went [there] and was told that on the Monday we would need it it was already booked and would not be available. So we got as close as we could by going to the Buddhist Temple and the Chinese Community Centre."

Sigurgeirson disagrees.

"When we, the Carnegie Community Action Project, called Elections Canada and asked them why we couldn't have a poll in Carnegie as we regularly do, they said that they were concerned about the civic strike...I think that Elections Canada could have gotten a reassurance from the union," she said.

The Tenants Rights Action Coalition (TRAC) also had concerns about the locations of the DTES polling stations, and the potential effect they would have on voter turnout.

"I think [the polling station locations] are really unfortunate," said Vanessa Geary, a TRAC member.

"The Chinese Cultural Centre is a great place to have a poll, but it's not necessarily a place that people who live in the hotels and rooming houses feel welcome. So it would have been more appropriate to have a couple of locations, one being the Carnegie Community Centre or somewhere more central and welcoming to folks living in [the DTES]."

The Main and Hastings Community Development Society expressed similar concerns.

"We offered them our amenity space right in the heart of the Downtown Eastside, and we said we'd be delighted to have a polling station there so that people in the neighborhood could come to somewhere close to where they live, somewhere they're comfortable going in order to vote," said Darren Kitchen, a representative of the group.

"[Elections Canada] is setting up there for the advance polling but on the actual voting day itself there will be no easily accessible polling station for low-income residents of the Downtown Eastside."

One problem with the existing polling stations is the social difference between the area of Chinatown where the polls will be and the Main and Hastings home of the DTES residents. In order to get to the polling stations, DTES residents will have to walk through Chinatown, where they must pass security guards hired by the Merchants' Association to discourage low-income people from being in the area. Kitchen says that many find this process intimidating.

Elections Canada did have some presence at the Carnegie Centre–revising agents have been working there to register voters. Bryson said that hundreds of voters had been registered in Vancouver East so far through these efforts.

One Elections Canada representative registering voters outside the Carnegie Centre said that there had been a lot of positive responses to their work.

"Yesterday we registered 20 people at our table inside, and so far today it's noon and we've registered 12 to 15 people," he said.

"This is the first federal election where homeless people can vote, so they can use the Carnegie Centre as their mailing address if they don't have a permanent address, so that's very useful."

NDP incumbent Libby Davies and Liberal candidate Mason Loh are the two main contenders in the riding. Both campaigns say that they're trying to get out the vote in the DTES, and to make their stance on issues known.

The Davies campaign is also involved in trying to get voting information out to DTES residents. Glen Sanford, Davies' campaign manager, says that the campaign is working very hard to inform low-income residents of the DTES as well as electors in the rest of the riding.

The NDP campaign thinks that the choice of polling stations could hurt Davies' chances. "[Polling location] does affect who votes," says Sanford. "People who don't have the information about where to vote, and people who don't have consistent addresses will have trouble. This includes homeless people...I think that by and large, they are Libby supporters."

But the campaign is trying to counteract the effects of what they see as a bad choice of polling stations. "We're doing our best to mitigate the problem of having a polling station in the wrong place by offering rides [to polling stations], by getting the information out, and by doing as much public education as we can about it," said Sanford.

"We won't really know until voting day what the impact will be, but we've certainly heard from people that they're very concerned."

Pato Chan, Loh's campaign manager, doesn't feel the same way. He said that he didn't think that polling station location would have much of an effect on voting in the DTES.

"So far we haven't had people make a big complaint to us. People [have] mention[ed] that kind of question before, but as far as our encounters, that's not a major issue to us," said Chan.

But Sigurgeirson claims that "the only person who has been campaigning with the low-income groups in the Downtown Eastside is Libby Davies. I haven't seen [the Loh campaign] or heard of them approaching anyone in Strathcona or the Downtown Eastside who is a low-income non-Asian group."

The Loh campaign disagrees.

"We have people canvassing the DTES almost on a daily basis," said Chan.

Regardless of which parties have been campaigning more strongly, community groups have become involved in encouraging DTES residents to register and vote. The Vancouver East riding has some 15,000 people who have been left off the voters list throughout the riding, and so getting people the information about when, where, and how to vote is a real issue. TRAC, in particular, has been trying to get the vote out in the DTES.

"Recognising that people in the Downtown Eastside are often left out of the political process, [some] community groups down there are coming together to do a poster campaign to raise awareness about the fact that there's an election on, and advance polls, and how you go about voting, and where [the polls] are," says Geary.

"We're doing that in an effort to tell people about their right, and in hope that they'll get out and exercise that right." ❖

MP: Humanities research a "personal pastime"

by Alex Dimson

A letter from a North Vancouver MP that questions the usefulness of humanities research has angered UBC student groups and academics.

The letter is a response from Ted White, a Canadian Alliance MP running for re-election in North Vancouver, who was asked by a UBC associate dean of Arts to support additional funding for the Social Sciences and Humanities Research Council of Canada (SSHRC), the federal body that allocates humanities research grants.

"Although I do not question that some of the research funded by the SSHRC has been constructive and forward-looking, I also know much of it is not," reads the letter to Associate Dean of Arts Anne Martin-Matthews.

"I cannot conceive of any way in which research in the fields of fine arts, classical studies, philosophy, anthropology, modern languages and literature, or medieval studies, which together accounted for over $5.3 million in grants from the SSHRC in the last fiscal year, contributes to any understanding of Canadian society or the challenges we face as we enter the 21st century.

"Research into such fields, as far as my constituents are concerned, constitutes a personal pastime, and has no benefit to Canadian taxpayers," the letter, which is dated January 25, continues.

