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# ubyssey pagefriday

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## Anti APEC forces on Alert

by Sarah O'Donnell and J. Clark

Beneath the statue of the Goddess of Democracy lie the chalked bodies representing the victims of Tiananmen Square and the Indonesian occupation of East Timor.

Half a city away, 30 women from organisations across Vancouver gather at the Kalayaan Centre in the Downtown Eastside to discuss the impact APEC will have on their lives and the lives of their sisters throughout the Asia Pacific. Through role play and quilting workshops the women begin to generate awareness and garner support for the NO! to APEC campaign.

In Canada's Year of the Asia Pacific, what the government had intended to be a year of celebration, is quickly becoming a year of protest.

Since its inception in 1989, APEC (Asia Pacific Economic Co-operation) has had its opponents. When it was announced the ninth annual summit would be held in Vancouver, grass roots opposition across the city, including APEC Alert, mobilised against it.

When President David Strangway announced the university would be site for the final day of APEC leaders' summit, APEC Alert went into action.

The group, composed mainly of UBC students, argues that APEC ignores human rights and environmental concerns in its pursuit of economic goals.

David Jago, a member of the group, says APEC Alert is about countering the popular view that free trade is inevitable and good.

"The proponents of the free trade ideology have been very successful in really wiping out any discussion about alternatives," he says.

"The people who are up in arms about APEC are the people who still have the ability to critically analyse free trade and weigh it against other options."

By drawing chalk outlines of the victims of Tiananmen Square and the genocide in East Timor the group is trying to focus the attention of students and the university on some of the human rights issues they feel have been ignored by APEC and its proponents. The university, they say, should not welcome notorious leaders such as President Suharto of Indonesia and Jiang Zemin, president of China, to campus.

But Santo Darmosumarto, an Indonesian student and the president of the International Relations Students' Association (IRSA), argues APEC will be good for UBC.

"I personally feel that [information on] APEC has been limited to just China and Indonesia and people seem to have misinterpreted this, especially the anti-APEC group. Whenever they present APEC it's always been narrowed down to just dictators, and also Indonesia and China. But it's more than just Indonesia and China, it's more than just dictators; it's a form of dialogue, especially for a region that's particularly unstable after the Cold War."

Although Darmosumarto emphasises that IRSA has no official position on APEC, he points out there is more than one side to the debate.

"Within our membership there are people who are anti-APEC because of human rights reasons, economic reasons, and there are also people who are pro-APEC because of development reasons, etc. etc."

One of the main points with the current APEC debate on campus, he says, is that no students have chosen to talk about the pro-side of APEC publicly.

"Unfortunately, the pro-APEC voice hasn't been heard at all at UBC, it's mostly coming from UBC as an institution...So, for example, we haven't really heard students from



NO! to APEC coalition during Int'l Women's Day. SARAH O'DONNELL PHOTO

commerce, economics or the IR program talking about APEC," he says.

And while some students may not want to speak out publicly in favour of UBC's role in APEC, UBC's Manager of Public Affairs, Paula Martin, says they are speaking to her.

"We have students who are coming forward to the university now saying, we want to be involved, we want to volunteer, we want to be associated with this so we can learn more about [the issues]."

The administration, she says, sees APEC on campus as a chance to allow all sides of the issue to be debated openly.

"It allows for a whole range of discussion, dialogue, research and critical commentary, all of the things that are the lifeblood of a university. And I'd be surprised if that kind of debate wasn't taking place. This is a political activity and the university is a political place."

Jago promises it will be a lively debate; APEC Alert plans to step up their activities in the fall.

"I think it is inevitable that there is going to be a prolonged hunger strike around this issue of APEC on campus, because the administration is not listening to us, the administration is not really allowing us to make any alternative arrangements with respect to the APEC meeting," he says.

APEC Alert will also be turning its attention towards the

several alternative conferences being organised across Vancouver in response to the APEC meeting.

It was decided at Wednesday's Alma Mater Society meeting that the society will host a Student Summit on the Asia-Pacific in September and October. The speakers, forums, and debates to inform students about "the scope and effect of Canada's involvement in the region."

The plan, according to AMS Co-ordinator of External Affairs, Shirin Foroutan, is to present a document to all 18 leaders of APEC nations expressing the opinions and concerns of students gathered at the month-long event.

For the fourth year in a row, there will also be a simultaneous People's Summit, attended by Non-Governmental Organisations, academics and anyone else interested in the issues surrounding APEC. It will be preceded by a two-day International Conference on Women's issues.

Margi Blaney is the People's Summit Liason for the Canadian Labour Congress (CLC). One of the big goals of this year's People's Summit, she says, is international solidarity, not in a union sense, but in a people sense.

"Since this very elite group of people is talking, we want to build a network, relationships, communications, with each other in all the other countries," she says.

"One of the things the people's summit is hoping to do is erase thoughts of hopelessness in the general population because they're not powerless....virtually every decision they make nowadays has a political aspect to it, whether they like it or not."

Jago agrees. "The people's summit is probably the most important aspect of APEC gathering here in Vancouver, I think more attention should be paid to the

People's Summit and what's said at the People's Summit than what's said at APEC."

The CLC is involved in the People's Summit, Blaney says, because the APEC circle of power is so exclusive and elite. "Anytime you talk trade and investment, you're talking about industry and so you're talking about workers. And the Canadian Labour Congress is foremost in the business of making sure there is fair and just treatment for workers," she explains.

And while the CLC supports the People's Summit, they have been cautious about taking an official position on APEC.

"Labour, in terms of a position, has not developed a position yet. Part of what we hope to do, and has gone on in previous People's Summits, is to work towards a consensus position in cooperation with the other partners in what some people refer to as civil society. And Labour is very cautious about having a

formal position on it yet," she says.

"To say that we're not going to be protesting APEC is too black and white, because we don't like it, but we're pretty sure we're not going to stop it from coming here."

And while Jago is also resigned to APEC coming to campus, he maintains hunger strikes, leafletting and rallies are important ways for students to voice their concerns.

"UBC students have really been locked into this and now all they can do is oppose it and show how much they regret having military dictators foisted upon them." ♦

**From November 22 to 25, leaders from 18 Asia Pacific countries will gather in Vancouver to discuss trade liberalisation and economic co-operation in the region. Part of that discussion will take place at UBC, and protestors say they will be there.**

# the ubyssey Classifieds

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The Heart and Stroke Foundation of BC & Yukon is looking for two positive, motivated, responsible individuals to chaperone ten high school students for a period of three weeks in July (July 2 to July 19). The 10 selected high school students spend three weeks working in a research lab with some of our funded researchers.

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The World Development Foundation Presents "Arts for Human Development" in support of our Brazil Orphanage Project. A Night of Fashion/Art/Music. Tickets \$20. Friday May 9th, 1997. 8pm @ Vancouver Public Library. Phone 891-0754

# news

## Study finds income level critical to job search success

by Janet Winters

Family income is the most significant factor in the job search success of university graduates, a York University study has found.

The university's Institute for Social Research found low income to be the most significant factor in preventing students from finding full-time work after graduation.

Even when variables including grades, connections, job and university experience, communication skills, gender, and race were accounted for, students from low-income families were still at a disadvantage.

Of the 2600 graduates studied, 70 percent of those with family income levels exceeding \$100,000 found full-time work after graduating, with the success-rate for students from families earning between \$26,000 and \$99,000 at 51 percent. Just a third of students with family incomes under \$25,999 could find full-time work after graduation.

Dr. Paul Grayson, who headed the study, said not having access to transportation, and subtle differences in people from different class backgrounds may explain the difficulties in lower income students finding jobs.

"People tend to hire people like themselves," said Grayson. "There may be certain speech patterns and modes of presentation itself that are class specific. Usually people who do the hiring are upper and middle class. They may not warm to the kind of presentations of self, speech, etc. students from low income families display," he added.

"The way people dress might have something to do with it. If you can't afford the appropriate garb or you don't know what the appropriate garb is, then the probability of you getting that job decreases...If you

go in dreadlocks for an interview, I would think your chances of getting the job are not good."

Grayson suggested one way of remedying the problem would be for universities to "recognise there may be some students who have these difficulties and set up programmes that would be of assistance to them."

But Rose Brown of End Legislated Poverty said job search and interview preparation courses put the onus on the low income students. "It's a blame the victim attitude," she said, adding society needs to be educated about what she sees as a classist attitude in the hiring process.

Blair Grabinski, Manager of UBC Career Services in the Student Resources Centre, argued students should still take the responsibility themselves to land a job: "[For a consulting position] the reality is you've got to go to that interview in a suit."

Grabinski did, however, recommend the university offer a mandatory career planning course for first year students and acknowledged higher income students have a definite edge in the job market due to contacts. "That's not to say the rich have a monopoly on connections—it's a learned skill. A low income person can position themselves to network with high income people," he said.

AMS Coordinator of External Affairs Shirin Foroutan would like to see more internship, mentorship, and co-op programmes to help students find jobs upon graduation. "Everybody graduating with the same [degree], should have the same chance," she said.

But Grayson is not optimistic the study's conclusions will have any impact on public policy. "I don't think there's real concern in policy areas...about class. Class has taken second suit to both race and gender." ♦



GSS SIT-IN that has sat them in financial straits. RICHARD LAM PHOTO

## Sit-in leaves GSS deeper in debt

by Chris Nuttall-Smith

The student occupation of President Strangway's office last month cost the Graduate Students Society \$4000 it didn't have.

Jessica Escribano, GSS director of student affairs, asked AMS council Wednesday to help cover the cost of the sit-in. Escribano argued the event, which received national media attention, was a worthwhile expense.

About 25 UBC students forced their way into Strangway's office last month to protest the university's plan to increase tuition fees for new international graduate students by 310 percent. Eight students remained in the office for six nights; they left voluntarily on the seventh day.

Some councillors argued the expense shouldn't be covered by council since it was not approved beforehand.

Jason Murray, Arts Undergraduate Society president, called the expense "fiscal irresponsibility," saying if the GSS didn't have the money, it should not have spent it.

The sit-in expenses, which are still coming in to the GSS, include \$2500 in cellular phone, long-distance and faxing bills, and \$2000 for lobbying supplies like printing costs and a megaphone rental. In total, Escribano estimated the sit-in cost \$5000, but said \$1000 came from fund-raising and a GSS account.

Council approved \$4000 to cover sit-in expenses and \$3000 for future lobbying expenses. ♦

# Gov't fines UBC for lack of enrolment

by Todd Silver

The government has frozen \$2 million in funding to UBC and fined the administration a further \$250,000 for not complying with government enrolment guidelines.

But both the university and student groups have questioned the government tactics.

For the past three years government funding has been based on the expectation that enrolment would increase at a set level. But enrolment for the 1996-97 year fell short of government targets by approximately 550 students.

"We want [UBC] to meet these targets. This is basically a wake up call," said Michael Lancaster of the Ministry of Education Skills and Training in Victoria. The \$250,000, he said, may be adjusted further if the Ministry feels the university makes insufficient attempts to increase enrolment.

The \$2 million freeze in UBC's base operating grant is tentative. If the university provides a detailed plan to increase enrolment by 240 undergraduate and 39 graduate students, the money will be released.

But Robert Blake, president of the Faculty Association, says the punishment is

harsh. "This is a reduction of the base operating grant, so that seems to me to be somewhat punitive."

He also questions government assurances of its commitment to stable funding for education.

The province has paired the increase in spaces for students with a demand that UBC find more than a million dollars in efficiency improvements without affecting student services.

Blake, however, thinks it unlikely students will not feel the cuts.

"This is a real reduction and there are the other components of the base grant frozen and it is very hard to see how ser-

vices to students would not be affected," he said.

The Alma Mater Society agrees.

"Students are interested in getting both quantity and quality in education," said Desmond Rodenbour, policy analyst with the student union.

The AMS passed a motion last year calling on the government to ensure increases in numbers of students would not affect the quality of education.

"It's pointless to have one without the other," Rodenbour said. "A great education for a privileged few is no better and no worse than a terrible education for anyone who asks." ♦



A FAVOURITE among students, sessional instructor Allen Sens looks beyond his future at UBC. RICHARD LAM PHOTO

## Departure makes no 'Sens'

By Chris Lee

UBC is losing one of its best teachers to funding constraints and university policy, despite rave reviews from students and a petition in support of the lecturer.

Allen Sens, a sessional instructor and international relations specialist with the department of Political Science, may have taught his last classes at UBC this week.

