THE UBYSSEY

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Party hardy at the Work Less Party party

GOH IROMOTO PHOTO / THE UBYSSEY

The Work Less Party' is dedicated to the goal of "Workers of the world, relax." The party's slogan goes, "Alarm clocks kill dreams". Their parties serve as the congregating place for the elite of the Vancouver underground, if it's possible to name such beings. Saturday's party in East Vancouver was an excellent place to chill out, watch amazing performances, and let loose with a greater political purpose.

UBC loses $18 million

JOE RAYMENT
News Staff

UBC's working capital fund, containing $525 million in market investments, suffered an $18 million loss recently due to a crunch in the US subprime loan market. The loss will result in decreased returns, and the University may have cut back on discretionary spending as a result.

The capital fund, which is built mainly from research grants, has invested $122 million in "asset-backed commercial paper" (ABCP) over the last five years.

ABCP is a type of fund that makes money by collecting interest on various types of debt, usually corporate, combined into one entity. It's usually considered a safe investment, and when UBC invested in this particular fund it had the highest credit rating possible—the same as Alberta's.

see "Subprime" | PAGE 02

Premier announces funding for 'UBC Line'

BY BRANDON ADAMS
News Editor

A newly announced transit plan by the BC government has earmarked $2.8 billion for a rapid transit line to the UBC campus, among other transit improvements throughout the province which are aimed to reduce greenhouse gases and are slated to cost approximately $14 billion.

"Our new plan will double transit ridership by increasing choice for people around the province," said Premier Gordon Campbell in a press release Thursday. "The plan focuses on safe, comfortable, reliable services that will highlight green technologies and will reshape our communities...It provides people with the choices they need to make a difference."

Though the provincial government has only committed $4.75 billion to the plan, they are calling for an additional $11.1 billion in new funding from the federal government, TransLink, and local municipal governments. TransLink spokesperson Ken Hardie said that $3.1 billion is slated to come from the federal government, $2.7 billion is expected from TransLink, and around $500 million from local governments outside of the Metro Vancouver area.

The improvements, which are set to be included in 2020, will include:

—$10.3 billion for rapid transit lines throughout the Metro Vancouver region. This money will be used not only for the UBC Line, but also for the Evergreen Line, which will run to Coquitlam and is slated for completion by 2014; upgrades to the Expo Line, which

see "SkyTrain" | PAGE 03

Joke nicknames abound in student government elections

BY MATTHEW HAYLES
News Staff

Despite initial resistance from AMS Elections Administrator Brendan Piovesan, six student candidates will be appearing on this year's student elections ballot under nicknames. However the candidates, whose aliases include references to liquor, plumbing, and a famous revolutionary, are being forced to include some portion of their legal names by this year's Elections Committee.

Under Article IX of the AMS Code of Procedures, which regulates elections, candidates "may choose to have a reason-

see "Nicknames" | PAGE 02

LEVI BARNETT FILE PHOTO / THE UBYSSEY

Martin Sing and Darren Peets, 2006 candidates for office in student government and the UBC Board of Governors, sat with their respective street utilities during a 2006 debate at the Totem Park cafeteria.

UBC's 16th Chancellor dies at 81

BY BRANDON ADAMS
News Editor

Allan McEachern died at the age of 81 last Thursday evening after a distinguished career. McEachern served as UBC's Chancellor in 2002 after a respected legal career which ultimately saw McEachern become BC's Chief Justice.

McEachern was elected to the role of UBC Chancellor in 2002 after a long and storied career in the Canadian legal community. "During his 21 years as a judge, he earned a reputation as one of Canada's greatest jurists," said

see "McEachern" | PAGE 03

CALENDAR

EMAIL US EVENTS AT FEEDBACK@UBYSSEY.BC.CA

15 TUESDAY — Sports
Thunderbirds Play Mortal Enemies SFU in B-ball
Time: 7pm
Where: Memorial Gym
Cost: $2

16 WEDNESDAY — Movies
Movies!
Time: 7pm; *The Darjeeling Limited*; 9:30pm *3:10 to Yuma*
Where: Norm Theater
Cost $2 mem., $4 non-mem.

17 THURSDAY — Sports
Rec Resolution Run
Time: 12:30 pm
Where: SUB South Plaza
What: 3k/5k noon run/walk. Register by 12:30 pm Tuesday

18 FRIDAY — Party
MARDI GRAS 2008!
Where: SUB Ballroom
Time: 7-11pm
Cost: $5 advance, $6 at the door
What: Get some beads

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Subprime loan failure takes a big bite out of University pocketbook

from "Subprime" | PAGE 01

When the University bought in they didn't know the paper was connected to high-risk subprime loans. Subprime loans, usually used to finance mortgages, are sold to high-risk customers who would not usually qualify for standard rates. The high rates on these loans caused high default rates this summer, precipitating losses of billions. The crises is threatening to drag economies across the world into recession.

"We don't have a large group of people here that do [investment] research," said University Treasurer Peter Smailes. Instead, the University hired Dominion Bond Rating Services to asses the make-up of the fund and determine its risk. "In those ratings there was no indication of any subprime investments."

The exact make-up of the fund hasn't yet been determined, but Smailes thinks about 8 per cent of it is connected to subprime loans.

"What happened in August was when people came to redeem their stake the market just totally collapsed—it was all frozen," said Bruce Ralston, the NDP's finance critic.

The losses came to light Friday when *The Vancouver Sun* obtained a letter to Ralston from provincial Finance Minister Carole Taylor detailing the situation. In it Taylor notes that while the BC Investment Management Corporation considered investing in similar funds, it decided it wasn't suitable for the public institutions it directs.

The University and other investors in the fund are working to negotiate a deal to restructure it into a longer-term investment.

The Canadian market currently has $33 billions tied up in similar investments.

Malt Likkah, Fiddler Crab and Irish Courage making election interesting

from "Nicknames" | PAGE 01

able nickname appear on the ballot in place of or in addition to their given names..." However, such decisions are at the discretion of the elections administrator, and this year, as in other years, candidates are required to include a portion of their legal name. Darren Peets, a perennial figure on the campaign trail who runs on behalf of the Fire Hydrant, was one candidate to have his submitted name rejected.

Peets, who currently sits on the University's Board of Governors (BoG) and is running for vice-president academic, submitted 'Hydrant, Fire' as his candidate name. But after discussions with Elections Administrator Piovesan following the all candidates meeting Friday night, he will now appear on the ballot as "Fire Hydrant Peets". Peets, who ran for BoG in three previous years as a fire hydrant, is not new to compromising on his candidate name. "In all three years the compromise was 'Hydrant comma Fire brackets D. Peets'", he said.

Unlike BoG nominations, which are handled by the University, AMS Executive nominations are managed by the elections administrator, so the compromise name this year is different.

Tyler Allison, currently the vice-president external of the Arts Undergraduate Society, is running for AMS president under the name "Che Allison". Like Peets, Allison recognizes that even a campaign with a gimmick can bring up legitimate issues on campus.

"I want people to pay more attention to the election," Allsison said. He will be running what he calls an "Arts Socialism" campaign. "I decided to take the name of a major socialist figure," he said. "We need to inject a little fun into campus."

Two other candidates running for AMS Executive positions will have nicknames on the ballot this year. Stash 'Irish Courage' Bylicki and 'Scary' Mike 'The Rabbi' Kushnir will be running for VP finance and VP administration respectively. For the BoG, Glenn Frederick 'Fiddler Crab' Finlay and Genevieve 'Malt Likkah' Sweigard are hoping their gimmicks will appeal to your lighter side. No candidates with nicknames will be running for the UBC Senate.

News Briefs

AMS elections candidates announced.

It's that time of year again. Friday, January 11 was the final day for students to announce their candidacy for the positions of AMS President, VP Academic, VP Administration, VP External and VP Finance, as well as for five seats on the UBC Vancouver Senate and two on the Board of Governors. In total, 32 students have announced their candidacies.

They are:

President:
"Che" Allison
Michael Duncan
Rodrigo Ferrari-Nunes
Matthew Naylor
Erin Rennie

VP Academic:
Nathan Crompton
Alex Lougheed
Rob McLean
Fire Hydrant Peets

VP External:
Freeman Poritz
Stefanie Ratjen

VP Finance:
Stash "Irish Courage" Bylicki
Chris Diplock
Andrew Forshner
Tim Monachello

VP Administration:
"Scary" Mike "The Rabbi" Kushnir
Yian Messoloras
Sarah Naiman

Senate:
Philip Edgcumbe
Blake Frederick
Eileen Harder
Alfie Lee
Alex Lougheed
Rob McLean
Aidha Shaikh
Colin Simkus
Azim Wazeer

Board of Governors:
Bijan Ahmadian
Timothy Blair
Andrew Carne
Rodrigo Ferrari-Nunes
Glenn Frederick "Fiddler Crab" Finlay
Cris Marincat
Genevieve "Malt Likkah" Sweigard

NCAA gives Canadian universities go-ahead.

The National Collegiate Athletic Association voted Monday at its annual convention in Nashville Tennessee to allow Canadian universities to apply for membership as early as June 1st.

UBC Athletic Director Bob Philip said any decision to switch to the NCAA however, would have to be the result of a serious campus discussion first.

Philip has said in the past that if UBC applied to Division II, it would likely seek to join the United States' largest universities in Division I after a few years.

NCAA bylaws, however, would allow Division II universities to have one sport compete at the Divison I level, which for UBC would almost certainly be hockey.

It is unclear if UBC would be allowed to have some sports continue to compete against Canadian competition in the CIS, or if Athletics would even want to.

The vote was 97 per cent in favour of allowing Canadian schools to begin the application process (258 for, 9 against, 2 abstentions).

Simon Fraser, the University of Alberta and St. Claire's College in Ontario have also expressed interest in joining the NCAA.