Mohan Matthen, head of UBC's philosophy department, said the comments do not do justice to the developments resulting from research in the humanities.

English department head Sherril Grace added, "I think it is sad that there are people in society...who do not understand the role of the humanities."

"The bottom line is you can't have a healthy democracy without research and awareness and teaching about your culture. You don't know who you are," she said.

White did not return *the Ubyssey*'s numerous phone calls. His campaign office indicated that he will be unavailable for comment until after the election.

But Colin Metcalfe, the BC media relations director for the Alliance, said that White's comments were personal and did not necessarily represent the party's views.

He added, however, that the party plans to minimise "what seems to be trivial expenditures" by establishing criteria for research that qualifies for funding.

"I think that all Canadians should be concerned when we hear about silly programs that are being funded by the Canadian taxpayer," he said.

But SSHRC spokesperson Garth Williams disagrees with White's message, saying that humanities disciplines have evolved over centuries and have proven their usefulness.

Williams said that SSHRC's peer-review policy committee, which includes experts in humanities fields, ensures that all funding goes towards relevant projects.

The letter recently surfaced at an all-candidates forum organised by the Alma Mater Society (AMS), when a student questioned candidates about the letter. Kerry-Lynne Findlay, the Alliance's Vancouver Quadra candidate, did not attend the forum's question period.

Graham Senft, AMS vice-president of external affairs, said that the student society is very concerned with the letter.

"We're concerned that a member of parliament...for a riding that includes UBC students has such a myopic view of research in the social sciences and humanities. He obviously has no understanding whatsoever of what research generates in terms of knowledge and understanding of society." ❖

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ATTENTION ALL STUDENTS

STUDENT DISCIPLINE REPORT

SEPTEMBER 1ST, 1999 - AUGUST 31ST, 2000

Under section 61 of the University Act, the President of the University has authority to impose discipline on students for academic and non-academic offences (see page 51 of the 2000/2001 University Calendar). A summary of such disciplinary cases is published on a regular basis, without disclosing the names of students involved.

In the period 1 September 1999 to 31 August 2000, 44 students appeared before the President's Advisory Committee on Student Discipline and 42 were subsequently disciplined. For each case, the events leading to the imposition of the discipline and the discipline imposed are summarized below. Discipline may vary depending upon the circumstances of a particular case.

1. A student removed numerous articles from Library Journals. Discipline: a suspension from the University for 4 months*, leading to a delay in graduation, and restitution to the Library for damages resulting from this misconduct.
2. A student (i) submitted a term paper for a course assignment that was completely plagiarized and that had been purchased from an off-campus source, and (ii) brought unauthorized material into the final examination of another course. Discipline: a mark of zero in both courses and a suspension from the University for 24 months*.
3. A student was alleged to have colluded with another student in a cheating incident during a midterm examination. Outcome: charge dismissed; allegation could not be substantiated from a consideration of the available evidence.
4. A student used false identification to gain entrance to an examination room and wrote an examination in the name of another individual. Discipline: a suspension from the University for 12 months*.
5. A student was alleged to have brought unauthorized material into a midterm examination. Outcome: charge dismissed; allegation could not be substantiated from a consideration of the available evidence.
6. A student substantially plagiarized a term paper for a course. Discipline: a mark of zero in the course and a suspension from the University for 10 months*.
7. A student participated in the disruption/destruction of a display spponsored by a campus group. Discipline: a suspension from the University for 4 months*.
8. A student brought an unauthorized calculator into a final examination. Discipline: a mark of zero in the course and a suspension from the University for 12 months*.
9. A student plagiarized parts of assignments in two different courses. Discipline: in the special circumstances, a letter of severe reprimand* and a mark of zero in one of the courses.
10. A student was involved in a cheating incident during a midterm examination in a course. Discipline: a mark of zero in the course and a suspension from the University for 12 months*.
11. A student brought an unauthorized electronic dictionary into the final examination of a course. Discipline: in the special circumstances, a letter of reprimand.
12. A student plagiarized a part of a term paper submitted in a course. Discipline: a mark of zero for the submitted paper and a letter of reprimand.
13. A student participated in the disruption/destruction of a display sponsored by a campus group. Discipline: a suspension from the University for 4 months*. On appeal to the Senate Appeals Committee on Student Discipline, the period of the suspension was upheld, but the eligibility date for seeking removal of the transcript notation was altered.
14. A student was involved in a cheating incident on a final examination. Discipline: a mark of zero in the course and a suspension from the University for 12 months*.
15. A student intended to impersonate another person on an examination. Discipline: in the special circumstances, a letter of reprimand.
16. A student used an unauthorized access code to improperly access a dispensing system. Discipline: in the special circumstances, a letter of reprimand.
17. A student completely plagiarized a research paper for a course. Discipline: a mark of zero in the course and a suspension from the University for 12 months*.
18. A student was involved in a cheating incident during a midterm examination. Discipline: a mark of zero in the course and a suspension from the University for 12 months*.
19. A student used plagiarized material for essays submitted in a course. Discipline: a mark of zero in the course and a suspension from the University for 8 months*.
20. A student was involved in a cheating incident in a course. Discipline: in the special circumstances, a letter of reprimand.
21. A student plagiarized material in a term paper for a course. Discipline: a mark of zero in the course and a suspension from the University for 8 months*. The student was also alleged to have been involved in a cheating incident in the final examination of the same course. Outcome: the latter charge was dismissed; allegation could not be substantiated from a consideration of the available evidence.
22. A student submitted plagiarized term papers in two separate courses. Discipline: a mark of zero in each course and, in the special circumstances, a suspension from the University for 2 months*.
23. A student substantially plagiarized the material submitted in an essay in a course. Discipline: a mark of zero in the course and a suspension from the University for 6 months*.
24. A student was involved in a cheating incident in a course. Discipline: a mark of zero in the course and a suspension from the University for 12 months*.
25. A student assaulted another student in a class. Discipline: a letter of severe reprimand*.
26. A student defaced University property with graffiti. Discipline: a letter of reprimand*.
27. A student colluded in a cheating/plagiarism incident with another student on a final examination in a course. Discipline: a mark of zero for the final examination in the course*.
28. A student was involved in a cheating incident during a final examination. Discipline: a mark of zero in the course and a suspension from the University for 12 months*.
29. A student altered some returned test papers in an attempt to obtain revised grades. Discipline: a mark of zero in the course and a suspension from the University for 12 months*.
30. A student cheated on a course quiz. Discipline: in the special circumstances, a letter of reprimand*.
31. A student assaulted a Campus Patrol Officer. Discipline: a suspension from the University for 24 months*. On appeal to the Senate Committee on Student Appeals on Academic Discipline, the suspension period was reduced to 12 months*.
32. A student submitted the same term paper in two different courses. Discipline: a mark of zero in one of the courses and a suspension from the University for 9 months*.
33. A student submitted a plagiarized essay in a course. Discipline: a mark of zero in the course and a suspension from the University for 12 months*.
34. A student surreptitiously wrote a midterm examination under a false name in a course in which he/she was not registered, and attempted to remove the paper from the classroom at the end of the examination. Discipline: a suspension from the University for 18 months*.
35. A student stole the homework assignments of two individuals and submitted their work as his/her own. Discipline: a mark of zero in the course and a suspension from the University for 12 months*.
36. A student completely plagiarized a term paper for a course. Discipline: in the special circumstances, a mark of zero in the course and a suspension from the University for 4 months*.
37. A student plagiarized a term paper for a course and was involved in a cheating incident in the final examination of that course. Discipline: a mark of zero in the course and a suspension from the University for 8 months*.
38. A student colluded with another student in a plagiarism/cheating incident on a final examination in a course. Discipline: a mark of zero for the final examination in the course*.
39. A student altered a course midterm mark and submitted the paper for regrading. Discipline: in view of the nature of the extenuating circumstances surrounding this case, no disciplinary penalties were assigned.
40. A student participated in the disruption/destruction of a display sponsored by a campus group. Discipline: a suspension from the University for 4 months*.
41. A student permitted two other students to plagiarize his/her paper in a course. Discipline: a letter of reprimand. The student was also alleged to have exposed his/her final examination paper to the view of another student. Outcome: the latter charge was dismissed; allegation could not be substantiated from a consideration of the available evidence.
42. A student was alleged to have cheated, or to have assisted in a cheating incident, during the midterm examination of a course. Outcome: charge dismissed; allegation could not be substantiated from a consideration of the available evidence.
43. A student colluded with another student in a cheating incident during the final examination of a course. Discipline: a mark of zero in the course and a suspension from the University for 12 months*.
44. A student submitted a dissertation in 1996 that contained plagiarized material. Discipline: a mark of zero in the course (thesis) which resulted in the degree being revoked*.