"He's an amazing professor and it is definitely the University's loss if they let him go" said Meghan Graham, Arts Undergraduate Society Academic Relations Coordinator and member of the International Relations Students' Association. "People in IR and people in Poli Sci are very upset over losing Allen Sens."

"From all the students who have taken a course with him, he is [considered] one of the best instructors in the poli sci department" agreed IRSA president Santo Darmosumarto.

Sens was recently singled out by *Maclean's* university rankings as one of UBC's most popular professors. But despite excellent teaching evaluations from his students—last term they averaged 4.8 out of 5—budget constraints and university policy regarding reappointment of sessional instructors may force the Political Science department to discontinue his appointment.

"It's up in the air—there is a chance I'll be back," said Sens. But after teaching at UBC for three years, he admits "there are not too many other options."

Ken Carty, the Political Science department head, said while Sens is an "exceptionally gifted teacher," whom the department would like to retain, uncertainty

about appointments is a fact of the sessional appointments system.

"[Budget uncertainty] makes it very difficult to plan for next year and I'm sure it's very difficult for people in sessional positions and Dr. Sens is only one of quite a few," Carty said.

Many of Sens' students signed a petition in support of the lecturer circulated last term by members of IRSA. But Darmosumarto recognised that sessional instructors can only stay a limited time period, "and the department has tried as hard as possible to keep him here."

Sens, who has been an advisor to both the Somalia Inquiry and the UN, recognises his practical focus may not be considered a priority in an academic department. "I'm not ashamed at all of my publishing, but it's perhaps not the in the precise areas that are most valued by the department."

But Graham said that Sens' practical experience is exactly what students find valuable. "[Most professors] don't distinguish between theory and reality...[but Sens] brings that practical experience to the classroom...he really wants to be there and share his knowledge with others."

Meanwhile, Sens is applying for tenure-track positions across the country, but due to overwhelming competition, "the prospects...are, quite frankly, not that good," he says.

Still, he says he remains committed to his job and his students: "I can't complain - I love what I do, I love my job. There are depressingly few people who can say they love to go to work." ♦

## AMS President faces controversy over letter

by Chris Nuttall-Smith

AMS President Ryan Davies survived a hail of criticism at student council Wednesday over an open letter to students he had published in AMS advertising space in *The Ubysssey*.

Some councillors were angry the letter, featured in a full-page advertisement April 2, supported the proposed student technology fee contrary to the wishes of council.

"It isn't simply that the president of the AMS council has demonstrated a lack of judgement but he has actually disregarded the views and decisions of the council members," said Nick Kontogeargopoulos, a Graduate Student Society representative.

GSS representative Michael Hughes moved that Davies be required to retract the letter and issue an apology in *The Ubysssey*.

Council had voted against supporting the technology fee at its previous meeting, agreeing instead to simply urge students to vote in the referendum on the fee.

Davies admitted in an interview after the meeting that the letter favoured the proposed technology fee. But he insisted that the letter was intended to represent his personal opinion, not the opinion of council.

"I was very careful in writing this letter to represent my experience as a member of ACIT [Advisory Committee on Information Technology] and as a student. I didn't suggest that the AMS believes students should vote yes in this referendum," Davies said.

"Was [the letter] neutral? No. Is the job of the AMS President to be necessarily neutral. I don't think so, that's not why I was elected," added Davies.

But Kontogeargopoulos told council in a strongly-worded speech that if the letter was Davies' personal opinion, he shouldn't have signed it with his title, written it on AMS letterhead, or had it printed in the AMS advertising space.

"Acting on your own behalf means writing a letter to the editor like the rest of us plebs have to. It is not taking a full-page ad out and speaking as the AMS president," he said.

Kera McArthur, Arts Undergraduate Society representative, told council the letter sent a message that council's decisions don't really matter to Davies.

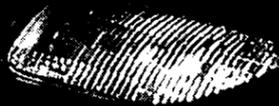
But Shirin Foroutan, AMS co-ordinator of external affairs, said the motion against Davies was a personal attack.

"Are we really concerned about students here, or is this some sort of smoke-and-mirrors attempt at getting some publicity to slam Ryan?" she asked council.

Kontogeargopoulos said in an interview the motion stopped short of proposing more serious action, though.

"We were originally going to call for his resignation but then thought that might be a little harsh. No less we're pleased with the result—we're upset that [Davies] didn't apologise but then I doubt this kind of thing will happen again." ♦

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# NO!

**Vote NO to the Student Technology Fee!**  
(822-VOTE or 280-8228 - April 9 to April 16)

## **What is the referendum on?**

The referendum is on the Student Technology Fee (STF). This fee is one of four ancillary fees the UBC administration has proposed. Students are granted a say in the STF, but not in all ancillary fees affecting students. We were only granted the referendum after 35 students occupied President Strangway's office.

## **How much is the STF?**

It will be \$90 per student, which works out to \$7.50 a month. This fee would gather \$2.7 million dollars PER YEAR. This is not a "deal", this is almost the cost of another course you could take.

## **How will my money be spent?**

It will be spent in improving the information technology at UBC. It might actually reduce the line-ups at computer labs and the waiting list for e-mail dial-ups. However, there is no clear budget in place as yet. Basically, UBC administration will collect the money first and then decide what to do with it later. This is an unconventional way of budget planning and shows the rushed nature of the process.

## **How are computing services currently financed?**

Computing services on campus (for students, faculty and staff) are currently paid for through the university's general operating budget and hence, through our tuition and government subsidy.

## **Students pay twice with the STF**

The STF means that in addition to contributing to information technology (IT) through our tuition and taxes, students must also pay a second fee for computing services. Billing students twice for IT is unfair to students!

## **The STF undermines the tuition freeze**

The real reason for the STF is the tuition freeze. The NDP government froze tuition fees. The freeze forces the university to look for other funds but raising student (ancillary) fees is the easiest method. UBC administration is trying to circumvent the tuition freeze by instituting ancillary fees and giving a new name to something you already pay.

## **The STF threatens current funding for student IT**

The STF will allow the administration to allocate less of its IT budget for students in order to increase funding for non-student IT such as the Faculty Workstation Initiative which provide faculty with free computers.

Paying twice for IT doesn't mean students get twice as much!

## **The STF Precedent**

The STF sets a precedent for similar fees which double-bill students and decentralize core services the university provides.

Library books are a form of information technology so how long before we start paying separate fees for these too?

## **STF is an Arbitrary Figure**

The STF is an arbitrary figure (down from \$200 to \$90 through student consultation) with no budget.

Exactly which services the STF will fund, how much they cost and which students will directly benefit is unknown or undecided. Because of the broad range of computing requirements of students from different disciplines, the STF cannot meet the needs of all students. Further, most graduate students already receive adequate IT. Most undergrads have very basic computing needs that may already be met at home.

## **What about docking stations for laptops?**

Yes, this would be a really bad way to spend this money. UBC would require YOU to buy the equipment, an expensive laptop, while they provide the outlets. This would only benefit rich students who can afford expensive equipment.

## **Can I opt-out?**

NO! Once the fee is in place you have to pay, whether you use UBC's equipment or your own. Graduate students often use computers financed through their supervisor's grants - they too have to pay the 90 bucks.

## **Is the referendum binding?**

Although the UBC administration would like it to be non-binding, the chair of the Board of Governors assured the students that it will be binding. One way to make sure it is binding is to get a high voter turnout!

## **I'm overwhelmed by exams, I don't care!**

This is exactly what the administration expects. Having the referendum at short notice and during exam week might mean low voter turnout! Low voter turnout will send the message that students don't care about increased fees. Don't let this happen!

## **I really hate the line-ups. What other options do I have?**

The referendum is not really giving us much of a choice. There are alternative ways of improving the information technology on campus. We suggest UBC spend less money developing new buildings and more money on services which improve education.

# 822-VOTE

VOTE NO TO THE STF! APRIL 9-16

# 280-8228

VOTE NO TO THE STF! APRIL 9-16



**A Paid Advertisement by the  
UBC Graduate Student Society**

# news

## Posters beware

by Douglas Quan

Students better think twice before posting ads on campus notice boards.

According to the 97/98 Calendar, students who post ads that the university finds "objectionable" could face disciplinary action.

Dennis Pavlich, vice-president of academic and legal affairs, says the new policy is aimed at stopping people from advertising services that help students write and research their essays.

"Some of it is insidious stuff," he said.

One student he cited went so far as to post an ad asking for someone to take his ESL test for him for \$30.

Pavlich said that students who have "legitimate tutoring" services

do not need to worry, and that students are free to advertise posters for personal business.

"The policy is not intended to muzzle freedom of speech," he said. ♦

**E.S.L. Person Wanted To Take an E.S.L Test for an Educational Student. Will Pay \$30.00**



## UBC stalls on FOI

UBC has perfected the fine art of stonewalling.

Since the BC Freedom of Information (FOI) Act was implemented at universities in 1994, much information at UBC which might have been routinely released in the past has become harder, not easier to obtain.

"It sounds like they're resisting FOI fairly heavily at UBC," said Darryl Evans, director of the BC Freedom of Information and Privacy Association (FIPA).

Several months ago, UBC Secure Access Manager John Naylor and Parking Manager David Miller, after 16 and 30 years on the job respec-

But if and when the records are finally processed, the campus community may still not know their contents because of the exorbitant fees the FOI office charges for access.

When *The Ubyssy* asked for "records, if any, on complaints (other than harassment) and outside investigations into the Parking and Security Department from January 1, 1996 to the present day," McNiece claimed a four week search time, at 150 hours (for \$4500) and 500 pages of copying (\$125).

The fact that *The Ubyssy* is a registered society and non-profit publication serving students doesn't seem to matter. When this was mentioned to Vice-Provost Libby Nason, UBC's FOI director, she replied, "Your paper can always sell more ads to pay for the fees."

Nason said her office must charge such FOI fees because no separate budget has been granted by UBC for the FOI process, and so the recovery costs for it comes from UBC's operating budget, which in turn impacts student services. FIPA's Evans said, "FOI should be paid from the administration budget, not from students."

The Act allows the FOI office to waive fees if the applicant is working in the public interest and can demonstrate an inability to pay. The UBC FOI office responded to such a *Ubyssy* request last year with, "I will not be granting you a fee waiver."

None of which makes UBC a very free place to get information from.

Yet in 1985 UBC President David Strangway wrote, "I want the university community and the public to feel that UBC is a place with no secrets and that information about it and its activities is open and accessible."

—Stanley L. Tromp

## freestyle

tively, left UBC suddenly and without explanation.

As part of research for a story on the departures, *The Ubyssy* asked for a copy of a routine audit of the department. UBC's internal auditor and other officials stated that because the audit is done "for UBC's internal management use," it "would not normally be made public." As a result the student publication was compelled to apply for a copy under Freedom of Information.

The UBC FOI office wrote that "a final report is expected to be completed by the first week of March." Last month, the auditor finished his 11-page audit, but UBC will not release it even under FOI, saying the conclusions must first be approved by the vice-president of finance and administration and the new Parking Manager. No new release date has been set.