Classifieds

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callboard

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Free classifieds for students: For more information, visit Room 23 in the sub or call: 604-822-1654

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Once upon a time, in a land not too far away, Matt Hayles grabbed his hamburger phone and quickly dialed Kasha Chang. She arose from her bright pink linen and answered with pointed apathy. Trevor Melarson flew in from a nearby window and shocked her out of her lethargy. They proceeded to escape the dungeon, slaying three porcupines on the way to save their friend. Viv Tutlewski interrupted their venture by using her laser vision to say a tree in front on them. Marie Burgayne intervened with startling force and raised it above her head to let the heroes run on. Meanwhile, Stephanie Taylor had forcibly taken over BC Liquor and demanded cold beer. Little did she know that James Johnson was on his way with a bag of ice. He grabbed a large red bucked and threw it in with some cold water. He had yet again saved Jacob McNeil's party. Goh Iromoto arrived first, lacing garlands of tinsel around the room. Stephanie Findlay soon joined, carrying Joe Raymert on her back. He had succumbed to the awesome mix of marshmallows and peanut butter and was recovering badly. Just in time Boris Korby flung the door open and presented him with Pepto Bismol. Sadly, they had not predicted the overwhelming power of Brandon Adams as he huffed and puffed and blew the house down. Jewkes shed a single tear. Paul Bucci offered him his handkerchief, which he had stolen from Oker Chen, who sat sad and snooty in the corner. David Zhang put a smile on his face by transforming a rose into a small swan, who floated away before being destroyed by Shun Ends blazing gaze. Oddly enough, Isabel Ferreras and her close accomplice Jesse Ferreras had not yet brought the refreshments. Kellan Higgins pondered, then was distracted by an alluring smell. It was Levi Barnett! Well dressed and wearing his favorite perfume, Champagne Choquer.

EDITORIAL GRAPHIC
Stephanie Findlay

Canadian University Press
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'Legacy will be one of justice, compassion and commitment'

from "McEachern" | PAGE 01

Premier Gordon Campbell in a statement, continuing, "Allan's legacy will be one of justice, compassion and commitment to the Canadian legal system."

The renowned jurist graduated from UBC's Faculty of Arts in 1949 and the next year he graduated with a degree from UBC's Faculty of Law.

Soon after graduating, McEachern both articled and later practiced with the Vancouver law firm Russell & DuMoulin, where he practised until he was appointed as a justice of the BC Supreme Court in 1979.

Despite McEachern's reputation in the legal community, his decisions were not without controversy. Not long after becoming BC's chief justice in 1988, McEachern ruled on an important First Nations land claims case, the Delgamukkw case.

In his ruling, McEachern rejected the use of the oral traditions upon which the First Nations communities had based their case, ultimately sinking their case and leaving McEachern with a damaged reputation in many Canadians' minds.

The decision was opposed by many within First Nations communities and was ultimately overturned in a 1997 Supreme Court of Canada decision. Despite this McEachern stood behind his decision, saying, "I don't think the people who criticize it have a close understanding of what the narrow legal issue was and view it far differently than I did."

"I did the best I could," McEachern told *the Ubyssey* soon after he took on the role as chancellor. "I gave it four years of my life, heard all this evidence, read all this stuff, wrote a...judgement and I can't do any better than that."

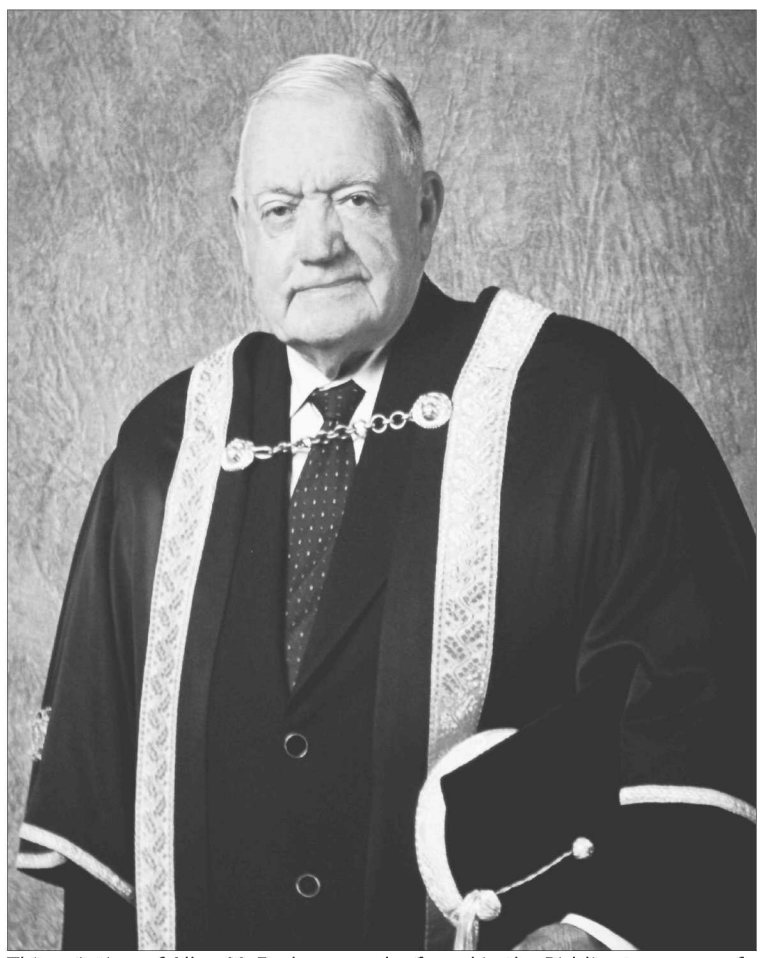
Others pointed to less controversial moves by McEachern when looking back at his accomplishments. In a 2002 interview, UBC's then VP External Affairs Dennis Pavlich looked at the role McEachern played in creating equality in the judiciary.

"[McEachern]'s really opened up the court to women," said Pavlich. "The Chief Justice has an enormous amount of say behind-the-scenes and he moved the court of appeal from, I think it was all male—there might have been one judge who was woman—to a situation where today there are more women on the court of appeal than men."

After retiring from bench in 2001, McEachern took a role as a visiting professor with UBC's Faculty of Law. Soon afterward McEachern was elected to the University's chancellorship, a position which he held from 2002 to his death last Thursday.

A statement from Brad Bennett, chair of UBC Board of Governors and University President Stephen Toope notes the important role McEachern played at the University.

"UBC's Board of Governors has been fortunate beyond measure to have as Chancellor one of Canada's finest legal minds to help in our deliberations," noted the statement. "Allan's experience, wisdom, integrity, and wonderful sense of humour have substantially contributed to the success of the university he loved so deeply."



This painting of Allan McEachern can be found in the Riddington room of the Irivine K. Barber Library. He had been the Chancellor at UBC for 6 years.

'This investment helps us continue our shift from being a car-oriented campus to a transit-centred one'

from "SkyTrain" | PAGE 01

connects Surrey and downtown Vancouver; and for the completion of the Canada Line which runs between Richmond and Vancouver.

—$1.6 billion for approximately 1500 clean energy buses and maintainance infrastructure.

—$1.2 billion for "RapidBus BC"—a service which is slated to run nine major routes in 'high-growth urban centres' in Metro Vancouver, Victoria, and Kelowna. These lines are intended to provide "reliable service that looks and feels like rapid transit and operates on dedicated laneways in some cases."

—A claimed 4.7 million tonne reduction in greenhouse gas by 2020.

While Hardie could not be specific regarding the plans for rapid transit to UBC, he did say that it would probably be based on above-grade SkyTrain technology. Hardie also said that TransLink is still deciding what corridor will be used to run the train from the current Millennium line terminus to the University campus.

In a separate release, UBC President Stephen Toope congratulated the Premier and noted the central role the UBC campus plays in Vancouver's transit system.

"With UBC's Vancouver campus the second largest transit destination in the region, this investment helps us continue our shift from being a car-oriented campus to a transit-centred one," said Toope, also noting the role that future RapidBus service will play at the UBC Okanagan campus.

The University stated in its press release, "The below-grade new bus terminal that UBC and TransLink are building is sized to fit with the development of the new rapid transit service."

Darren Peets, UBC Board of Governors student representative and critic of the University-Boulevard underground bus loop, was generally positive about the transit plan, though he was critical about the government's time frame and previous lack of investment.

"It's good for UBC because, especially for the 99 route, we're going to get to a point when we just can't add any more buses to Broadway," said Peets, continuing, "They've already had to go to all-door boarding because the time between buses was about the time it took to load a bus. This has bought them a bit more space."

Peets was dismissive of the University's claim that the rapid transit service would fit with the University Boulevard's underground bus loop. He noted that the underground loop is only slated to meet the University's needs for ten years.

"The bus terminal design that we're looking at is designed to last approximately ten years after it's opened—assuming that the trolleys stay at grade and using other assumptions such as pre-UPass ridership numbers and the presumption that the bus service at present, or three years ago, is adequate," said Peets. "So yes, absolutely, the new bus terminal will be sized to work with the rapid transit line. It's whether it will be sized to work until that thing is finished [that's in question]."

Hydrant makes triumphant return to campus politics

After year-long hiatus, campus celebrity running for VP Academic

By Jesse Ferreras
News Staff

The most seasoned candidate in this year's student elections isn't a former councillor, varsity athlete, or student society president. Hell, it's not even an animated object, let alone someone with political experience.

It's a fire hydrant—and after a one-year hiatus from campus politics, it's making a victory lap in the contest for VP Academic in what is likely to be the most hotly contested position in this election.

This time out, the hydrant and his keeper, current Board of Governors (BoG) member Darren Peets, find themselves taking on a high-profile field of candidates for VP Academic, a busy executive position responsible for lobbying the University on behalf of students, as well as hiring within the AMS and writing its annual budget.

Also gunning for the job is Alex Lougheed, a well-known contributor at AMS Council meetings and Nate Crompton, a campus activist and one of the brain-children behind the Trek Park protest against campus development.

Peets, a physics doctoral candidate who is graduating this year, is unable to run himself but said there's been a demand to see the hydrant—who in previous years poked fun at a lack of campaigning effort on the part of fellow BoG candidates—fight another day.

"It decided to roll for election again because there were a lot of people that were asking it to do so," he said. "I suspect for academic we can come up with a fairly solid campaign platform for it."

The hydrant's platform promises to care about the VP Academic's porfolio so that other students don't have to and extols its "five-bolt" connection to UBC.

It has been a challenge to find any candidate's platform, however, because until Monday afternoon the AMS elections website has yet to update itself from its 2007 incarnation.

Fellow candidate Lougheed, who last year took a run for VP Administration under the "Lougheed the Barbarian" moniker, does not seem phased by his competition.