*In all cases indicated by an asterisk a notation of disciplinary action is entered on the student's transcript. At any time after two years have elapsed from the date of his or her graduation the student may apply to the President to exercise her discretion to remove the notation. Students under disciplinary suspension from UBC may not take courses at other institutions for transfer of credit back to UBC.

Homelessness still at crisis level, social housing advocates say

by Cynthia Lee

Supporters of affordable housing are blaming the federal government for the substantial number of people living on the street.

"What the government has done with housing is a travesty," United Native Nations President Scott Clark told a crowd of roughly 60 at a downtown rally held on Wednesday outside the Vancouver Public Library's main branch.

According to the National Housing Homelessness Network, roughly 200,000 people are homeless in Canada, with the highest increase involving families and children.

Clark and other advocates are angry that the federal government has not built any new housing projects for lower income groups since the Liberals came into power in 1993.

DAVIES

"As a result of that decision, the evidence is on our street," Libby Davies, the NDP member of parliament for Vancouver East, told *the Ubyssey*. The NDP is promising $1.2 billion to build 25,000 new units next year.

The concerns come two years after a group of mayors representing large Canadian cities–including Vancouver and Toronto–declared homelessness a national disaster.

While government funding has been allocated to pre-existing social housing, the Liberal Party has stated its policy to address the problem, promising to build at least 15,000 new housing units and spend $170 million annually.

The rally marked a day of action calling for a national housing strategy, along with events in 16 other Canadian cities.

Only the governments of BC and Québec have built new social housing since 1993.

Even still, figures cited by the Co-op Housing Federation of BC show that 10,000 people are on the waiting list for affordable housing in the province and many spend half of their income on shelter.

Housing advocates have indicated that at least 75,000 new units will be required to meet the need nationally.

Homelessness has caught the attention of other local politicians.

John Mortimer, the Canadian Alliance candidate for Vancouver Centre, has agreed to spend tomorrow night on the street in areas of downtown Vancouver as part of a program sponsored by Street Youth Job Action.

"The best way to understand anything is to endeavour to be as close as possible to the people who are in the situation," he said. The program is aimed at exposing politicians and community leaders to street youth culture and to show them where funding is needed.

Meanwhile, social housing advocates have heavily criticised the Alliance for being the only major federal party that has not committed to restoring funding to national housing programs.

But Mortimer dismissed the criticisms, and said that money for past government-funded housing projects have been allocated inefficiently.

He pointed to research conducted by the Alliance's housing critic, which found that while 80 per cent of homeless people are single, most social housing projects are built for multi-person households.