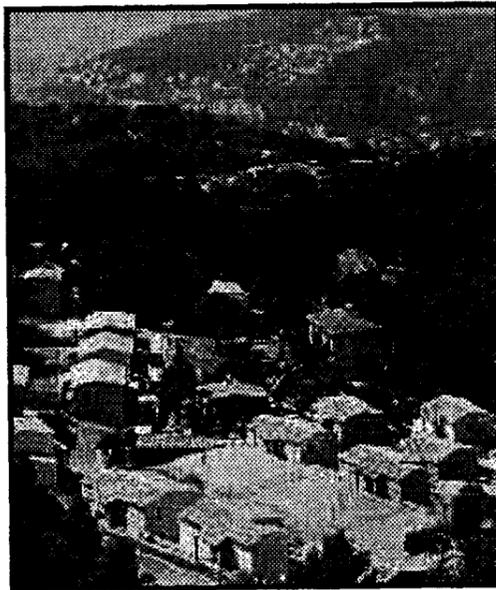
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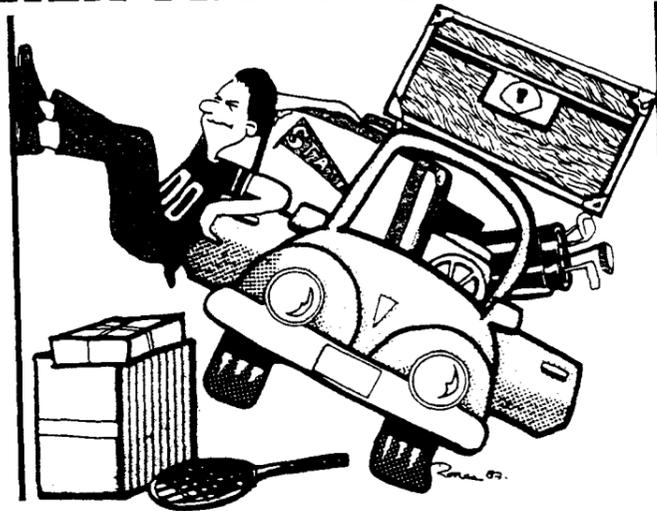


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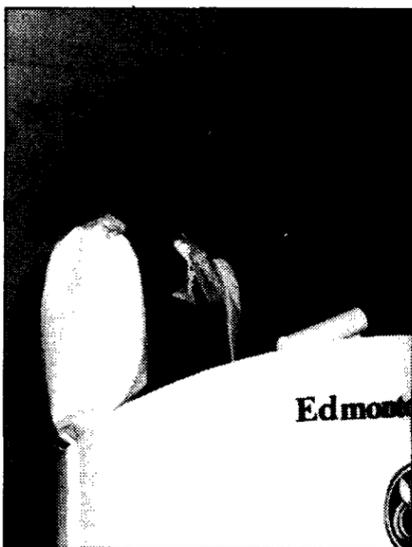
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# Klassen case questions use of provocation defense



On November 1 1995, Ralph Klassen murdered his wife Susan (left). He admitted it, and for his crime received only five years for manslaughter. Now her family questions a legal system that places little value on human life.

Her family has denied the affair, but de Villiers says that is irrelevant. She can't understand how anyone could murder a person just for something they said.

The actual law regarding provocation applies to cases where the conduct of the deceased produces in the accused a state of excitement, anger or disturbance so intense that he or she may not contemplate the consequences of their actions. If this is the case, the accused can be found not guilty of

knowing his or her actions would result in death.

Although the provocation defense was not allowed in this case, jurors were instructed to accept provocation type evidence, which subsequently led the jury to believe that the murder was unintentional. They thus found the defendant guilty of the lesser charge of manslaughter.

In this case there was no sign of a struggle and Ralph had nothing to be gain by Susan's death, so the unanswered question remains: Why did he do it and what kind of man kills his wife?

The couple met while Susan was working on her degree in occupational therapy at the University of Alberta. Almost two years later they were married in her father's backyard. They had problems from the start: Ralph was eight years her senior and physically unable to father children.

"In their marriage, our family always believed that even though he couldn't have kids, he didn't want them," said Christine van der Hoek, Susan's sister. van der Hoek defends this judgement of him by pointing out that it was Klassen who kept them from adopting.

"They certainly were not good candidates for adoption because of the fact that they consistently moved around," said van der Hoek, referring to the nine times the couple moved in their 13 years of marriage.

Ralph seemed incapable of holding a single job; he was a truck-driver, a farmer, a car-salesman, a carpenter, a photographer and a pastor. "To my understanding he also had a degree in agriculture, plus a master degree in theology, so he wasn't an uneducated man," said van der Hoek.

Two of their moves were in BC while Ralph completed his graduate studies at Regent College and later worked as an intern Baptist minister.

Their final move to Whitehorse came in 1990 when Susan accepted a job as an occupational therapist. She was very successful and became an important part of the Whitehorse community. To all appearances she was very happy.

But the big picture wasn't quite so idyllic. The couple frequently split up for brief periods of time and, during a summer visit with her sister, van der Hoek remembers her sister being a very upset and scared woman.

"The three of us [Mr. and Mrs. van der Hoek and Susan] went camping to Kluane, and when we came back to their house Ralph's truck was there. When we pulled up and saw that truck she went nuts," said van der Hoek, who spent the rest of her vacation at the home of one of Susan's friends.

Van der Hoek was confused to learn that, shortly after she and her husband returned home from their vacation, Susan had moved back in with Ralph and had decided once again to attempt a reconciliation.

"Ralph Klassen on many occasions acted violently towards his wife. She tried to leave him on several occasions," said de Villiers, who called their relationship "an absolutely typical power control situation.

"There was evidence in court that she'd had black eyes and she'd been beaten, but she never actually tried to charge him, like many women don't."

When the two finally split in the fall of

'95 their separation was supposed to last for six months. Ralph would live in Alberta and Susan in Whitehorse, but by November 15 Ralph was back in town, in his home, with his wife.

Greeted at first by a note Susan left behind, detailing her feelings about their marriage, Ralph became angry and jealous. He was convinced Susan was having an affair. He later testified in court that they had an argument when she arrived home, but then calmed down and went to bed.

His testimony described how, later that night, Susan spurned his touch with some cruel words which subsequently provoked her husband to kill her in their own bed.

"He rolled over on top of her, strangling her with his hands. He testified in court that he strangled her so hard he sprained his thumb. When she went limp ... he reached over, shook the pillow case off the pillow and then tied the pillow case in a knot around Susan's neck and left her there," explained van der Hoek.

When the family learned of Susan's death they were shocked and saddened, and understandably so. To this day, they feel there is not enough they can say about the injustice surrounding this case. But Ed Hornbella, attorney for the defense, just chuckles when asked to comment. Despite Klassen's admission of guilt, the lawyer knows that, under Canadian law, his client has a good chance for early release from his already short five-year sentence.

It is possible that Ralph will spend no more than a year and a half in jail for his crime because he will be eligible for day parole in March of '98.

His sentence will be appealed this May, and at that time Susan's family will ask for a harsher penalty. De Villiers says CAVEAT fully supports the family's efforts. "Although it's not often given, you can get life for manslaughter," she adds.

"In order for men to take full criminal responsibility for their violent actions against women the statutory defense of provocation should be abolished." ♦

by Sarah Galashan

Susan was many things to many people. She was someone's sister, someone's daughter, and she paid dearly for being someone's wife. Ralph Klassen, Susan's husband, confessed to killing his wife, but he was sentenced to only five years for manslaughter, thanks to a loophole that gets abusive husbands off the hook.

According to Pricilla de Villiers of CAVEAT (Canadians Against Violence Everywhere Advocating its Termination), the verdict in his case was not surprising. "Obviously there are a number of issues here. One is that there is a double standard. After all, a human life has been taken, and there is a very, very serious pattern in judgements across this country, not just in the Yukon, of lesser... sentences being given where it's a domestic situation."

In defending himself, Ralph claimed he had been provoked. According to his testimony, on the night of the murder, Susan made a remark about his infertility and taunted him about an affair he suspected she was having.

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KISS ME: Lynne Stopkewich (r) and Molly Parker (l) break on through to the other side. RICHARD LAM PHOTOS

**If sex and death are the defining forces in our subconscious minds, why not explore the two together? UBC graduate Lynne Stopkewich does just that with *Kissed*.**

by Peter T. Chattaway

In the seven months since Lynne Stopkewich brought *Kissed* to the Toronto International Film Festival, her mesmerising study of sex, death, and the lusty space in between has toured the festival circuit to almost unanimous praise; Stopkewich even won the Best New Western Feature Film Director award in Vancouver last year.

Now, with *Kissed* set to open in urban multiplexes across North America, the former UBC grad student is still pinching herself, barely able to believe her good fortune. "What's happened to us is a complete surprise," she says, "and it happens so rarely, I think it still hasn't sunk in."

For Stopkewich, *Kissed* brought an end to nine years of intermittent postgraduate work in UBC's MFA program, but she doesn't consider it a "student film". "Graduate films are a bit different. It's not really a student film, and it's not really a professional film, so you're sort of riding both sides of the coin—to be mixing metaphors!" she laughs.

Stopkewich first enrolled at UBC in 1987, after finishing her bachelor's degree at Concordia. Unlike other grad students, who tend to make short films, Stopkewich wanted to make a feature-length work. But first she had to suffer through disappointments like *Til Niagara Falls*, a project she prepared for



**"We made *Kissed* with our credit cards and just sort of pieced it together."**

**LYNNE STOPKEWICH  
WRITER/DIRECTOR**

three years (with Amanda Plummer committed to playing the lead) until her financing fell through and the project had to be scrapped.

Stopkewich then turned to *Notell Motel*, a story about a woman's sexual self-discovery. While researching female erotica, she chanced upon Barbara Gowdy's short story 'We So Seldom Look on Love,' the spiritually charged account of a female necrophile, and she realised she'd found the perfect hook for her first feature film.

Still, Stopkewich insists her film is not about necrophilia, *per se*. "I really liked the inner life of the character and her take on growing up female in North America. She's definitely marching to the beat of her own drum, yet at the same time the sensibility with which she approaches things—which is one of fearlessness, one of curiosity, one of bluntness and sensitivity—is something I can relate to as an individual."

Fearlessness and curiosity enabled Stopkewich to go ahead with her project even though she had no

budget to speak of—"We made *Kissed* with our credit cards and just sort of pieced it together"—and a crew that, with few exceptions, had never worked on a feature film before. (The film's credits read like a *Who's Who* of UBC alumni.) And then there was the small problem of finding someone to play Sandra Larson, the woman for whom formaldehyde is the ultimate aphrodisiac.

Enter Molly Parker. The Pitt Meadows native, then 22, took the role because she was excited by the prospect of working with a woman director, particularly on a film that explored sexuality from a decidedly female point of view. She was "shocked" when she read the script—but not for the reason you might expect.

"I was so surprised," says Parker. "Lynne had told me what it was about, and it certainly piqued my interest, but I was shocked because I found it to be so poetic and so beautiful, and this character was so engaging. It doesn't happen very often, but once in a while you read a script where you go, 'I really want to play this character!'"

(Luckily for Parker, Stopkewich ignored the bit in Gowdy's story which describes Sandra as a blonde Doris Day lookalike. Parker herself didn't read the story until after shooting was finished, but she "laughed out loud" when she came to that passage. "I'm glad I didn't read that before!" she says.)

Music was integral to the film's creation. Stopkewich was particularly inspired by Sarah McLachlan's *Fumbling Towards Ecstasy*, which she listened to constantly while writing the screenplay's first draft. By coincidence, that album also played a significant role in what Stopkewich calls "The Scene."

Before riding a cadaver, Sandra typically goes through a ritualistic dance around the gurney, preparing to take in the spiritual energy that comes from the corpse. But according to Parker, the low-budget equipment on the set threatened to ruin the mood in what was supposed to be her character's most vulnerable scene. "When we first started to do it, all I could hear was this squeaky dolly and four pairs of feet softly padding behind it, running after me. And I stopped and broke out into hysterical laughter, and I just went, 'I can't do this! This is all I can hear!'"

The solution? *Fumbling Towards Ecstasy*, of course, which Parker plopped into a stereo on the set. "We put it on very, very loud and played it all day, and it took us all to this otherworldly place. It was sort of magical, and it helped me to not be so anxious."

Three years after shooting that scene, Stopkewich now finds herself in an otherworldly place of media hype and "crazy, fantastic" offers. But she hasn't forgotten her roots.

Stopkewich, who co-founded Persistence of Vision with Steven Hegyes in 1990, is now talking about setting up a PoV award; she already contributes to the film award program at Concordia, her other alma mater.

She also hopes Boneyard, the company she shares with her partner John Pozer, can begin to actively mentor new filmmakers.

"We'd love to be there to support a first-timer," says Stopkewich. "It took a large measure of support from the community to create our first film, and we want to give some of that support back."



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The Opt-Out period for *The Ubyssy Publications Society Membership Fee* for those students enrolled in Summer School will be 14 days from the first day of classes, ie. May 1-14.

Please note that this applies only to Summer School students and only for Summer School courses; the regular opt-out period will be held in the Fall.

Those wishing to opt-out should come to SUB 245 between the hours of 10am-4pm between May 1-14, 1997.

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**MONDAY SEPTEMBER 2, 1996**  
GEORGETOWN—The plane door opens and the humidity hits us like a hammer. We march outside and into the arms of four Youth Challenge International (YCI) staffers from Headquarters (HQ). The main form of transportation here is a mini-van sans extras, like brakes, seat belts and leg room for fifteen. I pray as we drive on the left side of the road at sonic speed.