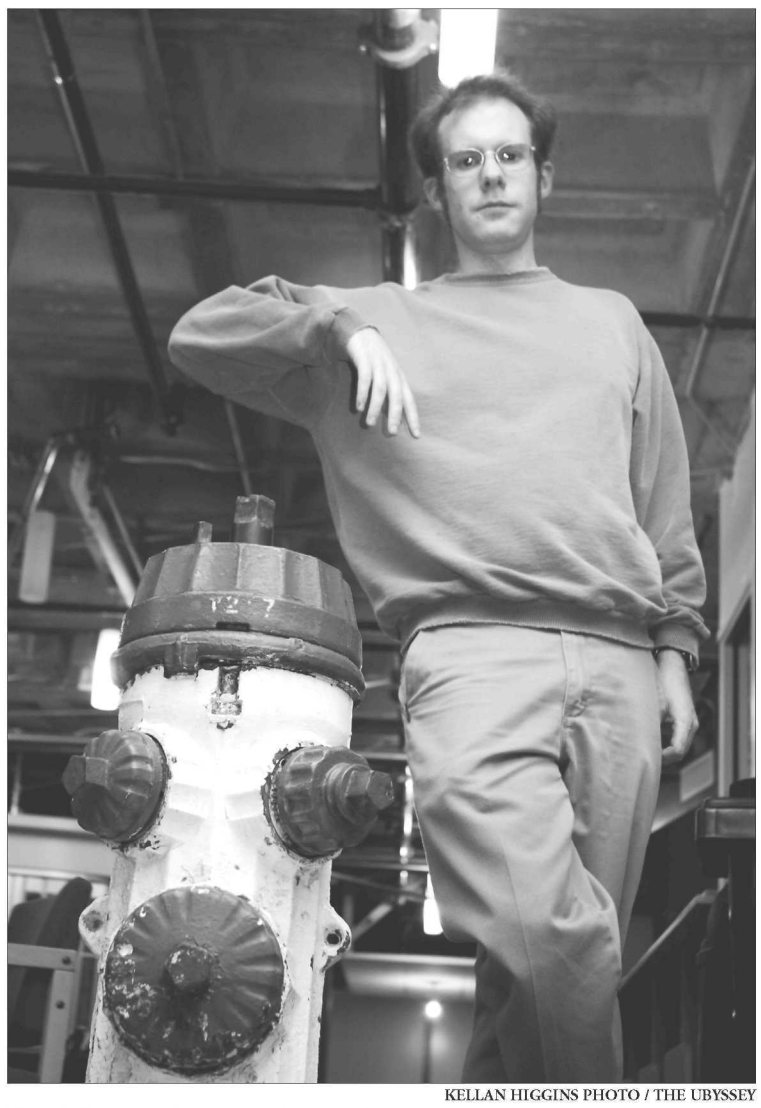
"I've heard that the fire hydrant is very good under pressure," he said. "There are many candidates running in the election to promote democratic ideals [and] give the voters a choice."

This year marks the fourth time the fire hydrant has sought public office after three consecutive attempts to run for BoG, the university's highest governing body.

He first ran in 2004 on the Radical Beer Faction (RBF) slate, garnering 840 votes. He placed fifth on the ballot that year, coming within 782 votes of winner Brian Duong.

Hydrant gave it another shot in 2005, this time with more success. He mustered 900 votes and came fourth on the ballot, only seven votes shy of actually winning a seat. He gained 43% support from voters that year in a tight contest that saw Quinn Omori and Tim Louman-Gardiner elected to the BoG.

His last attempt in 2006, however, made him a real force in UBC politics. Though he didn't come much closer to actually winning a seat (he lost by 48 votes this time out) he came third in the race for one of two student seats and came over 100 votes above the fourth-place candidate, incumbent Tim Louman-Gardiner.



KELLAN HIGGINS PHOTO / THE UBYSSEY

Fire Hydrant spokesperson Darren Peets poses with next year's potential AMS Vice President Academic and University Affairs.

1908·2008 ONLY THE BEGINNING

UBC

1 Year of celebration

JAN 18 – 26

Honoré de Balzac's OLD GORIOT

The premiere of award-winning director James Fagan Tait's theatrical staging of Balzac's utterly gripping, witty and profound treatment of two consuming obsessions — money and love.
A co-production between Theatre at UBC and Western Gold Theatre in the PuSh International Performing Arts Festival.

TELUS Studio Theatre
Chan Centre for the Performing Arts
7:30pm | Tickets: $25/$20/$15
at UBC Theatre Box Office 604.822.2678

JAN 30

2008 ARTS CAREER EXPO: IMAGINE THE POSSIBILITIES

An evening of inspiration, ideas, and connections to give Arts undergraduate students of all levels and majors the opportunity to learn about the diverse career options available to BAs.

Chan Centre for the Performing Arts
5:00pm-8:30pm
Attendees must pre-register online.
www.arts.ubc.ca/students/nc/student-leadership-career-planning/arts-career-expo.html

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UBC

CAMPUS & COMMUNITY PLANNING

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UBC Planning Open House 2008

UBC Planning Staff will be on hand with drawings and information highlighting recent projects at the University of British Columbia.

Monday, January 21, 2008 1:30 pm – 7:30 pm

Tuesday, January 22, 2008 10:00 am – 4:00 pm

Student Union Building Concourse, 6138 Student Union Boulevard

For directions to the Student Union Building, go to **www.maps.ubc.ca**

For further information, contact Linda Moore (Associate Director, Community Relations) at 604.822.8831 or linda.moore@ubc.ca.

www.planning.ubc.ca **www.universitytown.ubc.ca**

No such thing as a free naked lunch

Waits and Burroughs make strange work

BY JESSE FERRERAS
Culture Staff

We know William S. Burroughs for giant space insects, talking assholes, and botched William Tell routines. We know Tom Waits for his über-raspy vocals, seedy lyrics, and his distinctive sad-sack persona.

Imagine putting their talents together into a single work of art—the fragmented, confusing surreality of "Naked Lunch" mixed with the down-in-the-dumps darkness of songs like "The Piano Has Been Drinking" and "November." Not exactly a recipe for a happy tale.

Helped along by the vision of avant-garde stage director Robert Wilson, the result looks something like "The Black Rider: The Casting of the Magic Bullets," a self-styled "musical fable" now being staged as part of Vancouver's PuSh International Performing Arts Festival.

The play, written by Burroughs and scored by Waits, has its basis in the 1821 German opera "Der Freischütz" by Carl Maria von Weber and Friedrich Kind, which tells of Max, a young ranger in love with a woman named Agatha who must take part in a test of marksmanship if he wishes to succeed her father, Kuno, as head ranger.

The story gets a substantial upgrade in "The Black Rider." Max becomes Wilhelm, a file clerk, who is madly in love with the royal huntsman's daughter, Kathchen. Wilhelm must prove himself a worthy hunter if he wishes to marry her. Unfortunately, he's a lousy hunter.

One day while attempting to hunt he stumbles upon a devil-like Peg Leg man who offers him seven magic bullets that he says are guaranteed to hit their mark. With the help of the bullets, Wilhelm brings home enough kill to satisfy Katchen's father and he is allowed to marry his beloved.

> *Imagine putting their talents together into a single work of art—the fragmented, confusing surreality of "Naked Lunch" mixed with the down-in-the-dumps darkness of songs like "The Piano Has Been Drinking" and "November."*

But his trials have not yet abetted. He must still prove his hunting mettle on his wedding day by shooting a wooden bird out of a tree. Six of the bullets, all of which hit their mark, were guaranteed to go where Wilhelm aimed them, but the last one belongs to Peg Leg and goes where he chooses to send it. This twist of fate leads to an intense, unpredictable conclusion as Wilhelm hopes against hope he can still hit his target.

> *Within that palette we use clown, we vaudeville, there's characters that just come off the page... That's the way we tell the story, deconstructed and expressionistic.*
>
> RON JENKINS,
> *Director*

The PuSh production of "Black Rider" is, in fact, the second production to which Vancouver has borne witness. The first was staged in 2005 at the Waterfront Theatre and drew rave reviews from some of Vancouver's toughest critics.

Now being directed by Edmonton's Ron Jenkins, and starring *Life After God*'s Michael Scholar, Jr., as the black-and-white clad Peg Leg, the play is being promoted as PuSh's opening show for the two week-long festival.

Its promotion images reveal a dystopian landscape draped in vivid reds, blues and blacks, populated by characters that could have been lifted from the darkest nightmares of Julie Taymor.

"There's a key line in the play, 'that's the way the painting comes to life,'" Jenkins said in an interview. "The thing that we wanted to do was a chamber version of the musical and just try to make it as expressionistic as possible."

"Within that palette we use clown, we vaudeville, there's characters that just come off the page...That's the way we tell the story, deconstructed and expressionistic."

With the minds that have gone into its making, "Black Rider" is clearly not for the faint at heart. But for fans of any of these artists it's perfectly likely to be a hit, and surely appealing to those willing to take a long walk on the dark side.

Sprouts has sprung again from its organic ashes

OKER CHEN PHOTO COMPOSITE / THE UBYSSEY

Sprouts organizers gave visitors succulent treats during the opening reception of the organic food store and café on Friday, January 11th. The shop now provides a space for casual conversation.

Grocery store metamorphoses into café, complete with soup and seating

BY POLINA TSYBINA
Culture Writer

Grocery store and café Sprouts reopened its doors last Friday after remaining closed for most of first term due to administrative and financial difficulties. Now, with the help of enthusiasts, Sprouts is back with its 75 cent coffee, local organic produce, and some new items on the menu: soups, pastries, and stews.

The philosophy behind the change is simple: create a space in which positive discussion about food systems (or anything else) can happen.

"Food is a really natural avenue to get people to look at their world in a new way," says Sprouts board member, Caroline Walker. "It's holistic thinking that can expand beyond food systems."

In 1987 the Sprouts organization started out as UBC Food Co-op, and in 2003 the club grew and received space in the basement of the SUB. Inspired by an eco-friendly store Le Frigo Vert ("The Green Fridge") run by Concordia students, Food Co-op members decided to use the space for a non-profit grocery store that would sell organic fair trade foods. "Sprouts" opened in 2004 and was quite successful until most of its management graduated in 2005 and 2006, leaving the remaining club members without instruction as to the way the store should be run. Financial problems ensued, and the store had to close in September 2007.

> *Food is a really natural avenue to get people to look at their world in a new way.*
>
> CAROLINE WALKER,
> *Sprouts Board member*

Prior to its recent reopening, Sprouts' present administration got some advice from former management in the form of a rewritten constitution, agreed on responsibilities for each club member, and other operational changes. One of the organization's most important innovations is the introduction of the transparent company approach: "everyone can understand [Sprouts'] inner workings" says Walker. This tactic encourages all of the club's members to solve problems through cooperation, as opposed to having each individual deal with his or her particular area without engaging others.