"They end up being financially out of reach and not servicing the 80 per cent of people who really need them," Mortimer said.

He added that the Alliance's strategy to address homelessness goes beyond funding housing projects. He said the party's platform is aimed at strengthening the economy to benefit all citizens.

He added that Canada should "create a culture where people want to give their tax dollars for [social programs] and want to take their own time and own talent to help with needy areas of society."

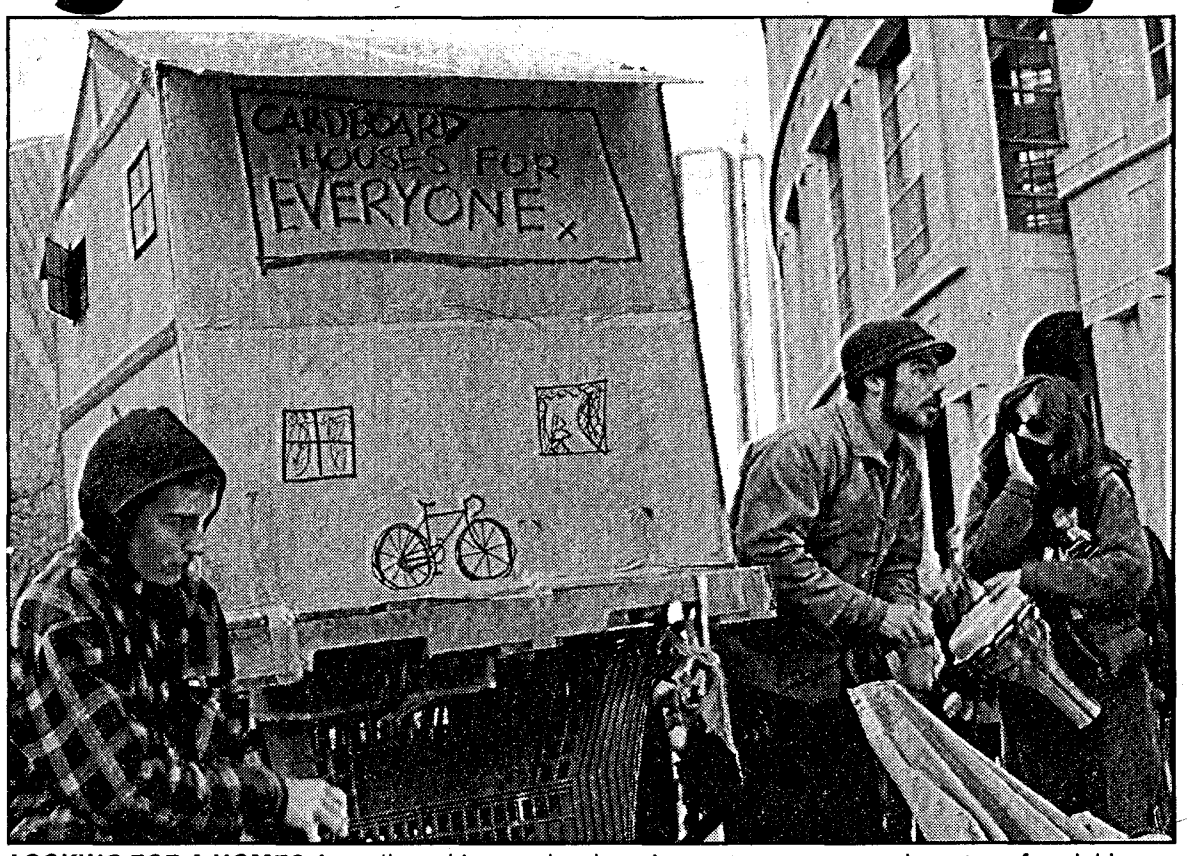
At the downtown rally, several representatives of the Co-operative Housing Federation of Canada (CHFC) also voiced their concerns about local co-op housing that has been affected by the Vancouver-wide 'leaky condo syndrome.'

"We're also here to protect the housing stock we have," said CHFC spokesperson Merilee Robson, who added leaky co-ops could adversely affect the health of their occupants.

The federation is worried about the number of loans that have not been approved by the Canada Mortgage and Housing Corporation (CMHC), the federal agency responsible for funding repair loans to the co-op units.

According to the CMHC, three of 32 loan applications have reached a signed agreement.

Lorraine Verokosky, manager of Assisted Housing in the agency's BC chapter, explained that approving a CHMC loan involves many steps, but added that her department was working hard to process the applications. ❖



LOOKING FOR A HOME? A cardboard box and a shopping cart accompany advocates of social housing as they rally for more funding. CYNTHIA LEE PHOTO

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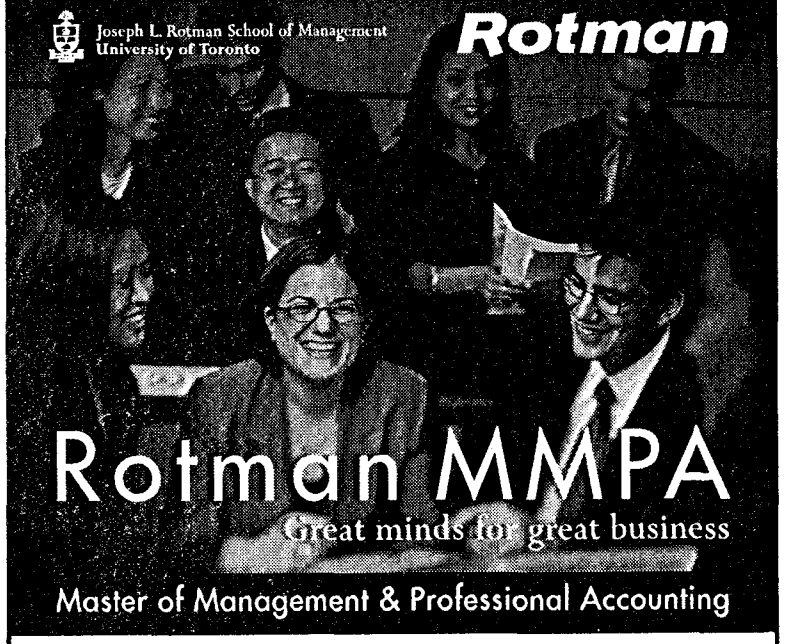