I am officially a group leader with YCI in Guyana, South America. I'm here to facilitate a community development project with a team of Canadian youth aged 18-24. We're here early to set up the projects before the 'challengers'—who have each raised \$3,750 each—arrive in a month. I'm not sure what to expect. Hopefully, I'll stop sweating long enough to find out.

# Global warming

**FRIDAY SEPTEMBER 6**  
This week is full of training sessions. We're covering a lot of stuff: conflict resolution, communication, team building, using two-way radios, health and hygiene, risk management, and much more. I'm meeting out. I haven't seen much of Georgetown yet, and feel like I'm at a secluded retreat.

**SUNDAY, SEPTEMBER 8**  
We squeeze into suicide sedans and head to Georgetown's Botanical Gardens, my second trip to town. Many things are recognisable now and what seemed a crazy jumbled mess of an ant colony begins to reveal its unique sense of order and direction.

This is a global development session, highlighting each nation's preoccupation with its own agenda. International development is generally driven by what pleases foreign capital holders, not what is best for the country.

**MONDAY, SEPTEMBER 9**  
Ry, my Afro-Guyanese staff partner, and I leave tomorrow to visit our project site, Yurong-Peru, a tiny Amerindian village deep in Guyana's interior. The nearest airstrip is Monkey Mountain, five hours from the village.

**MONDAY, SEPTEMBER 16**  
Yurong-Peru. 267 inhabitants, 150 of them children below the age of 14. No power, water from a creek. It is beautiful.

Our project is to build a new school under the community's direction. We meet with village elders. We have a supply and material list for the school, including labour costs, which we'll take to the Canadian International Development Agency (CIDA) for funding.

**WEDNESDAY, SEPTEMBER 18**  
Back in Georgetown, Ry and I meet with CIDA reps. We submit our report, letters of support for the project, and the list of materials needed. CIDA wants us to get price quotes from different suppliers for construction materials.

People call me 'sir', but not Ry—a holdover from colonialism, I guess. Ry grew up in Georgetown and everyone seems to know him. I'm tolerated and respected because I'm with him. When we're in a business setting, however, I receive the respect and the attention.

No question that white folk receive special treatment.

**TUESDAY, SEPTEMBER 24**  
CIDA approves the money for our project, but not the labour costs for the villagers. Apparently, the original application form says the community would supply free labour for the project.

The villagers wanted to be paid for their work, and since we included that request in our funding application, they think the money is a done deal.

What a fine time we'll have at the first community meeting in the village.

**TUESDAY OCTOBER 1**  
The challengers are hot, sweaty, smiling and bewildered when they arrive.

**SUNDAY OCTOBER 6**  
The challengers' orientation is much like ours, many sessions and workshops. Teams are chosen; they are eager to get to Yurong-Peru and start work.

**TUESDAY OCTOBER 8**  
The other teams leave for their projects while we wait for visas from the Brazilian embassy, allowing us to travel to the village through Brazil. There are no Guyanese roads to Yurong-Peru.

The team works at an orphanage while I get the visas and supplies.

**FRIDAY OCTOBER 11**  
The supplies are ready and everyone is anxious to leave. We leave without visas, but have them flown to us on the trail.

**SATURDAY OCTOBER 19**  
Two and a half days by truck through very tough terrain. A two day wait for no-show visas. An eight hour tractor ride through the savannah while our supplies travel through Brazil. A three and a half day jungle hike. Heat exhaustion, billions of blisters, bug bites and burns, tired troopers and aching shoulders.

Yurong-Peru. The villagers are outside the church in their Sunday best. Are they here to greet us? No. It's photo day for ID cards and everyone is here to have their picture taken.

**SUNDAY OCTOBER 20**  
Ry and I meet with the elders and drop the bomb: no one is being paid. Tension. I show them the copy of their application to CIDA, stating they'd contribute free labour for the project. They're angry with the regional politicians who they say misled them about the application.

Work begins next week.

**SUNDAY OCTOBER 27**  
We dig the foundation trench. The ground is hard, difficult to break and dig out. Some team members are frustrated with what they perceive as a lack of organization on the villagers' part. Granted, no lovely blueprint or construction timetables exist, but we are here to help the community with their project. It's crucial the community members direct the work.

**Every year, students from across Canada venture into the jungles of South America to participate in 'international development.' One of them has just returned. This is his diary.**



KEVIN MILLSIP'S team on its way back from Yurong-Peru, Guyana, South America. ANNE MURIER PHOTO

**MONDAY OCTOBER 28**  
Sixty-five year-old men carry 70 kg sacks of cement on their backs, the smallest children haul bricks from the mud pits while older men and women walk with up to fourteen bricks laced into backpacks made of twine and wicker. Everyone in the community takes time from farming and school to help. I do not see such inclusive community effort in Vancouver unless some sort of catastrophe hits.

Brother John, the village elder, teaches me Macushi in exchange for French. Lesson 1:

More e bay: How are you  
Ting yee: Thank you  
E nay: Yes  
Tu ga tu: plenty of rocks.

**WEDNESDAY OCTOBER 30**  
Halloween arrives early.

**5:30 AM.** I haul water from the creek to mix cement and pile bricks.  
**6:00 AM.** I'm tired.  
**6:30 AM.** Diarrhea.  
**7:00 AM.** Cramps, headache, dry mouth. Muscles and joints are incredibly sore. No breakfast.  
**8:00 AM.** I'm on my back, chills. I fear food poisoning, or malaria. Blankets are piled high on me. We radio HQ, they think it could be Dengue fever. If I don't improve by Tuesday they'll fly me out.  
**9:00 AM.** I can't walk without help. Ry's not worried about malaria because I'm not vomiting, but my diarrhea increases in frequency.  
**11:30 AM.** I vomit. Ry's concerned. I can't keep anything down. Dehydration. I'm imagining everyone I'll be fine. I just need a little rest. They don't believe me.  
**12:30 PM.** Things accelerate. I have never felt such intense pain before. I'm vomiting every 20 minutes or so. I'm so tired. My thoughts are cloudy and I'm having trouble focusing.  
**12:50 PM.** Brother John stands in the doorway watching me, silent. He looks sad. This, above all else, frightens me.  
**1:20 PM.** The thought crosses my mind that I may die here today. I never imagined dying in a jungle school house with eleven people I don't know terribly well, watching me.  
**2:00 PM.** I write a letter to my family. The team freaks. We radio for a helicopter and wait.

**3:00 PM.** I'm so embarrassed at all of this high drama I have created.  
**4:45 PM.** Time is crawling by. Pain is increasing. Will that stupid chopper ever arrive?  
**5:30 PM.** They put me into a stretcher and haul me to the air ambulance. The last sight is a huddle of headlamps on the ground, following the helicopters take off.

**MONDAY NOVEMBER 4**  
I spend three days in the hospital, and then go back to HQ. I have falciparum, the deadliest form of malaria, as well as an intestinal amoeba picked up on our hike into the village. I'm lucky. Although falciparum is the deadliest malarial strain, it's also the only one to leave the system once treated.

**TUESDAY NOVEMBER 19**  
Two weeks later, I head back to the village. A day and a half by truck, three hours by jeep and one and a half days by horse.

**FRIDAY NOVEMBER 22**  
There is a note on the hill before Yurong-Peru. "To our special K's welcome home."

We're at the bottom of the hill when folks realise it's us. A round of hugs and hellos is followed quickly by "Hey Kev, where's the mail?" So good to be loved.

I'm updated. Motivation is becoming a problem. People arrive late at the worksite, if at all. Folks seem to think there's no work to do. The bricks are laid and more need to be made before we can continue. Wood for the window and roof frames is still being cut in the jungle.

**SATURDAY NOVEMBER 23**  
All couples wanting to be married do so on the same day, as the priest travels through once a year. Five couples this year. Most already have children. Brother John encourages people to marry before having children, but the traditional way of life is blended with the church's dictates.

**MONDAY NOVEMBER 25**  
I ask our foreman Nash what work remains to be done. His first response, "none until more bricks are made."

I inquire about the wood leaning against a tree, asking if it needs to be planed. Yup, there's planing to do as well as frame-building for the walls. Also, the stage needs to be filled with sand and rocks. There's work, but we have to look for it.

**WEDNESDAY NOVEMBER 27**  
One and a half hours walk into the jungle to pick up wood from the cutters' camp. Hard wood. 20 ft planks about two inches thick. We pair up two people for two boards, carrying them between us on our shoulders.

**FRIDAY, NOVEMBER 29**  
Our final meeting. The school should be finished by the end of February. There is much discussion about government food for the workers. I hope they get it, but I am not as confident after my government dealings in Georgetown.

**SUNDAY DECEMBER 1**  
Last night we said our goodbyes at a community dinner and dance.

We hike to Monkey Mountain. Many villagers walk with us to help carry equipment. A handful of them are here to see us off. Some folks cry. Now I'm sad. The plane

arrives.

**TUESDAY DECEMBER 3**  
Georgetown. All the teams are staying at a Lutheran Centre. Odd to be back. Each team is busy with equipment repair and de-issue, debriefs and final report writing.

**WEDNESDAY DECEMBER 4**  
2 am. I can't sleep. I sit on the church steps facing the street and a man walking down the street sees me. He enters the compound, carrying a bucket. He comes toward me. I stand. He stops and says, "Hey, no need for fear man, no need for fear. Respect. We respect each other. I just want to know, I'm a hungry man, if you could spare me some food or a \$100 bill, just some food that I could take away."

"I have no money and I have no food," I say.

He looks down and away. He's angry. Not what he wanted to hear. "No food and no money," I say again, turning and walking towards the dorm. I'm angry that he saw me, opened the gate and walked towards me. I'm angry he says he has no food. I'm angry he assumed I have money to give him. I'm angry I have none to give him. There is food in the kitchen, but it's not mine to give. Oh, I know the rationale. We are not here to give hand outs, we are here to help members of the community help themselves.' International Development.

The man returns to the street.

**FRIDAY, DECEMBER 6**  
The challengers leave today. Many of us sit on the grass, talking, laughing, smoking. Many of my team members would like to stay; a return to home life is unappealing at the moment: school, family, work—the daydream is over. I want to go with them, can't imagine another week here with nothing to do but debrief sessions and R'n'R.

Back to HQ. Everything and everyone is tired and silent.

I'm proud of my team and our accomplishments, however concerns remain. Did we help the situation in Yurong-Peru? Was this experience for ourselves or the community? Is it good policy to leave behind unfinished projects for the community to finish? What, exactly, does development mean and to whom? 5 rules to live by in Yurong-Peru: 1. Suck it up. 2. There's no 'I' in team. 3. Embrace the chaos. 4. Never ask what else could go wrong. 5. Don't drink the water. ☘

**Open Forums**

Selection of the Director of the **DISABILITY RESOURCES CENTRE**

The campus community is invited to attend Open Forums with candidates for the Director of the Disability Resources Centre. Each candidate will make a 15-minute presentation on a topic of his or her choice. This will be followed by an open discussion. Those attending will be asked to provide written feedback to the advisory committee. All forums are from 12:00-12:45 p.m. in Room 0017, Brock Hall

**April 14 Dr. Peter Colebrook**  
**April 16 Mr. John Lane**  
**April 17 Ms. Janet Mee**  
**April 18 Dr. James Leonard**

**Other input:** Individuals or groups may ask to meet with the candidates. Please forward your request to Richard Spencer (822-3265 or richard.spencer@ubc.ca)

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# And the winner is...

**Top Male:**  
Mike Kurz (volleyball)  
**Female rookie:**  
Jen Dowdeswell (field hockey)

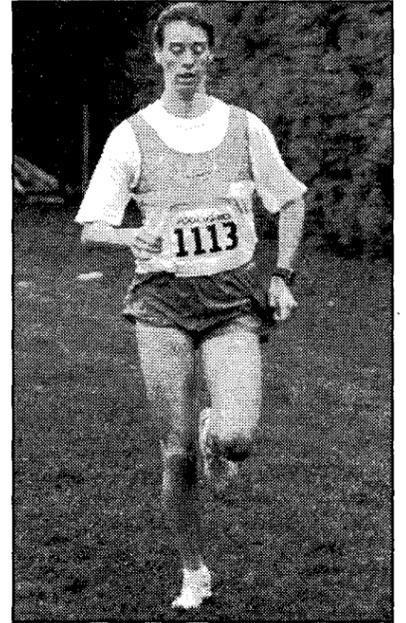
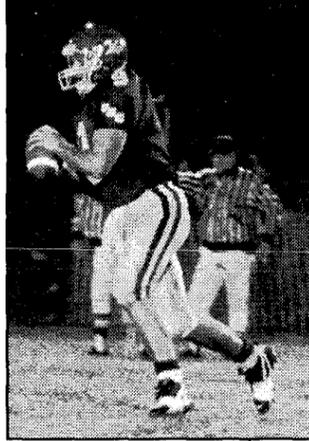
**Top Female:**  
A close call, but in the end, long-distance runner Lori Durward won in a photo finish. Durward, who suffers from asthma, won three gold medals at the Canada West championships.  
Honourable mentions: Jennifer Rauh and Tanya Pickerell (v-ball) and Julie Douglas (women's hockey)

**Top Coach:**  
Women's volleyball head coach Doug Reimer has turned around UBC's women's volleyball team.  
Honourable mentions: Mike Mosher (men's soccer) and Hash Kanjee (women's field hockey)

We're proud to recognise the athletes we have covered. It has been a great season.