Another big change is that the store will now rely completely on volunteers. Previously, Sprouts had to pay cafeteria personnel to prepare certain foods, but this is no longer necessary as the AMS has allotted kitchen space for the store, allowing volunteers to cook snacks and meals that will be served at Sprouts.

Since management has undergone changes, the organization's goals and aspirations have transformed as well. "[The group is committed to] engaging people in the process of food," says Walker. Sprouts volunteers know exactly where their food comes from: they are in touch with the farmers and distributors whose produce appears on the store's shelves.

> *[Sprouts] helps us connect back to our food.*
>
> HEATHER RUSSELL,
> *Sprouts volunteer*

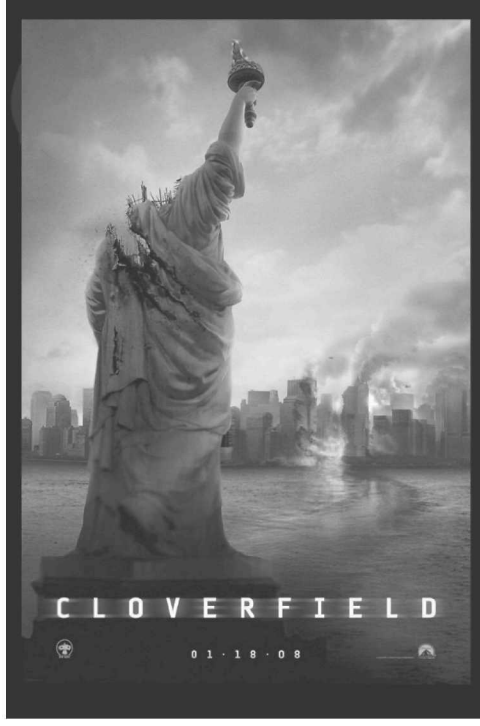
OKER CHEN PHOTO / THE UBYSSEY

The environment remains the store's top priority, and the group is always looking for new ways to promote the cause. "[Sprouts] helps us connect back to our food," says Heather Russell, who is a prominent club member. Students working for Sprouts reduce food packaging and transportation costs by transporting some products in person whenever possible. One coffee they sell is Café ¡Justicia!, which is produced by Guatemalan farmers and transported purely by volunteers.

Walker illustrates this point in simple terms: "I just picked up a bag of coffee from [the] porch [of our distributor].

"It's the 'grassroots just make it happen' attitude—which is what Sprouts is all about."

The Ubyssey
Shameless GIVEAWAY



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upcoming issues

upcoming supplement issue

Election coverage

We the Ubyssey will be providing you, the students of UBC with correct, accurate, and awesome information on the candidates running for AMS positions this year. Our coverage will be in the:

Tuesday Jan 22nd

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get your facts from UBC's most trusted news source.

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Pride

The Ubyssey will be putting out our special issue of the Ubyssey, Pride, which focuses on pertinent issues in the queer and lesbian communities not normally covered by the Ubyssey. Pride will come out on:

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UBYSSEY PUBLICATIONS SOCIETY

2007 Board of Directors Election

The Ubyssey Publications Society is the organization responsible for publishing UBC's official student newspaper. The Ubyssey. It's membership consists of all UBC students who have not opted out of membership by completing an opt-out form. Members are eligible to run for, and vote in, Board Elections.

The Board of Directors oversees the administrative and business aspects of the paper including advertising, marketing, distribution, the budget and the finances, meetings of the Society, and management of employees. The Board is not, however, involved in any editorial aspects of the paper. The positions open are for 5 Members at Large and 1 President.

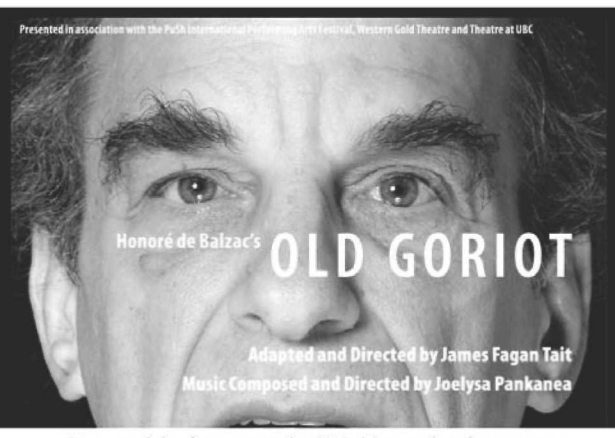
Term is February 2008 to February 2009. Directors attend approximately 20 Board Meetings through the year in addition to serving on Board Committees. No previous experience with newspapers or the UPS is required.

Elections will be held in conjunction with the AMS Elections January 18th to 22nd, 2008.

For more information, contact Fernie Pereira at 822-6681.

The Ubyssey

Shameless GIVEAWAY



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CHRISTINE MCLAREN PHOTO / THE UBYSSEY

Sex, drugs and, well, actually mostly just sex at the annual Taboo sex show held at in Vancouver this year.

Taboo Sex Show pleasures patrons

BY CHRISTINE MCLAREN
Culture Staff

"Oh yeah...oh baby...ohhh, ohh yes, oh, I'm gonna cum...ohhhhhhh YEEES!!"

A mixture of pleasure, surprise, and -pain echoed through the PA system as I pigeon-toed my way through security to be greeted by a nude, painted woman carrying a handful of condoms. To my left, a man was giving a detailed demonstration of the latest and greatest technology in bondage beds with the help of a volunteer from the audience.

A smorgasbord of every erotically associated product, service, or demonstration imaginable was sprawled spread eagle across the entirety of the Vancouver Convention and Exhibition Centre in front of me. Air Canada advertised package deals to honeymoon hotspots, while across the walkway Miss Kitty's Erotic Boutique proposed rack upon rack of items to dominate all of your tapping, tickling, stroking, and flogging desires. High above the crowd, projected on the wall, a naked police constable's silhouette spanked an ill-disciplined prisoner with what looked like the recreation room's misplaced ping pong paddle.

On the far side of the hall, five contestants stood on a large stage. I realised that what I had mistaken upon my entrance for various barnyard animals suffering from agonizing forms of torture was actually the peak of an orgasm faking competition.

This was my introduction to Taboo—the Naughty but Nice Sex Show, a weekend chock full of fun for the whole of-age family. It was like being dropped into an X-rated version of Oz, but the wicked witch is on stilts twirling her ruby red nipple pasties, and Glinda is being spanked by a vinyl clad munchkin for being a naughty, naughty witch. This year Vancouver hosted its 7th annual sex exhibition from January 10-13, and the show was, as always, a smashing success.

"The word 'sex' in general creates a sort of buzz and hype. It creates curiosity," explains Tara Connor, general manager of Canwest Shows.

Taboo made its mark in Vancouver for the first time in 2001, when Canwest decided to expand a convention that was already very popular in Toronto and bring it out west. Connor describes the wide range of atmosphere at the conventions across the country and how Vancouver's open minded and accepting community helps the exhibition really blossom.

> *It was like being dropped into an X-rated version of Oz, but the wicked witch is on stilts twirling her ruby red nipple pasties.*

"The city is so easygoing. It also has a much larger gay and lesbian population than other cities in Canada, which creates a lot more acceptance."

And it's true. The place was packed with everyone from the fishnet-clad gothic dominatrix, to your average soccer mom having a gander at the goofy-looking toys.

Like any convention, Taboo's goal is simple: "to bring the industry together with prospective buyers in a comfortable, sophisticated and non-threatening environment," as stated on the exhibition's website. And between sex toys, massage therapy, nice and naughty lingerie, hand crafted glass dildos, romantic getaways, strippers, pole dancers, vinyl clothing, dating agencies and much, much more, there truly is something for everyone.

"The show appeals to a large demographic," says Norm Elmore of the Screaming Chicken Theatrical Society, a burlesque troupe invited to attend the conference as performers. "One in 70 people in this city come here, so I think there's quite a mix. You get young kids coming out and giggling, you see the curious people as well as the ones walking out with loaded shopping bags. And then you see a couple weirdo pervs."

The Screaming Chicken girls advertised classes, workshops, and seminars with names such as "Becoming Burlesque," "Burlesque Aerobics," and "Strip, Rip, and Twirl."

For those who prefer chains and leather to glitter and feathers, a walk through the Dungeon, proudly supported by Sin City and Metro Vancouver Kink, had enough heavy bondage racks, paddles, and whipping demonstrations—as well as men in leather tutus—to satisfy any kinky craving that might creep up on you from behind the enormous inflatable gargoyle.

Aside from that, the show featured workshops hosted by sexologists and experts with titles such as, "The Ins and Outs of Anal Sex," "Cock Sucking: The Hand Job, Blow Job Class," and "Twosomes..Threesomes..Foursomes..Moresomes—A Couples Guide to Multi-Partner Play," as well as some tamer options such as "How to Have Better Intercourse—Making it Feel Different."

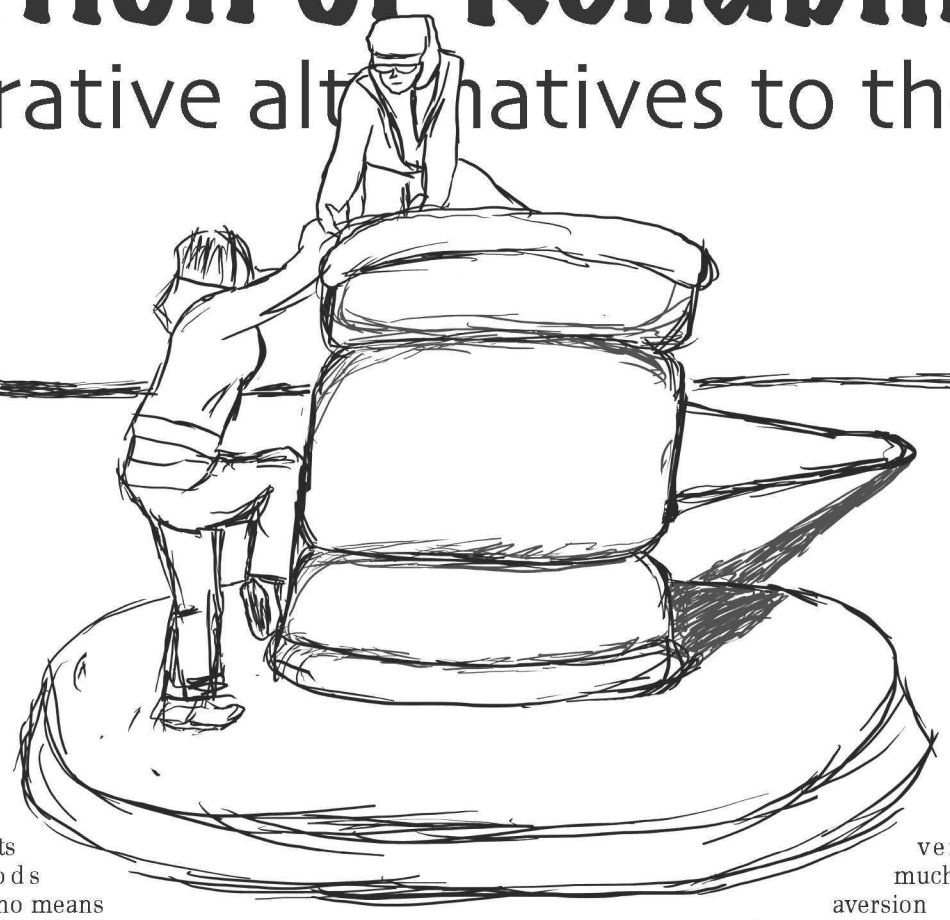
And though it may all sound a little intimidating at first, the accepting, laid back, non-threatening, respectful atmosphere of the show was definitely its most spectacular feature, and left the patron with one clear message: Sex is meant to be enjoyed. And however you choose to do it, Taboo has something for you.