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- ✓ building research and development capacity at universities to keep young Canadians competitive
- ✓ increasing financial assistance to college and university students
- ✓ in promoting tolerance and respect for differences among Canadians

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THE UBYSSEY

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Holland Gidney bought Sarah Morrison a stuffed bear. Nicholas Bradley got a tie for Tom Peacock, who gave Daliah Merzaban a $15 box of chocolates. Tara Westover hid the calendar she'd bought Alex Dimson just in time, as Graeme Worthy and Tristan Winch walked in the door with three bags full of bows and wrapping paper. Hywel Tuscano spent his Christmas bonus on a toaster for Michelle Mossop, who couldn't think of anything to get Cynthia Lee except a CD gift certificate. Regina Yung bought a scooter. Aaron Licker bought a book about golf. Jay McKinnon bought Lego. Megan Johnson bought a red sweater. Miriam Torchinsky bought an expensive necklace. Lisa Johnson bought perfume. Diana Stech bought colourful Christmas ornaments. And Lisa Denton still ended up crying because she didn't get the $25,000 car she wanted.

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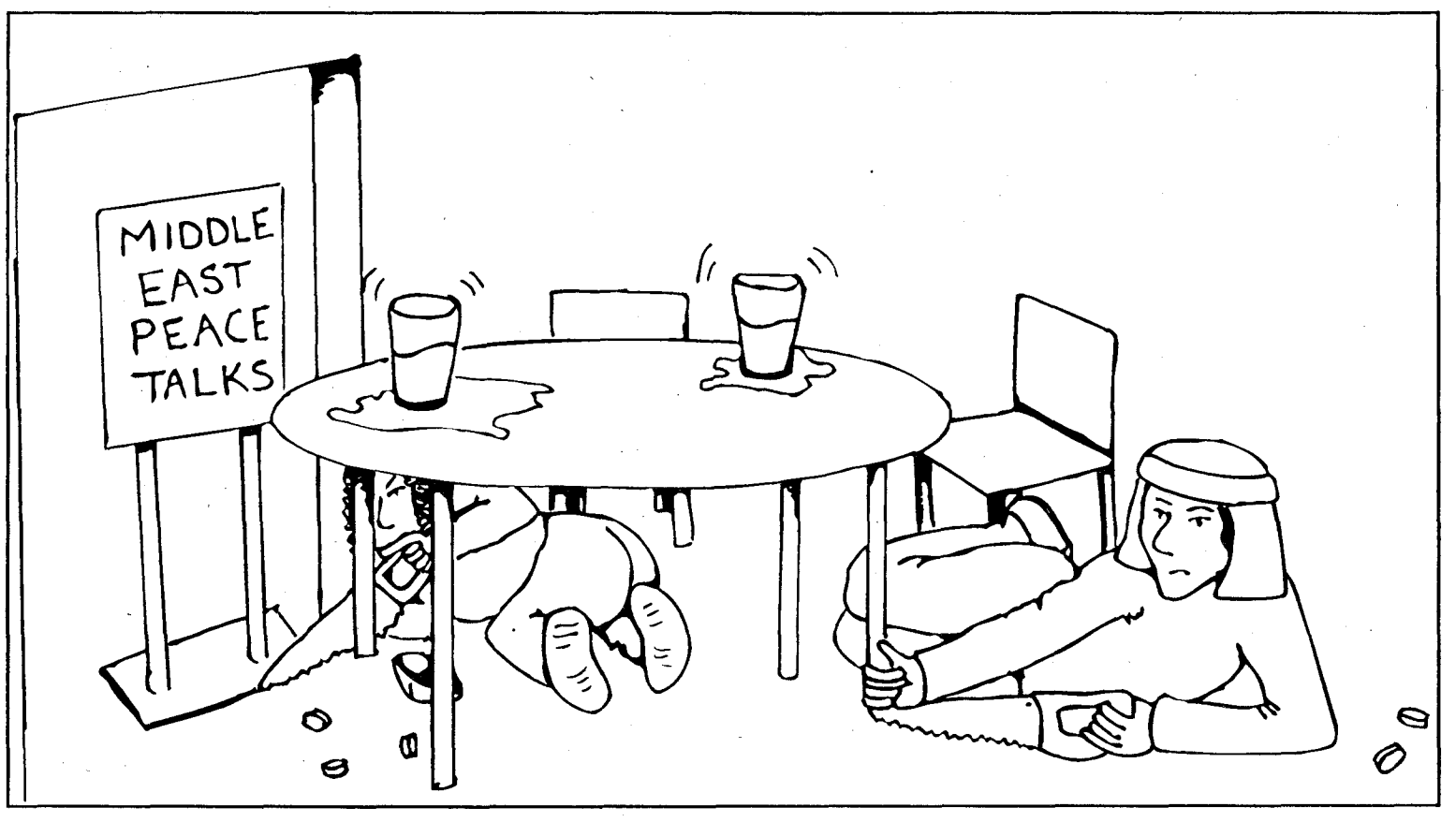


Curfew a crime

In response to the rising wake of violence in the Middle East and the threats posed by radical Islamic fundamentalist movements, Israel has imposed security measures in critical trouble spots, including Hebron, one of the contested regions of the West Bank. Some of these measures are effectively compromising the religious rights of the majority Palestinian population in the region.