Text by Wolf Depner  
Photos by Richard Lam

**Top Team:**  
The women's volleyball team wins this category hands down. A class bunch, they were but a few points away from winning UBC's first gold medal in women's volleyball in 20 years.  
Honourable mentions: women's rugby, football



**Most Inspirational Player (Male)**  
Hockey captain Brad Edgington is a throwback to old-time hockey. In his five years, he did everything possible for his team to win and it is a shame he never got to play in the playoffs. "Edgy," we will miss you!



**Most Inspirational Player (Female)**  
Tanya Pickerell had a bittersweet end to her five year volleyball career after peaking at the national championships.

**Male Rookie:**  
First-year quarterback Shawn Olson stepped into the fire when veteran starter Jason Day faltered midway through the season.  
Honourable mentions: Mike Franks (soccer) and Akbal Singh (football)

# READ. THINK. VOTE.

**B**y now, you may have received some information about the Student Technology Fee Referendum. If not, feel free to pick up a couple of handouts, read through the Ubysssey, pick up a yellow handbill and bookmark from various polling booths around campus or read the posters on bulletin boards.

Take a moment out of your busy schedule and read through the information about the Student Technology Fee Referendum, which is going on right now through to April 16th.

Whether you read it between classes or study breaks, use all of the information to give you a better understanding of the Student Technology Fee Referendum.

**O**kay, now you've had some time to mull things over. Do you support or not support the proposed Student Technology Fee?

It's entirely up to you to make that decision.

If you're still unsure about it, talk about it with your friends and fellow students and find out their thoughts about the Student Technology Fee.

Get more information, ask questions, and make an informed decision about the fee.

**S**o you've now decided which way you'd like to vote? Pick up any touch tone phone and do just that.

Call 280-8228 or 822-VOTE (8683) to get through the TeleVote system. You'll need your student number, PIN, and listen carefully to the options on the menu. If you experience problems with the TeleVote system, please call the Registrar's Office at 822-4367.

You can vote at any polling station via cell phone or regular phone but remember that you can do this from *any touch tone phone*.

The Student Technology Fee Referendum is from April 9th to April 16th. Open 22 hours a day, (except between 4:00am to 6:00am) including Saturday and Sunday.



Brought to you by the Student Council of the Alma Mater Society of UBC. Student Council is made up of representatives from all faculties and associated organizations such as The Graduate Student Society, The Alumni Association, Regent College and The Vancouver School of Theology.

The Alma Mater Society encourages all UBC students to vote in the 1997 Student Technology Fee Referendum.

# UBC RETORTS

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April 10, 1997

Find UBC Retorts on the Web at [www.extramartial-affairs.ubc.ca/paweb/retorts/](http://www.extramartial-affairs.ubc.ca/paweb/retorts/)



## Finishing the job

Ubyyssey coordinating editor Scott Hayward pastes down the last front page of the year. He says the team approach has been the key to the success of the paper this year. "Everyone gets along well together."

## T-Birds athletes to be indelibly marked

by Don Ills

staff writer

Call it the mark of achievement. Several top UBC athletes may be sporting more than name brand shoes this fall—they'll have brand name tattoos.

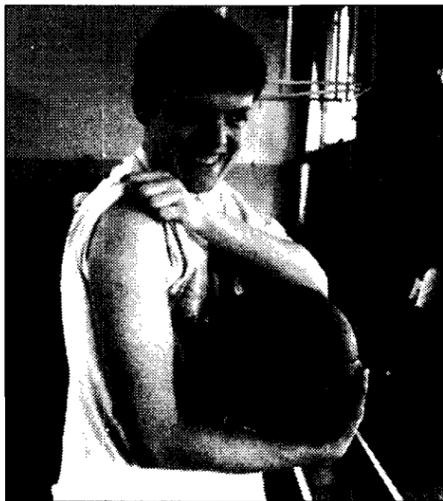
The Department of Athletics and Recreation has announced that, beginning in September, six starting players from the men's and women's basketball teams will each receive \$7,000 scholarships from a multinational sportswear company.

And not only will both teams receive shoes and track suits, but the university will receive an endowment to support UBC teams into the next century.

In exchange, the six players will be tattooed with a logo combining UBC's team symbol, the T-Bird, with the sponsor's corporate logo.

"This was seen as an alternative to asking the students for an increase in the athletic fee in a referendum this spring," said Athletics Director Phil Roberts. "We thought the players would be willing to go the extra step so their classmates wouldn't be hit with another fee."

The precedent-setting scholarship



Gino Salsa

requirement is a corporate response to the provincial government's recent decision to cut funding for amateur sports. The cuts had meant UBC could no longer guarantee scholarships to its varsity athletes beginning in the 1997/98 year, and would have to rely on alternative fundraising sources such as private donors and corporate sponsors.

See TATTOO Page 2

## UBC human rights centre receives funds

by Ken Charles

staff writer

UBC is about to become a world leader in Human Rights research and forge new links with the Pacific Rim, thanks to the upcoming APEC conference and an international financial partnership.

To commemorate the visit of leaders from the Asia Pacific Economic Co-operation conference to campus in November, the Indonesian government, in partnership with Canadian governments and corporate partners, is funding the construction of the Suharto Centre for Human Rights Research at UBC. The centre will open in the fall of 1998 on the site of the former Faculty Club.

The enterprise has been made possible by a generous donation from the

Indonesian government on behalf of President Suharto, who has ruled the island nation since 1966. Matching funds for construction are being provided by the BC government, with additional support from Ottawa and corporate partners.

"The corporate involvement is a unique opportunity for us to support academic excellence and forge important ties with a growing Asian economy," said Allan Millman whose Calgary-based company is a major donor to the centre and holds a number of exploration concessions in Indonesia.

The Suharto Institute will provide a fresh alternative on Human Rights to complement the work of, more traditional human rights organizations like Amnesty International and the

See SUHARTO Page 2

## Newspapers cut costs by sharing expenses

by Scott Kelly

staff writer

A recent agreement between UBC Retorts and The Ubyyssey may see the two newspapers distributing together next year.

The university's public relations paper is published twice a month during the school year, while the student newspaper publishes twice weekly. Come September, readers will be able to pick them both up together.

"It's just on a trial basis right now—we'll see how our readers react to the change," said Scott Hayward, Coordinating Editor of The Ubyyssey, who is confident the change will be a positive one. Today's issue is the first time the papers have had common distribution, but Hayward expects it to become a regular event.

"Running UBC Retorts as a special insert in The Ubyyssey will save both papers some money," he said. "We also hope that it will open us up to a wider readership because now some of our papers will be distributed in The Vancouver Courier too."

UBC Retorts Editor-in-Chief Paul Martini agrees. "We'll cut our costs, so

will The Ubyyssey, but more importantly, our readers will get better service. That's a win-win-win situation and we're very happy about it," he said.

Details of the accord are still being worked out, but Martini would like to see The Ubyyssey run as a special insert in UBC Retorts twice a month during the school year. But the university's plans may be bigger than that.

According to Emily Johansen, vice-president, Finance, UBC Retorts may soon contract out its entire production to students in order to provide part-time employment to cover the cost of increasing fees. Consultation among interested parties has already taken place.

"That would save the university even more money than simply distributing together. The surplus generated could be used for other student services like new buildings on campus, better administration, or faculty research labs to ensure students are only taught by highly qualified researchers," she said. "Ultimately, the president's office is always striving to serve students and we can only win with this plan."

"When we bring The Ubyyssey on board, we'll all be better off."

## Inside

### Hale-Bopp controversy

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UBC researchers find surprising object trailing comet

### Graduate students welcome

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President Strangway's office receives visitors

### Cloning research pays

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Scientists find practical applications for their endeavors

### Olympic Dreams

7

Two UBC students strive to dance their way to gold

## Letters

### Frats Getting a Bad Rap

Editor:

We here at Phull Ovva Bzzr have decided to respond to the unfair coverage that we have received lately in the student press. First of all, we would like to point out all of the charity work that our fraternity bylaws force us to perform. Each and every one of us has to get his ass out of bed early in the afternoon and help out either at The Pathetic Brats Children's Ward or the Dropping Corpse Retirement Facility and Mortuary. There is not a soul in this fraternity who hasn't either spent their free time changing diapers or working at the daycare.

We have also made it a habit to take donations while we go out on our weekends of drunken debauchery at the petting zoo. This leaves us with greater amounts for tipping, helping out those lovely, hard working waitresses out there.

And speaking of alcohol, we here at Phull Ovva Bzzr are not

**LETTERS POLICY**  
*UBC Reports* welcomes letters to the editor on topics relevant to the university community. Letters must be signed and include an address and phone number for verification. Please limit letters, which may be edited for length, style and clarity, to 300 words. But *UBC Retorts* is a spoof issue put out by *The Ubyssy* so if you have a comment, you should write to us instead. Unfortunately, our next issue isn't until July some time, so we hope you're patient. If so, submit your letter in person to *The Ubyssy*, SUB 241K, 6138 Student Union Blvd., Vancouver, BC, V6T 1Z1, or call 822-2301.

the crazed party animals that we are so often made out to be. While often indulging in the odd pop, not a farm animal has been found wandering around our fraternity for over a month now and we always have bus fare squirreled away for our overnight guests.

In closing, a fraternity is a brotherhood of the most sacred order. We demand our members to maintain a high grade point average, spend time helping out in the community and have the ability to hold down their liquor as we always keep our house free of feces, human or otherwise.

**Ben Dover**  
 President of Phull Ovva Bzzr,  
 UBC Chapter

Editor:

There will never be another David Stangway. He has crushed the spirits of our undergrads, enabling the university to receive those wondrous research grants. He has

helped out in the campus parking crisis, always leaving his space empty for others to use. But, most importantly, David Strangway has taught students the true meaning of sex symbol.

Anyone can be thin and sexy, but to pull it off while continually covered with a thin layer of perspiration and grease takes a man of true style. The up and down movement of his belly reminds me of my time in the womb, and I am often whisked away to a world where I am completely buoyant, floating in pure Strangway ecstasy.

I am horrified by our great loss. Strangway is more than just a president, he is a friend. He reminds us of what is good in the world and that we too can reach perfection.

Strangway is a god. He exists at a level superior to the rest of humanity. He loves, and is loved. He spans and is spanked. He will be missed.  
**Walter Draper,**  
 Third Year Scientology

## Tattoos

Continued from Page 1

"The cutbacks were a serious threat to maintaining a top-notch roster for next season," says men's basketball head coach Ennis Bruce. "However these new scholarships give us tremendous security in retaining our top players."

Several sportswear companies have sponsored UBC teams in the past, but so far they have only outfitted the players with free runners, sports bags, clothing and equipment.

The new endorsement contract called TREY (Tattoos Rewarding Excellence in Youth), is the brainchild of the basketball

marketing division of a yet-to-be-announced corporation and UBC Athletics. Complete details, including the name of the sponsor, will be announced at a press conference next week.

But Roberts did confirm that the players will each receive \$7000 cash payment per year for a minimum of three years, as long as they stay on the team, to cover their education and related expenses.

Players are excited about the awards, including third year guard Gino Salsa. "The pros all have tattoos, and a lot of the guys were thinking of getting

them too," he says. "I think it'd be great to get one and be paid to wear it."

However some believe the indelible body art pushes the boundaries of good taste in corporate sponsorship. "It's one thing to require that players wear a logo on their shoes or t-shirt," says Dixie Cruise, a point guard on the women's team. "But to make them tattoo it on their arm is going a bit too far."