And if you missed out this year, don't despair. The Taboo Sex Show is bringing sex back next year too.

Retribution or Rehabilitation?

Restorative alternatives to the slammer

By Kelly Ebbels
The McGill Daily (McGill University)



KELLAN HIGGINS ILLUSTRATION / THE UBYSSEY

MONTREAL (CUP)—In Manitoba's vast interior lies a small Ojibwa reservation called Hollow Water. An isolated community of about 1000, Hollow Water has struggled with alcohol and drug abuse, as well as an unsettlingly high rate of sexual abuse—which has landed countless offenders in jail, over and over again.

"Those places are not conducive to healing," says Marcel Hardisty, a community worker in Hollow Water. He speaks slowly, articulating each syllable. "It's not designed to rehabilitate anybody; it's designed to toughen them up."

Twenty years ago, elders and community leaders at Hollow Water teamed up with social services counsellors and launched what Hardisty describes as a comprehensive networking and healing system, called Community Holistic Circle Healing (CHCH).

If a community member is accused of a crime, another community member or an officer refers the offender to CHCH. Hollow Water has confronted sexual abuse, incest, and alcoholism not through retributive, punitive measures, but through these restorative justice healing circles.

The essential premise of the restorative approach is that crime is not committed against a law that is then enforced by the state, but against another individual. As such, to deal with crime is not the job of the state, but of the community—and the goal is not to inflict equal punishment but to repair harm.

"CHCH evolved under a whole understanding of cycles," explains Hardisty, also the president of CHCH. "Abuse itself is a cycle. There's a victimizer and a victim is created, and the victim becomes another victimizer. In order to break that, people have to recognize this."

The first step facilitators take with amenable offenders is to work to help them to take responsibility for the crime committed. As well, CHCH pays close attention to the victim's needs, to determine the depth of harm inflicted. Over a period of weeks or even years, CHCH brings together the victim, offender, family, counsellors and community groups for counselling sessions and a sentencing circle.

Hardisty says the program is still struggling, but that it has lowered re-offending rates, decreased drug use in the area, and kept many more people out of jail.

"It gives power back to the community, the victims. It lets people have a say in what treatment ought to be, and how they want to be involved in addressing the harm done," said Hardisty.

Hollow Water represents one of the more impressive success stories for restorative justice, but its methods are by no means isolated. Over the past 30 years, indigenous self-determination movements have emerged in countries like Canada, Australia and New Zealand. Simultaneously, First Nations people have begun recovering or reinventing traditional practices and healing rites, including restorative justice.

This has coincided with a growing dissatisfaction with traditional justice systemst. In the last few years, these intellectual and cultural currents have converged—and this cross-pollination was epitomized by the National Restorative Justice Symposium, which took place in Montreal as part of Canada's National Restorative Justice Week. It was a meeting ground where indigenous peoples, government agents, lawyers, academics, and others gathered to discuss the state of restorative justice across Canada.

The conference proved that there is a strong will among members of smaller communities, as well as qualified support among courts and governments, to move ahead with restorative justice. Overall, there is an emerging theoretical consensus that, if we want to fix a justice system mired with repeat offenders, prison overcrowding, and racial and sexual discrimination, restorative justice is a vital tool.

A history of justice

The first formal restorative justice program in Canada got its start in 1974 in Kitchener, Ontario; other restorative justice programs grew over the course of the decade. Federal and provincial governments first began to take notice in the mid-1980s, and have been flirting with restorative justice ever since.

Some believe that restorative justice should only play limited role in society as a secondary method that can usually be used effectively for non-serious crimes. Others believe that restorative justice should be used as a foundation for an entirely different structure for the criminal system.

Canada's federal government first took an interest in restorative justice in 1987, when Parliament was in the midst of reviewing its ban on capital punishment. The Standing Committee on Justice heard from a number of practitioners of restorative justice, and in a report the following year, it recommended implementing various pilot projects. While government-sponsored projects began getting off the ground, projects rooted in rural and indigenous communities were also able to pick up steam.

Derek Lyons is the restorative justice coordinator of Nishnawbe-Aski Legal Services, an organization that provides restorative justice services for 21 of 49 First Nations communities in Treaty Nine territory in northern Ontario. Lyons is a native of the region and a graduate of the law school at Queen's University. Lyons is convinced that judges, crown attorneys, and other justice stakeholders who tend to be skittish about the restorative justice process., need training in it's theory and techniques.

He acknowledged a need for both restorative justice and the traditional court system, pointing out that many remote fly-in communities don't have the capacity to start dealing with people committing crimes.

Other First Nations in Quebec and New Brunswick, including Kahnawake and a few Mikmac communities, have established their own restorative justice healing circles and support groups, but with very little or no support from the courts or the Ministry of Justice.

"I see it going into non-Aboriginal communities," Lyons says.

Despite his enthusiasm, concrete support for restorative justice is still weak. At the federal level, restorative justice is a politically risky cause, despite heightened lobbying efforts. At the provincial level, the success of institutionalizing restorative justice into mainstream justice programs varies widely. While British Columbia, Saskatchewan, and Nova Scotia have made progress in institutionalizing the practice, Quebec has been slower to find a place for it.

At a conference of the Superior Court of Quebec, Maurice Galarneau, a Crown prosecutor, verbalized much of the aversion to rapid change.

"We're not going to change the system overnight. Very frankly, I think this is the best legal system we have in the world. We must be the guardians of a huge democracy here," he says.

Protection or punishment?

Galarneau's testament stands in stark contrast to the will of others in Quebec working for a transformation of the justice system.

Mylène Jaccoud, a professor of criminology at the Université de Montréal and one of the foremost experts on restorative justice in Quebec, gained her first insights about restorative justice in Inuit communities. She speculates that, ironically, Québécois are suspicious of the modern restorative justice movement because they perceive it as rooted in Anglo-Saxon tradition.

Jaccoud believes that restorative justice has the potential to radically alter our current justice system. She envisions a new role for police, attorneys, and courts, and she argues that prisons should be abolished.

"It's demagogic to look at serial killers," Jaccoud says, anticipating my question about what society can do with very dangerous criminals.

"I don't understand why we focus on these very few people in our society. I'm not stupid; I'm not against protection. If someone is truly dangerous, we have to exclude this person from society. But we must be clear about the difference between protection and punishment."

For Jaccoud, society's most dangerous criminals should be treated in hospitals, not packed away in prisons. "It's paradoxical that we use restorative justice for minor cases, ones that need less healing. For more serious cases, where the most healing is needed, we punish," Jaccoud tells me.

The Collaborative Justice Project (CJP), based in Ottawa, demonstrates that it is possible to deal effectively with violent offences within a restorative justice framework. Jamie Scott, the former coordinator of the CJP, spoke at the Symposium about the process of implementing a restorative justice framework in a court—a process remarkably similar to the restorative justice system used by Hollow Water.

The pilot project, Scott told the audience, dealt only with serious crimes, after someone has been charged but not yet sentenced. After an offender admits guilt, the court postpones sentencing and the case is moved to a restorative justice framework. Then, the CJP prepares with the accused to explore an understanding of accountability; a similar preparation is done with the victim, to explore their needs. Secondary victims, or witnesses, are brought in, after which CJP facilitates direct or indirect contact between the victim and offender. Finally, the group submits a resolution agreement to the court, which informs the judge's sentencing.

Scott went on to pose some of the most important questions at the conference. "Why does the success of restorative justice pilot projects not translate into funding, political will, and changes to social policy? Why do politicians still believe they can get mileage from a 'law and order' agenda?"

Overcoming colonialism

For Hollow Water, the challenges are obvious and overwhelming. But Hardisty is convinced that the community has started on a path away from their colonial herritage.

"[The Indian Act] was deliberately designed to ensure that [indigenous peoples] would become so dependent on handouts. You have a people who are prone to dysfunctional behaviour, who are broken. We've been fighting hard to undo the process of colonization," he said.

Social problems like drug abuse, unemployment and sexual violence are creeping up again, and Hardisty thinks that CHCH's success in resolving these issues largely depends on the community regaining economic self-sufficiency and more control over their political institutions.

"We need to have access to resources around us," Hardisty says. "We're forcing the government to look again at our treaty agreements. You can't talk about healing and not talk about economic development."

For Hollow Water, CHCH remains the key towards recovery.

It is heartening to Hardisty that many others are trying to emulate the example of restorative justice in Hollow Water. "There are more non-Aboriginal people interested [in restorative justice] than our own. Our own people are afraid of it. The kids that come from the university–they're so excited to come and learn about our ceremonies."

There is more interest from other Canadians than there is among First Nations people.

"I love that," he chuckles. "That's the only way of creating understanding."

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Injuries, foul trouble lead to poor play from men

FRIDAY		SATURDAY	
UBC THUNDERBIRDS	BU	UBC THUNDERBIRDS	CALGARY DINOS
78	92	78	65

BY PAUL ALBI
Sports Writer

While the women returned from their trip to the US sharp as a tack for the game against the Brandon Bobcats, the men's team was not as successful losing 92-78 Friday to the visiting Brandon, who still only have one loss on the season.