Since the Six-Day War in 1967, Hebron has been part of the West Bank territory under Israeli administration. In 1997, Israel handed over 80 per cent of Hebron to Palestinian rule, but it still holds on to the remainder where several hundred Jewish settlers live among 40,000 Palestinians.

At the beginning of October, Israel imposed a 24-hour curfew on the 40,000 Palestinians in Hebron. Similar measures were enacted in 1999, as well as the year before, after the killing of a prominent local rabbi. Nearly two months since the curfew was imposed, it still stands.

For 24 hours a day, Palestinians in this region are not allowed to work, go to school, or leave their homes for any reason. Meanwhile Israelis are free to walk the streets. Hebron has become a ghost town. Palestinian civilians watch cautiously from their windows while armed Israeli soldiers sit on catwalks above the market squares making sure nobody moves.

Palestinians are only allowed to leave their homes for a few hours every three days to pick up essentials, but this is difficult, since many civilians no longer have an income.

Innocent civilians are being subject to inhumane conditions simply because of their nationality and religion. Over 90 per cent of Palestinians are Muslim, and this curfew has the potential of quashing the fundamental right to religious freedom of these people.

With the arrival of the new crescent moon this Sunday or Monday, the Muslim Holy month of Ramadan—the ninth month of the Islamic lunar calendar—will begin.

Muslims around the world fast from sunrise to sunset every day during this month. The curfew in Hebron attacks the very heart of Ramadan, during which time families gather for communal meals, and most families, especially those in the Middle East, attend special prayers at local mosques in the evening. Fasting is a communal experience, and one that will be nearly impossible to realise for Muslims living under the tight supervision of Israeli soldiers.

Surely, Israel is in a position to understand the importance of religious freedom. It would be in the country's best interest not to overlook the arrival of this religious holy month.

Article 18 of the Universal Declaration of Human Rights guarantees the right of every individual to freedom of religion "either alone or in community with others and in public or private, to manifest his religion or belief in teaching, practice, worship and observance."

This same declaration guarantees freedom of movement (Article 13), the right to a nationality (Article 15), the right to work (Article 23), the right to education (Article 26), and the right to participate "in the cultural life of the community" (Article 27).

The death toll in the region has reached over 250—mostly Palestinians—since the latest wave of violence began in October. And amidst the ambush attacks on Israeli soldiers and citizens, the besieging of Palestinian towns, the sealing-off of territories, the killing of Israeli soldiers, the helicopter attacks on unoccupied Palestinian buildings, the bombing, the shooting, and the stone throwing, hopes for peace in the region are crumbling. The dispute between the Israelis and the Palestinians appears to be moving closer and closer to undeclared warfare.

If Israel is hoping for any type of reconciliation, continuing the curfew throughout Ramadan will do nothing to advance its cause.

Besieging the region of Hebron during Ramadan will only increase popular resistance, and fuel civilian anger. And if Israel tampers with the religious freedom of Palestinians, the backlash could be greater than the ambushes it has endured until now from radical fundamentalist groups. Hopefully Israel will not overlook this reality, and will lift the curfew. ❖

letters

More USP concerns

I am writing this letter in response to the Nov. 15 article by Hywel Tuscano entitled "Scholarship requirements questioned." I am extremely disappointed to read some of the comments made by Rosemary Pantalone, director of Awards and Financial Aid regarding the Undergraduate Scholars Program (USP), formerly known as the Outstanding Student Initiative Scholarship (OSI).

Like many others, I received the [$10,000 over four years] OSI scholarship in 1998 when I was admitted into the Faculty of Applied Science. As I am an out-of-province student from Calgary, this scholarship made it possible for me to attend UBC and to live in Vancouver. The requirements were also reasonable to keep the scholarship, as I needed an 82 per cent average on my top 27 credits.

Then UBC raised the average to 85.00 per cent and a stipulation was added saying that there would be absolutely no rounding up. After a year of hard work, I received an average of 84.75 per cent on my top 27 credits. I missed $2500 by 0.25 per cent and my financial situation was greatly affected.

My problem lies with the public relations of this university. I understand that there needs to be a cut-off somewhere, but I decided to write and express my concerns to UBC President Martha Piper, and Pantalone. It has been over two months and I have not received a reply from either. I am very disturbed to read in this article that "Pantalone said that she doesn't think students are very affected by the scholarship changes" and that she finds "that students only seem to be disappointed when their siblings received the scholarship offers like the OSI, but otherwise students seem to accept them well." If Pantalone does not think that students are affected, then why didn't she reply to my letter?

I have again written to Piper and Pantalone, stating that I have decided never to make a future donation to UBC should I be in a position to do so in my professional career. I challenge all students who missed out on the USP due to requirement changes to write letters and voice your concerns. I would still like to believe that I attend a university that listens to the concerns of undergraduate students and is not just preoccupied with faculty research and a good Maclean's ranking. Without the students, there would be no university.

–Michael Quinn
Applied Science 3

I'm more punk rock than you, record reviewer

Dear Sirs,
"The Public albums were Lyndon's art-school project, all concept and electronics, but not a lot to dance to. They were smart, maybe, certainly clever, but they didn't have a lot going for them otherwise: they just didn't sound very good." ("Chicks out for Kicks," [Nov.15])

"The flowers of romance" is a song (and an album) of exquisite pomposity. I dance to it all the time.