Recipients of the TREY scholarships will be announced at the beginning of the season, once team rosters are finalized.

## Suharto

Continued from Page 1

International Centre for Human Rights and Democratic Development, a federally funded organization set up by Mulroney government. "As with any field of research, a lack of diversity in perspective leads to a lack of innovation," said Irfan Abidin, spokesperson for Indonesia's Information Directorate. "We're looking for new perspectives, different approaches, new notions of human rights from a practical standpoint."

Daniel Abies, vice-president, International Development, said the partnership will be important to the future of the university's position in the Pacific Rim. "People will look at this university and see the kind of thinking and partnerships we are trying to promote. I think it will say a great deal about our institution internationally," he said. "This is something I feel strongly about. Human rights are for everyone. Sometimes you just

have to do what you have to do."

Abidin says UBC is the perfect environment for the kind of institute his government is keen to see established. "We have always subscribed to the ideal of free expression as set forth by John Stuart Mills in the nineteenth century. Canada's well-known openness to new ideas and alternative views. Our country is frequently the subject of criticism from traditional thinking, but in Canada one can push boundaries, one has the ability to say 'I happen to disagree with you, but I'm entitled to disagree. It's an open society.'"

Prime Minister Jean Chretien's office is also an enthusiastic participant in the project. The federal government has promised to allocate money from its infrastructure program to help fund the Institute.

In a written statement, the Prime Minister said "[Canada has] to support our economic

partners in the Pacific Rim. President Suharto is on the forefront of human rights and we have to celebrate achievements made in human rights, both in Indonesia and in other member states of APEC."

Construction will involve more than 80 Indonesian craftsmen who, Abidin, says will volunteer their labour. "This is a chance for our tradesmen to display their skills to the world. Indonesian government employees are some of the best in the world at traditional arts such as gold-plating."

A ground-breaking ceremony will be held on the opening day of the APEC conference in November. President Suharto will be on hand to participate in the ceremony and receive an Honorary Doctorate in the Humanities from UBC at the fall convocation ceremony, which will coincide with the APEC leaders' meeting.

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## UBC RETORTS

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*UBC Retorts* welcomes the submission of letters and opinion pieces, but hey, it's only being published once so what's the point? Opinions and advertising published in *UBC Retorts* do not necessarily, and in fact likely don't, reflect official university policy.

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# Hale-Bopp follower raises questions

by Ansel Jaynes  
staff writer

They grabbed headlines recently with a mass suicide, but members of the Heaven's Gate cult who believed there was a UFO following the Hale-Bopp comet may have been closer to the truth than anyone imagined.

UBC Astronomer James Matheson says that Hubble space telescope photographs of the comet show there to be a small mass in the comet's tail.

"We have no idea what it might be, or what it is doing there, but it is clearly there and has been following the comet since last July at least."

Matheson and Ph.D. student Thomas Brahe say US researchers dismissed the mass as a chunk of the comet itself. But "on a whim" the UBC pair looked again this January and the mass "was still there—no smaller than before and the same distance from the comet," Brahe says. "That is not consistent with it being a degrading portion of the comet."

There is some controversy surrounding the discovery in the scientific community. Matheson says he posted his finding on the internet in February. "The response has been mixed. Many researchers feel that what we are seeing is some artifact of Hubble's imaging system."

The debate could be cleared up this May when Brahe, Matheson and researchers from the University of Manitoba go to Hawaii. "We have time on the Canada—France—Hawaii Telescope in Mauna Kea," Brahe says. "We know what we are looking for and should be able to settle the argument as to whether there is anything there."

For the time being, though, Matheson will have to be content knowing he's discovered the UFO behind the Hale-Bopp comet.

"In the strictest sense that may be true," he concedes. "It is unidentified and it's certainly flying, so I suppose it is a UFO. But I doubt it's got many cult members on board."



James Matheson

# University helps revive student activism

by Frank Stephens  
staff writer

After a decade of quiet disinterest, UBC students are once again becoming active in university life.

The past year has seen a record number of students taking part in committees on everything from technology to campus housing, culminating this past month in lunchtime student protests and a sit-in at the office of UBC President David Strangway.

"Students are recognizing the financial hardships government policy is creating for them and have joined with us in making their concerns heard," said Paul Martini, Director of Public Relations. "We welcome the added voices."

The latest wave of student activism coincides with a Board of Governors decision on March 20th offering students the chance to vote on a new fee to upgrade student technology services. The Board said it felt students needed to be consulted before having their fees increased.

"In many ways this simply reinforces our belief that given the chance, students are eager to be involved in the decision-making process at this university," says Maria Sumner, Vice-President of Student Affairs and Financial Development. "Time and time again we have shown that students simply need to be given some encouragement

to become involved with the workings of the university."

In fact, the student sit-in began the same day as the Board decision to make students more involved.

Senior members of the Board both supported and encouraged the sit-in. "They are welcome to make themselves comfortable in there," President Strangway said of the occupation of his office. And Chancellor William Sauder met with the students on the first of their six-night stay, donating \$150 to buy them food.

But unlike student protests of the 1960's, UBC's new student activism is a grass-roots movement. Action is coming from students themselves and university initiatives rather than from the elected student leadership.

"It is an interesting counter-trend," says UBC political scientist J.G. Murphy, "that while more students generally are involving themselves in activism, their elected government is considerably more afraid of taking a political stance." It reflects, he notes, a movement also seen in both the provincial and federal governments of the past few years. "I suspect that the AMS leadership are taking their cues from the Paul Martins and Gordon Campbells."

The real test, Smith says, will come next week when students vote on funding the technology upgrades. If trends continue and students embrace university initiatives to get them involved, organisers should get ready for a record voter turnout.



David Strangway

# Lucasfilm to use UBC for Star Wars trilogy

Jabba the Hutt, Darth Vader, and a wookiee named Chewbacca could well be attending UBC next fall.

The Vancouver Film Commission says George Lucas' movie giant Lucasfilm Inc. is considering Point Grey as a possible location for some of their new *Star Wars* trilogy.

And UBC could well be an integral part of the production.

"We've been in touch with them and feel we can offer both the locations they are looking for and the technical and scientific skills they need," says Bob Hamwood, head of Computer Science. "So much of the production this time will make use of computers that a university setting is particularly appropriate. I have a good feeling about this."

Lucasfilm will make no public comment on the possibilities, continuing a long tradition of media silence while making its films.

"Privacy is a big issue with this company," says Gretta Depner of the Film Commission. "They are a high-profile production and so the public interest is very, very intense. It may be one of the reasons a Canadian location is being looked at."

The special effects could produce lasting effects for UBC's computer scientists, Hamwood says. "The production would require that UBC upgrade some of its computing facilities. Lucasfilm would cover many of those costs, but the hard-

ware would remain behind afterwards. It will be a significant jump towards cutting-edge computer imaging systems."

But there are stumbling blocks yet to be passed before a deal is signed. PepsiCo, makers of Pepsi and other soft drinks, signed a multi-million dollar marketing agreement with Lucasfilm in 1994, and have expressed reservations about UBC's exclusive cold beverage

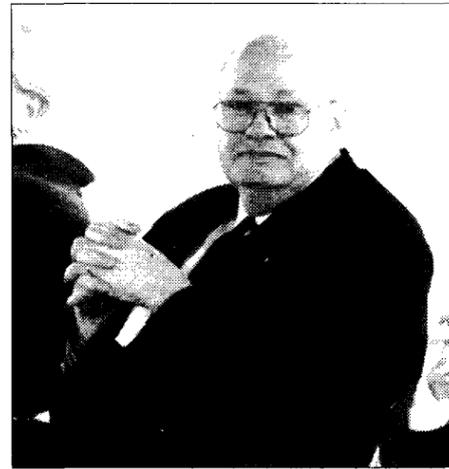
agreement with Coca-Cola Beverage Ltd. Terms of the cold beverage agreement prevent any soft-drink company but Coca-Cola from displaying products or advertising at UBC.

"We have some serious concerns," said David Dean, a lawyer representing Pepsi. "We have yet to ascertain whether or not we can replace existing machines and signage in the buildings

with those of my client."

Lucasfilm is planning to release three additional movies on the *making* of each of the films in the *Star Wars* trilogy. "The actors and crew are required to consume and enjoy Pepsi products on the set of the film in the 'Making of movies,'" Duckworth said.

But there may be a solution that will meet everyone's needs. Depner says that if no other accommodation can be worked out with Coke, Lucasfilm might use a Los Angeles movie set for those scenes required to satisfy the Pepsi contract. "Imagine that, a movie set of a movie set," she said.



Jabba the Hutt

# UBC cloning project starts commercial Buz

by Wilson Gavrin  
staff writer

Move over Dolly the sheep. Meet Buz the blackfly.

After a five-year effort UBC geneticist Elizabeth Crocker and a team of researchers have become the first to clone a Northern Blackfly.

The study, published in the April issue of the British journal *Nature*, was completed last spring, shortly before the Scottish sheep Dolly was born. But unlike the Scottish team, Crocker, an Associate Professor of Genetics, waited for her data to be published in the scientific literature before making the news public.

"Farm animals are already the products of genetic experimentation," Crocker noted. "Particularly in Western Europe where farmers have been selectively breeding sheep for centuries. That's genetics—whether it's called it or not. But the blackfly is an untapped gene pool. We're the first to clone it and the first to experiment with blackfly gene therapy."

The science, Crocker explained, reads a little like something from a *Star Trek* episode. The team removed the DNA from one of the thousands of eggs Buz's mother produced and carefully made an exact copy, using a process Crocker herself helped pioneer in the mid-80's. The team then replaced the original DNA in the egg and put the copy into a blackfly sperm.

"That was perhaps the hardest part," Crocker said, laughing. "Blackfly sperm

are really very tiny. We had to remove the male DNA and introduce the copy of the female DNA, all without killing the sperm. We had doubts about the project when we got to the sperm, but a couple of the students in the lab have very steady hands."

The team then simply let the altered sperm meet the original egg. Because the DNA in both sperm and egg was identical, the resulting embryo was an exact clone of Buz's mother. The clone was kept carefully in the lab, spending its larval and pupal stages in a 'stream' made from a lab aquarium. Finally, after about two weeks, Buz emerged from the water.

Having done it once, the team now sees the potential to create millions of flies. "When you copy the DNA, it's as easy to make 10,000 copies as it is one," Crocker said. "We can literally mass-produce biting flies."

And therein lies the commercial potential of the project.

There is already interest from would-be customers. The city of Chicago is now in serious negotiations with the UBC team. Starlings have become a major pest in the windy city. The birds, introduced early in the century, have upset the delicate ecology of the region, eating the food of a number of indigenous bird species and severely reducing their numbers. But recent studies at Lakehead University have shown blackflies to be a favourite starling food. Chicago officials hope that by introducing the blackfly to the urban area in large numbers, the starlings may switch food and the threatened bird



## It's all in the wrist

Biology graduate students Richard Clark and Joseph Lam's steady hands obtain the sperm that enables UBC's cloning research to proceed.

species may make a comeback. Des Moines and Minneapolis are said to be watching the experiment with interest.

Despite the fact that her work has obvious human benefits, clear commercial potential, and suffers little of the ethical cloud surrounding the cloning of mammals, Crocker doesn't begrudge the

attention Dolly has received in the international press. Buz may not make the cover of *Time*, she acknowledged, but that's fine with her. Perhaps it's even appropriate.

"The blackfly may not be as sexy as a cute woolly sheep," she said, "but it's much more Canadian."

# New interdisciplinary centre to open at UBC

by Dean James  
staff writer

The President's office has announced a new research centre at UBC unlike any other in the world. The Institute of Processed Food Research will bring together Commerce and Food Science.

"We're very excited about working on this project," said Dean Weinberg, Chair of Marketing in the Commerce Department.

"There's a certain synergy between all the groups involved and there is a very real possibility for the university to profit from our new associations."

Acting Head of Food Science Dean Vanderstoep was similarly enthusiastic. "The cross-fertilization of two areas of research is always exciting. This can only benefit the university, and therefore the students."

Construction of the new building is scheduled to begin in June. It will be located on one acre of what is now Nitobe Gardens, and will overlook the fish pond.

"We went through an extensive consultation process with the campus community on this one," said VP Academic Dean Birch. "The Deans met and we agreed to proceed. No one from senate has called me to object since our press release went out this afternoon."