It was an intense back and forth battle until midway through the fourth quarter when injuries and foul trouble caught up to the T-Birds. That is when the Manitoba-based Bobcats began to take control of the game. The team's top scorer Chris Dyck saw little action in the game due to injury, and four UBC players fouled out of the game in their efforts to cut the Bobcat lead. It was a fierce war in the paint as bodies were banging and crashing to the floor all game.

Being in foul trouble late in the game caused UBC players to tone down their defensive intensity so as to not foul out. Brandon took advantage of this crashing the boards and slashing to the rim at every possible opportunity. While at one point in the second quarter UBC built a 12 point lead, a late first half surge by the visitors cut the lead to four by half-time.

The Bobcats continued with the momentum in the early part of the second half scoring four quick points and tying up the game. Brandon carried the lead into the start of the fourth by a score of 69-66 and never looked back. UBC had several cold streaks shooting the ball throughout the contest while Brandon was consistently knocking down mid-range jump shots and three pointers.

Brandon shot 60 per cent from beyond the arc while UBC shot only 35 per cent from three-point land. Other than three-point shooting, the only other uneven statistic was turnover numbers. UBC had 23 turnovers while Brandon only let the ball go 13 times.

Throughout most of the game UBC simply could not find an answer for Bobcat player Dany Charlery as he led scorers with 27 points while adding a game-high six steals.

"I think it really hurt us having only ten healthy bodies and 55 fouls," said UBC coach Kevin Hanson. "We got into foul trouble, with four guys fouling out, and we just didn't have enough guys to play the second half. The whole second half we were compensating for guys in foul trouble, and when you put those guys in they play tentatively, and I think that played a big factor in it tonight."

The men came back to War Memorial Saturday evening looking to redeem their loss and succeeded with a 78-65 win over the Regina Cougars. The Thunderbirds came out looking for a win right off the bat, keeping the Cougars off the board for over six minutes while scoring 16 points in the process. Regina began to close the gap in the third, but it wasn't enough to defeat the T-Birds.

With Dyck sidelined due to an injury, season newcomer Blain LaBlanche led the team with 17 points.

Despite the win Saturday, Hanson isn't happy with how the team is playing after returning from Hawaii. "We weren't pleased with the way we played this weekend overall," said Hanson. "We have to get better. We have a couple of guys who are in a bit of a funk right now."

Hanson will definitely be looking for better play out of his team tonight when they tip off against the Simon Fraser Clan at War Memorial Gym at 7pm. Meanwhile, they will face some of their toughest competition Friday when they head to Victoria to take on the Vikes at 8pm. The T-Birds and Vikes split the last two-game series at War Memorial a month and a half ago and both teams sit high atop everyone else in the pacific division of Canada West.

Canadian university sports fans can feel at home in Northern Ireland

from "Irish Bar" | PAGE 12

guests as the squad wrapped up their Irish tour.

The Thunderbirds' contribution comes in the form of a No. 19 baseball jersey, sent by Doug Williscroft, a former UBC Baseball clubhouse manager.

"He was extremely proactive, and sent me [the shirt] in record time," says an appreciative Graves, who prominently displays the T-Birds garment in the centre of the wall. Rockies has received the majority of the items in its vast collection by donation from schools and teams that Graves has made contact with via their athletic director or head coach.

And the jerseys just keep coming. Last month, a former University of New Brunswick student on the alumni board visited and asked about the lack of representation for UNB. "Two days later, she was back at UNB and emailed me saying a jersey was on the way," recalls Graves, who has also recently added a Royal Military College jersey to his collection.

Though few records exist, Graves' research suggests that no one has put together a tribute to Canadian university sports of this magnitude.

"The important part is [students] are aware of [the project]...and realize the potential," says Graves. "Hopefully I can greet them here at Rockies."

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Big post-trip wins for Women's B-ball

FRIDAY		SATURDAY	
UBC Thunderbirds	BU	UBC Thunderbirds	Cougars
99	46	66	43

Returning from California, Thunderbirds score season high, almost reach century mark

BY PAUL ALBI
Sports Writer

It would appear that the recent trip to California was a success as the women's basketball team returned looking sharp and ready to play Friday night against the Brandon Bobcats (0-13) at War Memorial Gym.

The 'Birds got off to a slow start, keeping the score tied 13-13 at the end of the first quarter. But that was the closest to a victory the Bobcats would see as UBC picked up the pace and scored a big win, 99-46. Despite being just one point short of the century mark, that was the most points the T-Birds have scored in a game all season.

"I thought in the second half we executed and competed the way we wanted to," said head coach Deb Huband. "We had lots of great contributions from lots of people. We were able to get some defensive stops and some rebounds that fueled our running game, which was lots of fun."

The T-Birds came out strong with a 6-0 run before going cold and letting the Bobcats come back to take a 13-10 lead. A buzzer-beating three-pointer by UBC's Alex Vieweg tied the game at 13-13 to end the first quarter and it appeared to be the point of no return as the T-Birds never looked back in the contest. After being tied at the end of the first, the T-Birds never surrendered the lead again and it was not long before they pulled away and dominated the visitors in all aspects of the game. After the game was once 21-21, the T-Birds went on a 35-4 run.

Relentless swarming defence by the Thunderbirds led to 27 Bobcat turnovers, ten UBC blocks, and 20 UBC steals. The half-court trap by the T-Birds was so effective that the Bobcats couldn't even get the ball across centre court for most of the game.

The Thunderbirds were then able to capitalize on this success into easy transition baskets. The swarming defence forced the Bobcats to settle for tough shots. That lead to four consecutive airballs. The much taller and seemingly stronger UBC team dominated the glass on both ends of the floor as they out-rebounded the Bobcats 61-37.

The T-Birds gave themselves lots of second chance opportunities, grabbing 25 offensive rebounds. At the same time, they and did an outstanding job of limiting the Bobcats to minimal second chance points only giving up 13 offensive rebounds.

UBC was unselfish and effective in its ball distribution as 32 of the 45 UBC field goals were assisted. Erica McGuiness led the way on offence by scoring 23 points while Cait Haggarty led the way on defence with seven steals.

The women came back to War Memorial the following night to host the Cougars from Regina and the result was the same, another win for the T-Birds. While the team put far fewer points on the board, they still pulled off a sizable 66-43 win.

The Thunderbirds jumped out to an early lead with a 9-2 opening run and took a 22-9 lead going into the first break. Most of those points came solely from top scorer Erica McGuinness who had 13 of her 18 points in the first quarter. While the pace slowed down considerably in the second quarter with neither team managing to score in double digits, the Cougars pressed at the beginning of the fourth cutting the T-Bird lead to a few points. However, three straight three pointers by Cait Haggarty, who had 17 points on the night, restored the T-Bird advantage.

"I'm pretty happy so far in 2008," said Huband. "We are making progress and getting better, and that is where our focus has been."

The women will take their two conference losses to Victoria Friday where they will face the Vikes at 6pm.

OKER CHEN PHOTO / THE UBYSSEY

Thunderbird forward Leanne Evans dribbles around Bobcat player Melanie Thompson during the big win Friday evening at War Memorial Gym. Evans had six points helping the T-Birds score 99 total, a season best.

TOP 8 LIFE-CHANGING TRIPS FOR 2008

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2. Italian courses in Florence
3. Australian Surf School
4. Photo Vietnam with a professional
5. River cruise through the Amazon
6. Polar Bears up close
7. Climb Kilimanjaro (you can!)
8. Thai Cooking courses in Bangkok

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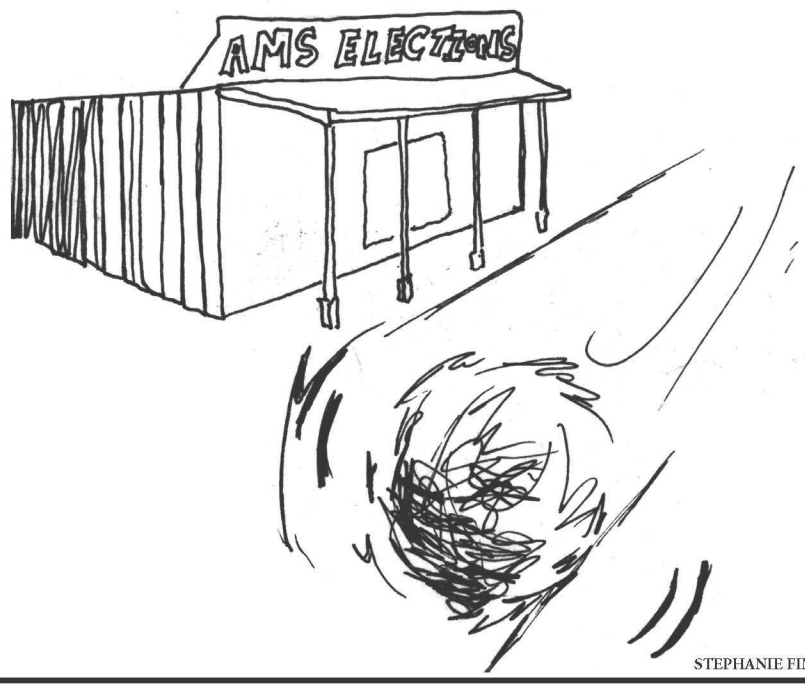


STEPHANIE FINDLAY ILLUSTRATION / THE UBYSSEY

Great plan, but who will pay?

Yay! Yesterday, Premier Gordon Campbell and transportation minister Kevin Falcon announced a $14 billion transit plan that aims to increase ridership and reduce greenhouse gases across BC. Of the money allocated, $10.3 billion will go to new SkyTrain lines throughout Metro Vancouver—the most important to UBC students being a line to the University up Broadway.

That's right, in approximately 12 years UBC will finally have a rapid transit line to campus! Gone will be the days of hellish B-line waits—finally students will no longer have to line-up at Broadway and Commercial for a seven bus wait. And all only 12+ years too late.

However untimely this may be, the UBC line will bring an ease of travel not present today. And, in conjuction with making the lives of future university students easier, the government plans to increase ridership by 400 million trips per year, cutting greenhouse gas emissions by 4.7 million tonnes by 2020.

But despite this eco- and student-friendly future of transport, we must also look at the downsides that come with an otherwise positive addition to our city:

As Falcon stated yesterday, the province is earmarking $4.75 billion to the project while calling for $11.1 billion in funding from the federal government, Translink and municipal governments. By asking for money from these groups, the Campbell government has shifted financial responsibility to the residents of BC.