When did "sounding good" and "punk" form this discursive alliance? I must have been busy writing a paper or something.

–Barbara Andersen

Touch football... at the SkyDome?

Gage team headed to Toronto

by Tom Peacock

Although the UBC Thunderbirds won't be at the Vanier Cup this year, the BWO (Brown World Order) touch football team from Gage Residence will.

The only thing is, they've never played on a full-sized field before and with all the cheap beer sure to be flowing, who knows what sort of shape they're going to be in come game time?

BWO finished first in the UBC division of the Budweiser/NFL Campus Touch Football League, and as a result they won the chance to play against other university touch football teams from across the country in Toronto next week.

The final game will take place before the December 3 CIAU championship game at the SkyDome between the University of Regina Rams and the University of Ottawa Gee Gees.

The touch football team that wins the tournament will bring a cheque back to its campus for $16,000 to be donated to the school's athletic department.

The team, along with intramural representative Kavie Toor, will fly from Vancouver next Thursday on an all-expenses paid trip to TO, where they'll stay at the Westin Hotel, eat lots of good food and drink lots of beer. Then, on Friday they'll take to the field for their first game against a team from the University of Western Ontario. If they win, they will compete on Saturday for the grand prize.

The team of Gage residents is pretty excited about the upcoming trip. "We're a good team...But you never know who's going to be out there," team member Arun Angl said.

"None of our guys have played before except for Jessey [Minhas], who played quarterback in high school. But we're all athletes. We all play other sports, like soccer, volleyball or whatever," said Angl.

At the initial qualifying tournament, BWO placed second to Beta Can't Touch This, a team from the Beta Theta Pi fraternity, and it looked like the Beta team would probably end up winning the trip to Toronto.

It turned out, however, that the Beta team had enlisted some hired help in their bid for the trip. The team had illegally fielded four ex-varsity players, none of whom were pledged fraternity members. The team was immediately disqualified, and banned from intramurals for a year.

"We had to call the Beta international office in Ohio to find out if the players were actually members of the fraternity," said intramurals events coordinator Kavie Toor.

This is the first year of the Budweiser/NFL Touch Football League, and so far the event only has a men's national championship, but Toor says the UBC intramurals program is negotiating with the sponsors to ensure that there is a women's or a mixed division in the future.

BWO YO! Members of the BWO touch football team pose in Gage with their coach UBC Thunderbirds defensive lineman Amarpreet Sanghera (centre). TARA WESTOVER PHOTO

"At first, we were reluctant to get involved—we're big on equity here. But then we thought we'd be better off taking a pro-active approach. We had a women's tournament as well just to show the sponsors that there was an interest, and to show that, 'look, you should have a women's team go to Toronto as well,'" Toor said.

Sarah Esler, who handles on-campus promotions for the league, explained that UBC is the only school that expressed concern over the lack of an equivalent women's championship.

"Our school was the only one that argued for a girl's championship," she said, adding that she made sure that the four UBC women's teams had all received the same Budweiser shirts and footballs as their male counterparts, and the champions had won free tickets to see the Vancouver Canucks.

Unfortunately, the women will have to wait a while before they enjoy the view from the top of the CN Tower and take to the turf at the SkyDome. This year it's all about the BWO. ❖

Student Administrative Commission (SAC) is a dynamic group of UBC individuals who handle the administration of the various AMS clubs and constituencies .

At-Large Commissioner

✦ Assists clubs with difficulties and help organize events such as Chinese New Year Fair, Clubs Days and the disability audit.

Building and Security Commissioner:

✦ Review the current booking process for clubs and student groups.

✦ Work with the Security Coordinator to develop SUB security protocol.

Constituency Commissioner:

✦ Communicate between the AMS and the undergrad societies: Arts, Science, Engineering, Pharmacy, Social Work, Law, etc. Assist these groups with bookings of rooms in the SUB.

Other details

All positions work 10 hours per week (includes 5 office hours and meetings) and report to the **Vice-President of Administration - Mark Fraser**

Term: January to March 31, 2001.

Remuneration: $500

For more info on SAC positions email: vpadmin@ams.ubc.ca

AMS student court exercises disciplinary powers over AMS members & organizations.

Chief Justice of Student Court

Applicants must be enrolled in or entering 3rd year law. Chief Justice presides over Student Court, administers hearings and sits on the Prima Facie Committee, which determines whether there is cause to call Court to session.

Chief Prosecutor

AMS is seeking a second or third year Law student to fulfill the duties of Chief Prosecutor of the Student Court. Responsibilities include: prosecuting cases against students and AMS organizations charged with violating the AMS Constitution, Bylaws, or Code or otherwise acting in an unbecoming manner. The Chief Prosecutor also chairs the Prima Facie Committee, which determines whether there is cause to call Court to session.

Clerk of the Court

The Clerk of the Student Court receives submissions from students wishing to call the Court to session and administers and oversees the procedures of Student Court.

Student Court Judges

The AMS is seeking 3 Student Court judges to hear cases involving students and AMS bodies accused of violating the AMS Constitution, Code, or Bylaws; they also may be asked to interpret the Constitution, Code, and Bylaws.

Please note:

The judges, Chief Justice, Clerk, and Prosecutor must not hold any other AMS position, and must not have held any other AMS position in the previous six months (except positions on the Court itself).