The mandate of the new centre will be

to develop and test market new food and beverage products in partnership with the corporate community. Students and faculty will try new products before they are released to the general public—every time they purchase their lunch at a campus cafeteria.

Birch also said the new Institute will be paid for with donations from the corporate community and without any government assistance. UBC's contribution will come from money it receives through its Cold Beverage Agreement with Coca-Cola Ltd.

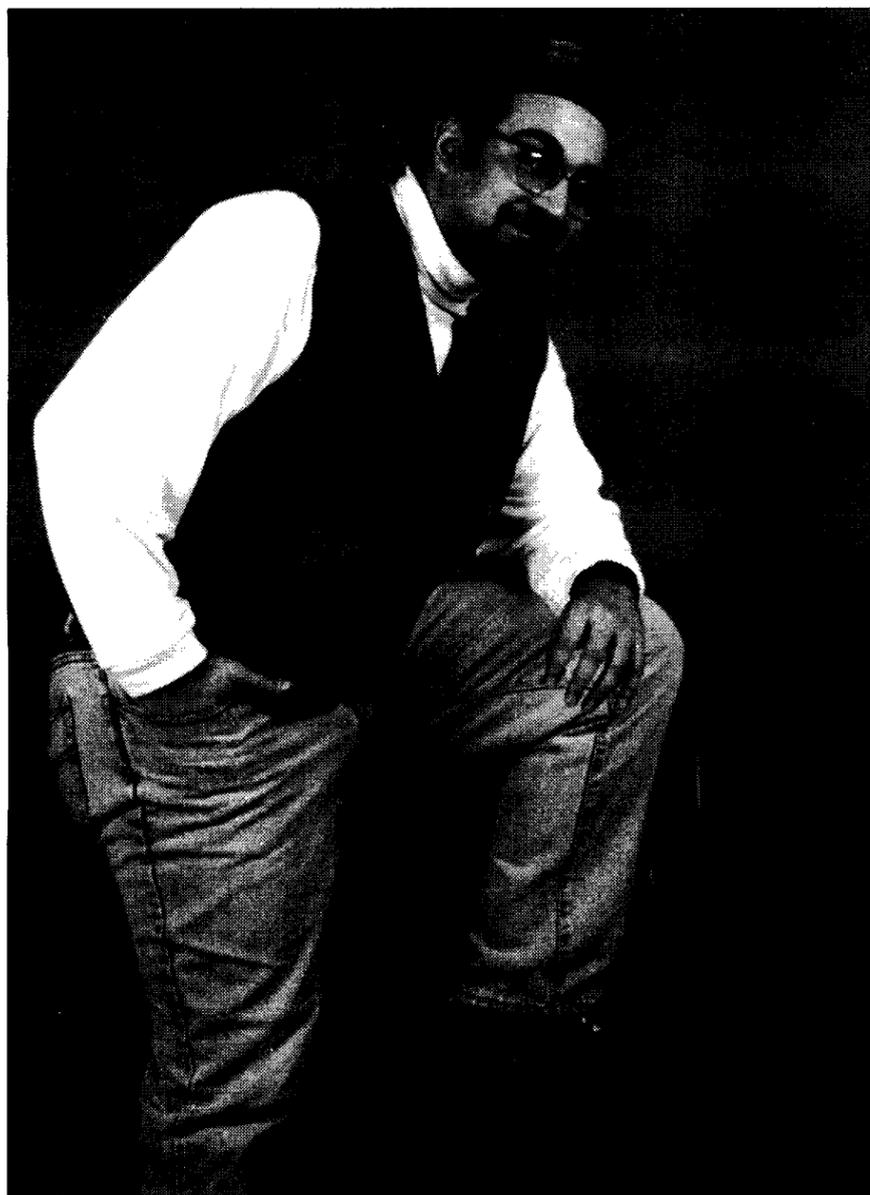
Vice President of Research Dean Bessler wanted to assure that the university, and not the corporate partners would be driving the agenda at the institute.

"We have to keep our research in tune with today's changing society, otherwise UBC will quickly become

irrelevant," Bessler said. "If that means studying how to make a better soft drink, or how to market it to appeal to young children, then that's the direction we have to take."

"And although these are just examples, they are important areas in academic research today, and I want to make sure UBC is on the cutting edge."

In a press release issued by Coca-Cola Ltd., Dean Boniface expressed gratitude to the university, saying he was glad that UBC had agreed to live up to its contractual obligations.



Diak Lamb photo

## Pulitzer Prize winner

UBC graduate Federico Barahona is this year's recipient of the Pulitzer prize for his work *The Tortilla Chronicles*. He will be giving a lecture on to the Creative Writing Department next Wednesday at 12:30pm.

# Calendar

## April 11 through April 21

### Friday, April 11

#### UBC Music Seminar

An evening of angst, anger, violence, depression, politics and rebellion with the raucous tunes of the punk rock era. Guest speakers include Dayglo abortions, DOA, the remaining members of Skinny Puppy. Chan Centre, 7:00pm-'til the cops bust it up. Call 1-800-GO-TO-HELL.

#### Engineers Poetry Reading

Open mike night. Theme: Why weiner dogs are the best. The Cheez, 6:00pm. Call 822-POET.

#### Religious Studies Lecture

Does God have a belly button. If so, is it an inny or an outy? Guest lecturer Prof. J. Christ. Vancouver School of Theology, 3:00pm.

### Saturday, April 12

#### Geriatric Meeting

Dinner and bingo to follow lecture. topics to be discussed: pension, life insurance, how to get free golf club memberships, how to remain standing unassisted while giving an

excruciatingly boring lecture on the socio-politico situation in Brunei. Buchanan Penthouse, 5:30pm. Call 822-POLI.

### Monday, April 14

#### Centre for Applied Ethics colloquium

Is cloning baaad? A lecture by Dolly Ewing. Buchanan B201, 4:00pm-6:00pm. Call 822-LAMB.

#### Centre for Applied Ethics colloquium

Is cloning baaad? A lecture by Dolly Ewing. Biomed Research Centre seminar room, 4:00pm-6:00pm. Call 822-SHEEP.

#### Centre for Applied Ethics colloquium

Is cloning baaad? A lecture by Dolly Ewing. IRC, 4:00pm-6:00pm. Call 822-BAAA.

#### Silo opening

Walte D. Coerner intercontinental ballistic missile launch. Outside, 3:30pm

#### Theatre

Molier's Shorts. Shakespeare's Shorts. Sophocles' Toga.

Undergarments of the great playwrights, presented by the Brief Theatre company. Frederic Wood, 8:00pm. Clothing optional, tie required. Reservations, call 822-GYNCH.

### Tuesday, April 15

#### CICSR Distinguished Lecturer Series

World Domination through software and operating system saturation by Chairman William Gates. Video conference from CICSR/CS 666, 4:00pm-5:50, barring any technical difficulties. All the pop and chips you can eat. MSS-OFTY for information on stock options.

#### Networking Skills

How to meet, date and share breakfast with your fellow students. A beginner seminar for the socially inept. Hugh Grabinsky. Light refreshments will be derved/cash bar. Koerner's Pub, 8:00pm. Call 822-LOSE.

#### Statistics seminar

How to hide your bias and still convince the masses. A semi-

nar sponsored by the Fraser Institute. Note: Ten out of eleven students will fail to attend this seminar. 19 times out of 20. Museum of Anthropology, 9:00pm.

### Wednesday, April 16

#### Distinguished Lecture Series

Former United Nations leader Boutros-Boutros Ghali. "How to succeed despite a silly-silly name." SUB Ballroom, 10:00am. 822-SILLY.

#### A Celebration of Courage

Practical life lesson through the employment of role-playing techniques. Bring your own Dungeons and Dragons game, 37 sided dice and Magic cards. Held below the *Ubysey* office, 24 hours a day, every day.

### Thursday, April 17

#### Mad Hatter's Tea Party

Hosted by the UBC Weightlifting Beefcakes Club and the Chess Club. Held in the underground steam tunnels, 4:30pm. Prozac, lithium and horse urine served in abundance.

### Friday, April 18

#### Unapplicable mathematics

Obscure analysis of nth dimensional hyperbolic space. A lecture by Prof. I. M. Aboffin. Hennings 216, 12:30pm. Call 822-10100.

#### AA Meeting

A discussion of the causes and results of alcoholism. "I don't have a drinking problem, except when I can't get a drink." SUB 241K, 2:30pm. Call 822-2301.

#### Sex and Yodeling

Using the Kama Sutra to your yodeling advantage. A lecture presented by the Students for Erotic and X-rated Yodeling (SEXY). Lassaie 069, midnight. BYOC.

### Monday, April 21

#### Zoology Comparative Physiology Seminar

Bone structure, skin consistency, blubber levels, silly smiles and pauchiness: David Strangway and the beluga whale. Nitobi Park fish pond, 10:00am. Bring a swimsuit.

Please clip and save in your Policy Handbook



## THE UNIVERSITY OF BRITISH COLUMBIA

# Policy and Procedure Handbook

### Policy #666

# Student Discipline

Approved: January 1995

Revised: February 6, 1997

RESPONSIBLE VICE PRESIDENT

Vice President Academic & Provost

#### Preamble

The University is committed to an environment that allows students and faculty to go about their business without the threat of arbitrary beatings. But when it comes to some of the stunts that students try and pull we have to put our foot down.

Students, and on occasion faculty, have to be made to see reason. We can't allow plagiarism, exam fraud, theft or defacement of university property and parking in the president's spot to become routine occurrences.

To this end the University has amended its Policy and Procedure Handbook to include several new levels of punishment and a whole host of new offenses.

#### Offenses

The following offenses will be included in the Policy and Procedure Handbook.

- using a cheat sheet during an examination.
- using an electronic desk calendar or other device during an examination.
- using a friend standing outside the win-

dow telling one the answers during an examination.

- scratching one's left thigh while picking one's nose during an examination.
- parking in the president's special parking spot.
- sitting in the president's office without an invitation signed in triplicate by three deans.
- phoning the president's office and asking whether he or she has a daughter.
- laughing at any or all of the president's physical deformities.
- laughing at the president's toy bunny that he sleeps with every night.
- laughing at the University's policies.
- laughing.
- using the words or ideas of any person without giving proper credit.
- using the hair piece of any person without giving proper credit.
- using the hair piece of a member of the University's administration without giving proper credit.
- smoking cigarettes during an examination.
- smoking a big, fat, skunky joint during an examination (unless shared with the professor).
- failure to produce proper identification upon request from UBC security personnel.

- failure to provide a half dozen donuts (they especially like the Boston creams) upon request from UBC security personnel.
- failure to drop one's pants, sing 'Yankee Doodle Dandy' and eat a dozen bananas upon request from UBC security personnel.
- stealing backpacks from an exam room.
- stealing bicycles from an exam room.
- stealing the invigilator from an exam room.
- defacing University property.
- defacing the Goddess of Democracy.
- defacing the Engineering cairn.
- using any pencil other than 2H to write exams.
- using any pencil other than 2H to appeal a ruling made under the Student Discipline section of the Policy and Procedure Handbook.
- consuming the lead of any pencil that is not 2H.
- drinking milk from the carton.

#### Punishment

The following is a list of possible punishments. One or several may be used depending on the severity of the infraction and the arbitrary whim of the Board of Governors

#### First offence:

- student shall be asked nicely never to do it again.
- student shall be made to eat thirty four litres of ice cream.
- student will be forced to wear a dunce cap to all classes.

#### Second offence:

- student shall be dipped in pure maple syrup, covered in goose feathers and laughed at by a committee of their peers.
- student shall undergo electro-shock therapy.
- student shall be forced to attend a seventy six hour physics lecture on the epistemological implications of Schrödinger's cat.

#### Third offence:

- student shall participate in a special remedial workshop to be held in the new Torquemada room of Koerner Library.
- student shall be required to attend all Board of Governors meetings
- student shall be coated liberally in gravy and tied to a car in B-lot. Then the hounds shall be set upon them.

#### Four or more offences:

- hangin'

## People

by staff writers

**M**auran Kim, associate Professor of English, has been awarded the 1997 *Salman Rushdie Prize*. The \$10,000 (US) award, sponsored by the Commonwealth-Iran Friendship Committee, is given annually to the author or academic "who most furthers understanding of Islam in the Commonwealth through written efforts."

Rushdie was the first recipient in 1990, shortly before the Iranian government sentenced him to death for the novel *The Satanic Verses*. The government in Tehran, which is a co-sponsor of the award Committee, no longer recognizes Rushdie as a past winner.