Provincially, Finance Minister Carole Taylor has hinted at the possibility of introducing a carbon tax in the provincial budget this February. Though a positive for the environment, opponents criticize the carbon tax for being a flat tax regressive in its effects, charging all people the same amount if they can afford it or not. Heavy industry and transportation companies will wriggle out, to an extent, when the inevitable tax incentives come. Meanwhile, working class commuters will pay the same amount into the program as the commuting rich (assuming the rich don't buy hybrids).

Federally, the BC government is banking on the assumption that Parliament will front $3.1 billion dollars for the plan. In reference to this, Falcon simply noted "the federal government has stepped up to the plate every time we asked them on major projects." This unassured sum may fall back on the provincial government, which would be felt in higher property, sales or carbon taxes.

As for the $2.75 billion that Translink will be responsible for, the same people who will benefit from Translink's services will also be taking on the burden of the new, costly transit system. As NDP transportation critic Maurine Karagianis warns, that the money will have to "come from bus riders or from property taxes."

And finally, the big negative for us here at UBC: UBC has been planning an underground bus loop since several years. In that time, there has been much debate on its need, the transit information used for its construction, and the nature of its longevity. What planning has failed to incorporate is the revising of construction plans to include an expansion for the newly introduced UBC SkyTrain line, despite the fact that it's been anticipated for quite sometime.

As Board of Governors representative Darren Peets has noted, the planned bus loop will only have a sufficient rider capacity for ten years. This means that ten years after its completion, in conjunction to the unveiling of a UBC line, we'll once again have to dig up our campus to facilitate both a larger bus loop and SkyTrain station, something, as we are just beginning to witness now, that is an atrocious eyesore—something that we'll be living with well into 2020.

STREETERS

Streeters is a twice weekly column in which students are asked a question pertinent to UBC.

See all their full comments online at www.ubyssey.ca

What do you look for in an ideal AMS candidate?

Chris Sweeney, Geography 3

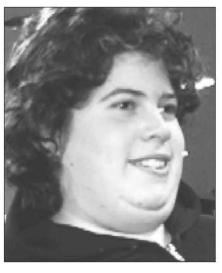
"I'd only vote for non-Canadians. Being an international student here I sometimes feel we are under represented."

Margoret Fay, Grad Music

"Somebody who understood how the university works, and had a good sense of what the students wanted to change about the university and what they wanted to keep about the university."

Jocelyn Lundberg, Human Kinetics 3

"Someone who's organized and cares what the students want as opposed to what the individual themselves wants."



Moriah Wax, Arts 1

"Somebody who'd be willing to listen to all the different classes and all the different departments as well as take into account the administration wants."

Stuart Yu, Computer Science 4

"Someone who I can understand, someone who relates to me."

—Coordinated by Matt Hayles & Jordan Chittley, with photos by Goh Iromoto

LETTERS

Laibar Singh Should Remain in Canada

I am writing to express my support for allowing Mr Laibar Singh to remain in Canada. As news writers, I'm sure you at *the Ubyssey* are aware of the facts of his case and of the factual errors and biased judgements of your previous editorial, "Legitimate refugees deserve our protection" (Fri, Jan 11, 2008).

As I'm sure you are aware, Mr Singh did arrive in Canada with false documents, but did not attempt to deceive Canadian immigration. As a refugee, he needed these documents only in order to reach Canada; he was not trying gain unlawful entry and declared his false documents when he got here several years ago. He has followed the proper channels set up for a refugee in Canadian law, which is different from other immigration channels, and has never been illegally in Canada.

I believe Mr Singh should not be deported for a number of reasons. He poses no security risk or threat to our country. He has built significant ties to various communities in Vancouver. He is paralyzed and requires our medical attention. He lives in sanctuary in the Guru Nanak Sikh Temple in Surrey. He has filled out the necessary forms and applications for an individual in his position and has followed all laws.

It is a disgrace that Canadian officials attempted to violate the noble and honourable tradition of sanctuary by issuing a deportation notice for 4:30am and giving only several hours warning before showing up at the temple to remove Mr Singh. If this is a legitimate case for deportation, why should it be done in the dead of night when we are all sleeping?

As a compassionate human being, and as a Canadian, I am glad to welcome Mr Singh into our country. I am glad to spend my taxes on his medical condition because I believe that everyone—regardless of race, religion, ability, or citizenship—deserves a healthy life. I am glad to welcome him with his medical condition because disabled people have as much right to live here as anyone else.

—A. Margaret Orlowski
BSc Biology

Ubyssey was wrong about Singh
by Tristan Markle

The *Ubyssey* editorial "Legitimate refugees deserve our protection" at best recapitulates deliberate misinformation and Canadian Border Services Agency (CBSA) talking points about the case of Laibar Singh, and at worst whips up intolerance.

First, *the Ubyssey* repeatedly uses language that makes Laibar Singh out to be an "illegal" person in Canada. It is recognized by the Canadian refugee act and the United Nation Convention on the Status of Refugees (to which Canada is a participant) that refugees are expected to often travel with "false" documents. How else are serious refugees supposed to get out of the country that is persecuting them? This is well understood. Talking about Laibar Singh as "illegal" represents a change in CBSA attitude (not law) that is no doubt connected to Stockwell Day's personal feelings, and certainly does not constitute "legal" discourse.

By law, Laibar Singh can only be said to have become "illegal" in Canada once his legitimate refugee claim was denied by a single politically appointed member of the refugee board. However, a day before losing his legal status, the Guru Nanak Temple took him into sanctuary because thousands of people were shocked by the government's mean-spirited treatment of such a vulnerable man. It is tradition in Canada (and many other countries) that under extreme situations, houses of worship are expected to offer sanctuary to those in jeopardy of persecution. The CBSA has respected the responsibility of churches to offer sanctuary in the approximately 50 similar cases that have transpired over the last two decades. So the question of whether Mr Singh has ever been "illegal" is not clear at all, and it is certainly irrelevant for a person of compassion.

It is noteworthy that this is the first time

see "Letters" | PAGE 11

Thunderbirds migrate to bar in Belfast

BY LESLIE DAY
Sports Writer

Rockies could be any sports bar—a great selection on tap, televisions showing every conceivable game played in the last 48 hours, a BC Lions game-worn helmet and other local memorabilia proudly displayed.

Rockies could be any sports bar in North America—except that it's in Belfast, Northern Ireland.

And it boasts the largest known grouping of Canadian university and college athletics jerseys — including Thunderbirds' apparel.

The Rockies Sports Bar collection represents some 29 Canadian post-secondary institutions, including UBC, the University of Alberta, St. Francis Xavier, and Université du Québec à Trois-Rivières, among others.

"I looked for a common sports denominator that would interest and tie most Canadians together upon entering," says Jim Graves, managing director of Rockies. "It is without a doubt the most talked-about display."

That is high praise for a feature competing with jerseys from NHL teams, including the Vancouver Canucks, larger-than-life images of Wayne Gretzky and Bobby Orr, as well as various items from professional and amateur teams and leagues hailing from both Europe and North America.

"You either lived near [one of the schools], attended the school, knew someone who did, or competed against it," says Graves. "[We] even have Canadian students [attending school] in England or Scotland coming across...because they have heard of the wall."

Canadian university teams are also making the trip to Rockies. Recently, the bar welcomed the University of Concordia Stingers hockey team as their special

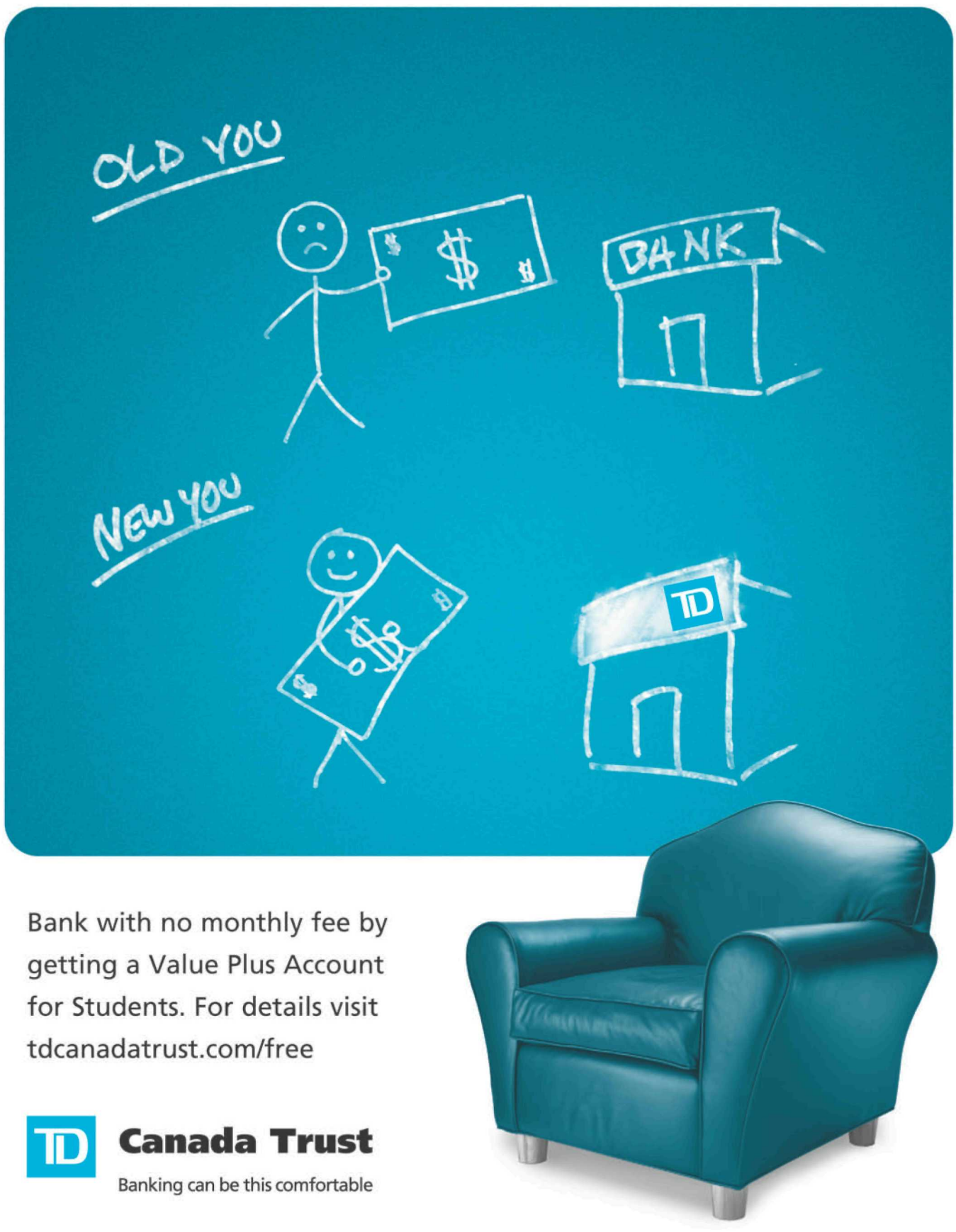
see "Irish Bar" | PAGE 08

PHOTOS COURTESY OF JIM GRAVES

This may look like a sports bar somewhere in Canada with CIS jerseys draping the walls, but they are hanging at a bar in Belfast, Northern Ireland. Owner Jim Graves wants Canadian sports fans and university students to know they will be welcomed at Rockies.