All Court positions run from January 2001 – January 2002
For more info on Court positions email vpacademic@ams.ubc.ca

To apply for any of these tremendous opportunities, please send applications, before December 15, to:

Nominating Committee: c/o Erfan Kazemi, VP Academic and University Affairs, SUB 238, vpacademic@ams.ubc.ca

No telephone inquires please.

your student society

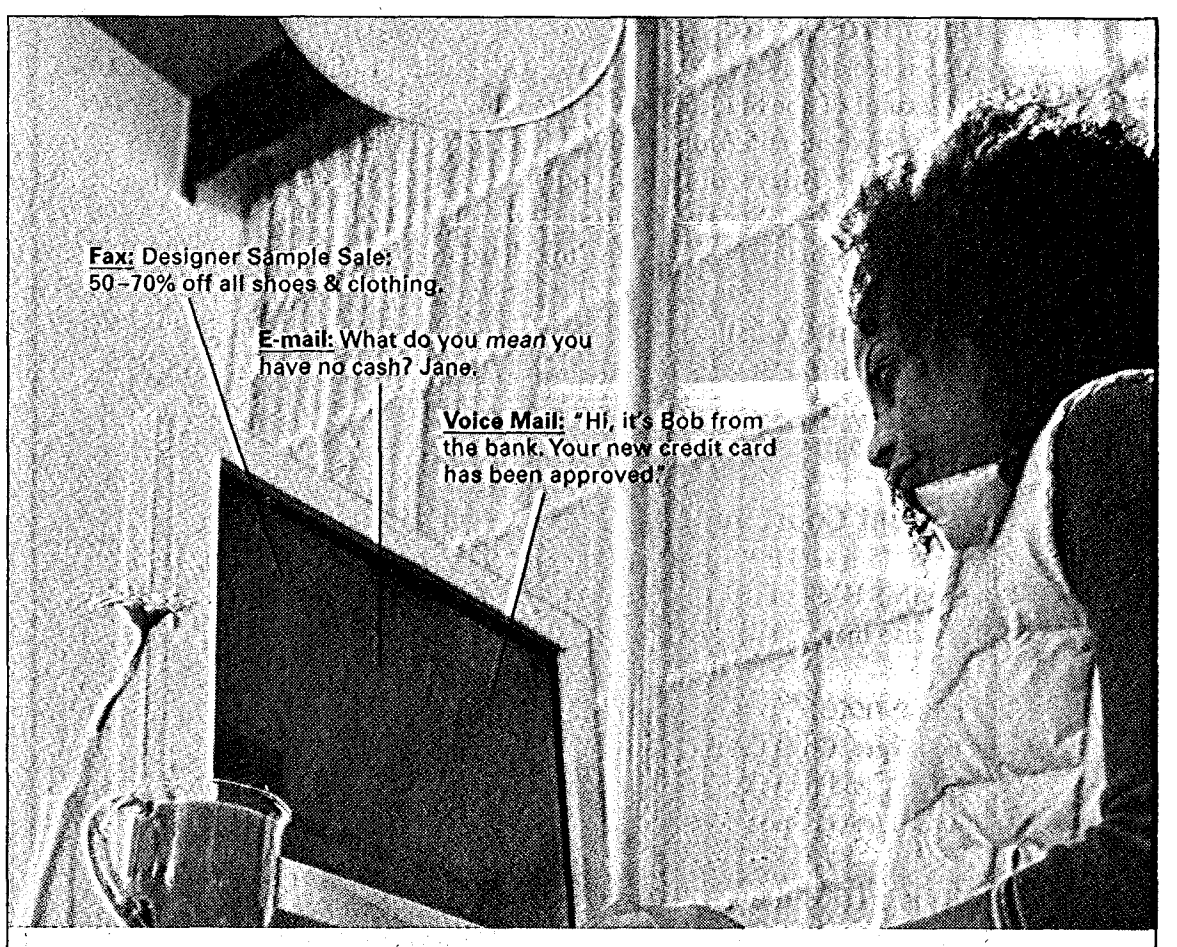
BIRD droppings

Men's Ice Hockey
The T-Bird men's ice hockey team is in Regina to face the University of Regina Cougars this weekend. The 1-10-1 Birds haven't won a game since their home-opener against the Brandon Bobcats on October 13.

Men's and Women's Volleyball
Both volleyball teams are off to Saskatoon this weekend to face the University of Saskatchewan Huskies. Both Saskatchewan teams are stiff competition for the Birds.

Men's Basketball
The Thunderbirds are at home to host the University of Saskatchewan Huskies on Friday and Saturday night in War Memorial Gym. Tip off time is 8pm on both nights.

Women's Basketball
The UBC women's basketball team is also hosting the Huskies this weekend in War Memorial Gym. Tip off time is 6:15pm on Friday and Saturday night.



FILMSOC
All films $3.00
in the NORM (SUB theatre)
Film Hotline: 822-3697 OR check out www.ams.ubc.ca/clubs/SOCIAL/Filmsoc

FRI NOV 24 - SUN NOV 26
7:00 AUTUMN IN NEW YORK
9:30 THE CELL
WED NOV 29 - THURS NOV 30
7:00 PEEWEES BIG ADVENTURE
9:30 THE BICYCLE THIEF

UBC LIBRARY HOURS
December 21 - January 1

UBC Campus Libraries will be open

Thurs Dec 21	8am - 5pm
Fri Dec 22	9am - 5pm

All Campus Libraries
CLOSED DECEMBER 23 - JAN 1
Normal hours resume Jan 2

Holiday Loans
Starting Dec 8, loans (except reserve loans) may be extended through January 2. Some non-circulating material may be borrowed: ask at your branch.

Off Campus Hospital Libraries will be open

Thurs-Fri	Dec 21-22	8am-5pm
Sat	Dec 23	Noon-5pm

CLOSED DEC 24-26

Wed-Fri	Dec 27-29	Noon-5pm

CLOSED DEC 30-JAN 1
Normal hours resume Jan 2