Friday Preview...

When it comes to men's basketball, the Thunderbirds are atop their division with only three losses this season and are one of the top teams in the country. Pick up *the Ubyssey* Friday to see if Sports Writer Justin McElroy sees this high ranking as true of the team or just a lofty illusion.



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Up Next:

Men's Basketball
Tonight* vs. **Simon Fraser** @ 7pm
Jan. 18* at Victoria @ 8pm

Women's Basketball
Jan. 18* at Victoria @ 6pm

Men's Hockey
Jan. 18-19 (*Sat) vs. **Lethbridge** @ 7:30pm

Women's Hockey
Jan. 18-19 at Regina

Men's Volleyball
Jan. 18-19 vs. **Thompsons Rivers** @ 8pm

Women's Volleyball
Jan. 18-19 vs. **Thompsons Rivers** @ 6pm

games in **bold** are played at UBC
*can be heard live on CiTR 101.9 FM

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Letters

from "Letters" | PAGE 10

that a non-Christian religious space has exercised the responsibility of sanctuary, and that this is also the first time that a government minister (Mr Day) has publicly repudiated the tradition of sanctuary.

Laibar Singh worked in Canada for several years, and became paralyzed here. The CBSA spin team has tried to put doubt into people's minds as to whether Mr Singh's paralysis was caused by an aneurysm, and not some other mysterious thing. I honestly would have expected the *Ubyssey* editors to realize that the CBSA's deliberate misinformation causing confusion about the medical cause of Mr Singh's paralysis is completely irrelevant to his case. But alas, the *Ubyssey* editors quibbled with pathetic pointlessness: "Singh become [sic] a quadriplegic, allegedly due to an aneurysm." Riveting journalism!

It should be very clear that this case is not about Laibar Singh alone, for in law, single cases are important, and act as precedents. *The Ubyssey* bemoans that fact when they should be celebrating it, since the government's failure in this case shows that straightforward reform is needed immediately.

First, Refugee Board members are political appointees who are not required to have any experience in law; that has to change. Instead of the Refugee Board making decisions as a transparent body, its individual members accept or reject claims at their personal whim; that has to change. The Immigration and Refugee Protection Act of 2002 requires the creation of a Refugee Appeal Division, but it has not been created yet! And as a result, Laibar Singh and thousands of others fall through the cracks. And the *Ubyssey* editors have the nerve to insinuate this is a case of "an abuse of the Canadian legal system and the rule of law." It is clear that this is a case of abuse by the Canadian legal system and a failure of the rule of law.

The *Ubyssey* editors conclude with a lie and a pitiless judgment: "Singh...has tried to play the system and does not deserve to be here." Mr Singh did everything that a refugee is supposed to do according to law, following the process to a tee.

And once the immigration system failed him and he was sitting alone in a hospital awaiting deportation, the family of the man next to him in the hospital found out about what an outrageous fate he had been dealt, and they told their friends, who in turn told their friends, and soon the whole Vancouver community, of all backgrounds, became aware of this sick case. And then the CBSA launched its spin campaign, which the *Ubyssey* editors swallowed hook, line, and sinker.

To conclude, the *Ubyssey* editors ask, Is Mr. Singh "deserving [of] our protection?" Well, I ask, are these *Ubyssey* editors deserving of our $5.50 per year?

—Tristan Markle
Biology 4

Editor's note: The fee for the Ubyssey *depends on the number of credits taken and the maximum per student is $5.00.*

Submit a letter to the Ubyssey and see your writing in print. Letters to the editor must be under 300 words. Opinion pieces know as "Perspectives" range from 300 to 750 words.

Freestyles

Marijuana activist is worthy of commendation
by Levi Barnett

In light of the recent plea deal between lawyers for Marc Emery, Canada's preeminent marijuana activist, and the US government that wants him in prison for selling pot seeds over the Internet to the United States, it's worth asking—has anyone been harmed by Mr Emery's actions?

The answer is no. While his tireless self-promotion can be annoying and smacks of excessive egotism, in the end Emery's actions have been right. Marijuana may cause some people to eat junk food, laugh at bad jokes, and take and inexplicable interest in their shoe laces, but it is also a drug that has legitimate medicinal purposes, on both sides of the border. Canada's government and medical authorities have acknowledged this; the American federal government has not.

The drug is beneficial for many afflictions, so for Mr Emery to try to spread the benefits of a recognized medicine to American patients was a noble cause.

Medical marijuana is illegal under federal law in the United States. While it has gained the support of voters in a number of American states and municipalities, the fact remains that the valuable treatment it provides is being denied to Americans by their leaders at the national level. In the truest spirit of North American friendship, Emery's actions as a seed supplier, for which he is currently wanted by the US government, were a way to help out strangers in a neighboring country.

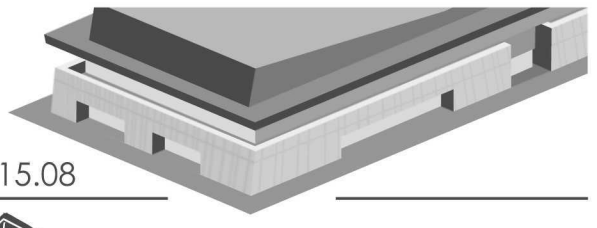
In selling seeds over the Internet, Emery did violate US law, but he didn't do anything Canada was willing to prosecute him for. He was last convicted of a marijuana crime in Canada in 1998 (and got away with a $2000 fine), and has since been a scrupulous taxpayer, all with Parliament, Canada Post, and Revenue Canada's full knowledge—and therefore our elected leaders should have thrown their support behind denying Mr Emery's extradition. They knew what Emery was doing; he mailed his catalogue to every single MP for eight years in a row. Government coffers benefited from the taxes seed-selling business.

While this doesn't mean Emery had state approval, the feds in Ottawa should do more to resist the American extradition request. It's high time that Canada acknowledge the societal benefits that Mr Emery has provided to both sides of the border.

—Levi Barnett is the Ubyssey's Copy, Letters, and Research editor

ams student society | Insider

a weekly look at what's new at your student society - 01.15.08



AMS EVENTS 08 Winter Schedule

Second Show Added

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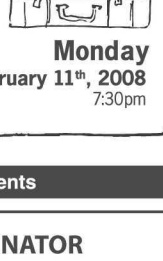
6138 Student Union Boulevard



Monday
February 11th, 2008
7:30pm

Tickets: Ticketweb, Zulu, Outpost

www.ams.ubc.ca/events

AMS EXECUTIVE COORDINATOR OF STUDENT SERVICES
The AMS is seeking an Executive Coordinator of Student Services for a one-year appointment from **March 1, 2008 to February 28, 2009**.

The Executive Coordinator of Student Services is responsible for providing general supervision and guidance for the AMS Service Coordinators and their Assistant Coordinators in the effective operation of the AMS Services. The ECSS is also the main point person between the AMS Executives and AMS Services and participates as a non-voting member at the Council and Executive meetings. ***Deadline for applications will be* Friday February 1, 2008**.

Please visit ***www.ams.ubc.ca/jobs*** for more information, including how to apply.

Student Elections

The 2008 Alma Mater Society (AMS) Executive Elections are coming up, and the candidates are campaigning hard, looking for your vote!

To find out about the positions, candidates and their platforms, come to the candidate's forums and hear from the candidates directly. The forums are being held on the following dates and locations:

Tuesday, January 15th, *from noon to 1 P.M. in the SUB Conversation Pit;*

Wednesday, January 16th, *from 6 to 7 P.M. in Place Vanier Residence;*

Thursday, January 17th, *from noon to 1 P.M. in the SUB Conversation Pit;*

Thursday, January 17th, *from 6 to 7 P.M. in the Gallery Lounge in the SUB;*

Monday, January 21st, *from noon to 1 P.M. in the SUB Conversation Pit;*

Tuesday, January 22nd, *from 11:30 to 1:30 P.M. in the SUB Conversation Pit*

For more information on the candidates, look for posters and publications around campus, check ***http://www.ams.ubc.ca/***, or contact the Elections Committee at ***Elections@ams.ubc.ca***.

Online Voting takes place from the 18th to the 22nd of January through the Student Services Center Website, and **paper balloting occurs Thursday, January 24th** at various locations around campus.

The Elections Committee encourages all students to become educated on the issues and candidates, and to make their voice be heard. Good luck to the candidates, and don't forget to get out and vote!

SUB RENEWAL Imagine Your Space — **Official** Commencement Celebration

Please join your AMS in celebrating the launch of the SUB Renewal Project, an initiative to expand and renovate the Student Union Building to better meet the needs of the UBC community.

The celebration will take place on **January 24th 2008 at 7pm**

Please RSVP to ***rsvp@ams.ubc.ca*** as capacity is limited.

The AMS Connect Internship Program provides a rewarding opportunity for UBC students to gain valuable and professional work experience in fields related to their area of study! This unpaid position will expose students to a variety of networks, valuable work experience, and numerous skill-building opportunities.

AMS Connect

If you are interested in finding an internship check out the Internship Opportunities section online at ***www.ams.ubc.ca/internship***!

Don't wait because positions are already available online and the student deadline is on **January 21st**!

Sprouts is renovated and ready to serve!
Starting **January 14th**, we will be opening our doors to serve you healthy, minimally packaged, local and organic food from 11-3pm Monday through Friday.

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We are 100% volunteer run and now looking for some more dedicated people to join our team in the store and kitchen. Come out to the volunteer orientation session 6pm in Sprouts, Jan 16th. It's a great chance to build some community and meet some wonderful people.