Kim's work, a collection of poetry entitled *1001 Sayings of the Ayatollah Khomeini for Everyday Use*, was published in 1996.

Kim says she was surprised by the news. "This either signals a radical change in government policy in Teheran, or indicates the prize committee is unfamiliar with satire," she said.

Kim has declined an invitation to travel to Tehran to receive the prize in October, citing conflicts with the production schedule of her first film, *Die, Theocrat, Die*.

.....

**J**aggi Singh, a former UBC student, has been named UBC's new Director of Public Affairs. He is best known for his activities in student politics with the *Student Environment Centre*, and later *Culture Jammers*. More recently, he has been working with various media organizations including *AdBusters* and the *East Timor Alert Network*.

"I'm looking forward to my new position in the president's office," Singh said. "I've always had an opinion on where university policy should be headed, and now I can affect real change from the inside."

UBC President David Strangway said that he has been well aware of Singh's activities for some time now.

"He pops up everywhere, sometimes even when we didn't expect him," chuckled Strangway. "Like that time he came to the Asia Pacific Parliamentary Forum—we really weren't expecting him."

The President also praised Singh's tireless efforts and commitment to his beliefs, citing his involvement in the debate over the university's cold beverage agreement and his work publicizing the new McDonald's restaurant on campus.

"I'm looking forward to sitting him down in my office, just the two of us," Strangway said. "In fact, I may invite him up to my wilderness retreat in the mountains."

.....

**S**tanley Tromp, a UBC student and reporter for the student newspaper *The Ubysey*, is the first student to be accepted in UBC's Master of Journalism program. Originally scheduled to open in September of 1996, and subsequently postponed until September 1997, has now been put off indefinitely according to the president's office.

"I'm happy to be accepted, even if I don't know when I'll start," Tromp said. "I've filed seventeen Freedom of Information Requests to find out what is delaying construction."

The first request to be granted revealed that extra administration resulting from Tromp's FOI requests had itself held up the project by six months. When a second request showed that the university had reallocated all the funds, originally budgeted for the actual construction to hire staff to process his FOI requests, Tromp took matters into his own hands. He purchased a shovel from a local hardware store, and began excavating the site. "I'm not about to let them screw me out of my MJ degree," he cried defiantly.

Tromp was last seen draining the initial excavation with a Mr. Bean cola cup during a rain storm and muttering to himself.

.....

**T**urf magazine, a zine edited by former UBC students Andrea Gin and Queens university graduate Lisa Chen-Wing, has supplanted *The Financial Post* and *The Globe and Mail* as the most read newspapers among members of the business community.

"I give up, they win," lamented Roger P. Parkinson, Publisher and CEO of *The Globe and Mail*. "The business community is much more interested in reading about Fluevog shoes and reviews of 7-11 stores than those columns of stock reports."

Gin and Chen-Wing are currently wondering how to continue writing a zine about being 22 when they are now 23.



Jaggi Singh

## Classified

The classified advertising rate is \$16.50 for 35 words or less. Each additional word is 50 cents. Rate includes GST. All UBC students receive free classifieds in *The Ubysey* though, so why would they bother—besides, it's a way funkier publication? Ads must be submitted in writing 10 days before publication date to the UBC Public Affairs Office, 310 - 6251 Cecil Green Park Road, Vancouver B.C., V6T 1Z1, accompanied by payment in cash, cheque (made out to *UBC Reports*), internal requisition, gold fillings, whale's teeth, beads, beaver pelts, sea shells, bodily organs, blood, sperm samples (men only), or a guarantee to be surrogate mother of the university administrator of our choice (women only). Advertising enquiries: 822-3131.

The deadline for the April 18, 1997 issue of *UBC Reports* has already passed. Too bad.

### Accommodation

**BASEMENT ON CAMPUS** ideal for students, located on the ground floor of UBC president's residence. Excellent security, but must tolerate large parties with many world leaders. \$1875/month per room. Call Dave 822-2121.

**KITS BEACH GUEST HOUSE** A perfect spot for students to study, provided that they have the means to pay for it. Two bedrooms, \$1350 per month plus utilities and cable. 822-8300.

**SHAUNNESY SPLIT LEVEL** A perfect 3 bedroom spot for students in a quiet neighbourhood and a bargain at just \$2850 per month. Call 822-4948.

**AFFORDABLE HOUSING** close to UBC. Little light, must not object to roaches or rats. Two bedrooms available for \$375/month each. Please call 822-2909.

**UNAFFORDABLE HOUSING** close to UBC. Lots of light, must not object to our pure-bred Golden Retrievers. Two bedrooms available for \$775/month each. Please call 822-5075.

### Accommodation

**CHEAP BACHELOR APT** suitable for budget minded students, skylight roof and mobile. One room in blue metal structure—no utilities. Must secure all furniture to floor when sanitation truck arrives weekly. \$280/mo. 822-6330.

**HAMPTON PLACE SUITE** is coming available this summer on upscale street near all amenities—no students in area. Students need not apply. If you have to ask price, you can't afford it. 822-4141.

### Housing Wanted

**THREE QUIET STUDENTS** seek clean, dry three bedroom basement apartment on bus route in safe neighbourhood for under \$750/mo. We know this is ridiculous, but we all have to have a dream. 822-6330.

**QUIET FEMALE NEEDS** home for herself and one cat near transit. Non-smoker, non-drinker, responsible and studious, excellent references on request. I can only afford \$280/mo. 822-5790. (*ya right—ed.*)

### Services

**NO TIME TO FINISH** that term paper? UBC Surplus Essay Recycling Facility (SERF) offers competitive rates on many topics. Come by Wednesday between 12:00pm and 5:00pm or call 822-2813.

**STUDENTS NEEDED FOR** drug trials of various drugs synthesized in the chemistry department. Pay is excellent, and Medical Services Plan contributions are paid. Contact Student Health at 822-7011.

**JOB SEARCH TRAINING** for graduating students. Learn to gear your resumé to retail jobs, waiter/waitressing, or coffee house barista. Come to Brock Hall or call Career Services at 822-4011.

**DEPRESSED? BROKE?** You could work in the movie industry in Vancouver and earn up to \$3,000 per week making films—not as an extra, but as the star. No experience necessary, we will provide all the training needed. Must be over 18 years of age, be attractive, and be open-minded. Call 669-PORN.

## KNOWLEDGE THAT WORKS



David Strangway  
UBC President, 1985-1997  
BCIT Art History

"My experience at UBC was worthwhile, but the skills BCIT will provide me with will help me find a job."



Debra Dinger  
BSc, MSc, UBC '94  
BCIT Anthropology

"I enjoyed studying Computer Science at UBC, but employers are really looking for people who understand anthropology."



Mottyl T. Cat  
BAsc, PhD, Stanford '96  
BCIT Litter Training

"Although I learned a lot about solid state physics at Stanford, employers do require feline employees to be litter trained."

The British Columbia Institute of Technocracy is one of Canada's leading institutes of advanced technology and trades training. BCIT offers training in a wide range of subject areas and is so confident that it takes out ads in the publications at university campuses, in order to attract students who really can't find a decent job with a degree but no job skills.

BCIT provides British Columbians with world-class, job-ready skills for career success. Visit our Web site: [www.bcit.bc.ca](http://www.bcit.bc.ca)



**BRITISH COLUMBIA INSTITUTE OF TECHNOLOGY**



**Flouncing around**

UBC students Richard Poncer and Janet de Jambes perform their infamous "Cilantro Dip."

# Divine UBC dancing duo look to Olympics

by Bonnie Cragshaw  
staff writer

When ballroom dancing was made an Olympic medal sport last year by the International Olympic Committee (IOC), many cried foul. Ballroom dancing was painted not as a sport, but as couples "flouncing around like matching colour-blind peacocks after a few too many drinks" by the editors of *Sports Illustrated*.

But try telling that to UBC's ballroom dancing team of Richard Poncer and Janet de Jambes who are currently ranked second in the country. The two have been UBC's number-one dancing duo since their freshman year of 1993, and are almost assured a spot on Canada's highly-touted Olympic squad, despite a second-place finish in Lethbridge last month.

Mention the nationals to the fiercely proud twosome, and the veins practically pop out of their temples. Both contend that dirty play was the key to their second-place finish behind archrivals Dirk and Shelly Palsenbarg from Alberta, who ruined UBC's 38-2 season.

"During the group dance, Shel deliberately spiked Dick when we got too close, and Dick and I—well, Dick mostly—limped into second," recalls de Jambes.

Vehement protests fell on deaf ears (literally—the annual celebrity guest judge was long-time ballroom enthusiast Pete Townsend of the rock group The Who), and now Poncer and de Jambes want to prove they've got what it takes. "Oh, we'll get 'em," says Poncer with a grin. "We'll get 'em good."

As they enter their fifth and final year of eligibility, Dick and

Jane have a singularly common goal: a fifth straight Canada West Ballroom title, a fifth straight trip to the nationals, their first national title, bloody revenge, a spot on the Canadian Olympic team, and a gold medal in Sydney at the 2000 games.

Ambitious goals, perhaps, but not out of reach for the pair, according to their coach ballroom dancing legend Vladamir del Guerrero. The pair, he said, are "two tigers ready to bust out and devour the competition piece by piece. Just wait 'til Poncermania runs wild on the Palsenbargs."

So next year, take the opportunity to enjoy these seniors as they proudly represent UBC by "flouncing around like two matching colourblind peacocks after a few too many drinks."

This kind of good quality flouncing doesn't come around too often.

## News Digest

The Russian is coming, the russian is coming!  
The Kremlin confirmed last month that UBC is on the short-list to host the Lenin Tour in the spring of 1999.

The Lenin Tour will take the preserved body of former Soviet leader Vladimir Ilyanovich Lenin to 17 cities in a year-long world tour to raise funds for the Lenin Institute of Post-Soviet Economics in Moscow. The former leader's body will find a permanent home in the institute in the year 2000.

Tour organizers say they want the body to stop in either Seattle or Vancouver.

President Strangway heralded the news, noting that if the visit is confirmed, Lenin will not be the first Russian leader to visit UBC. President Yeltsin spent a day on campus during his 1993 Vancouver summit with President Clinton. It would, however, be the first posthumous visit to campus by a world leader.

The only confirmed Canadian stop for the Lenin Tour will be in Toronto. An announcement on the Vancouver date is expected by June.

.....

*The Ubyyssey* student newspaper has been found guilty of breaches of provincial employment standards, says a ruling by the BC Labour Standards Board.

The newspaper was found to be employing its editorial staff at below minimum wage, with no provisions for overtime.

Editors with the paper, the Board ruling said, "were frequently expected to work 70-80 hour weeks for wages that rarely averaged above \$1.50/hr." Because they are required to work up to 60 hours a week, the Board found, editors classify as full-time employees and fall under labour code.

*The Ubyyssey*, and the Canadian Newspaper Journalists Association are appealing the ruling. The editors, the paper says, are all volunteers and their pay is simply an honorarium.

It also sets a dangerous precedent, said Association president Wendy McMillan. "If the student paper at UBC is forced to pay full wages, so will be other newspapers across the country. If papers can afford 5 writers now at \$2 per hour, they will only be able to pay 2 writers if forced to pay each of them \$5 an hour. The number of layoffs would be significant."

.....

UBC students are 'hungry' for name brands, a recent survey has found.

Sixty-eight percent of students surveyed would like to see a 'mall-type food fair' with name-brand food outlets on campus, according to the poll conducted in March by Decimal Research. Almost half of staff surveyed and nearly a third of faculty agreed.

The more than 300 respondents said the mall should be centrally located in the campus core, near the Bookstore, Bus Loop and Student Union Building.

Asked to name outlets they would particularly like to see, survey participants named McDonald's, Domino's and Subway most often. Few students asked for small independent outlets which lack, the survey found, the broad market appeal of international franchises.

"This gives us some clear direction for our efforts," said Arthur Versa, member of the Food Services Review Committee.

The committee is currently studying ways to improve food service to UBC and plans to revamp food services available in the Student Union Building at the end of this summer's conference season.

## UBC DEVELOPMENT APPLICATIONS

Students, faculty, staff and members of the public—Does this affect you?  
The following projects for the UBC Campus are being considered. You are encouraged to give us your opinions on these projects:

**PLANS & PERMIT REVIEWS IN PROGRESS**

- Official Communist Plan
- Strangway Presidential Library
- *The Province* School of Headline Writing
- Sightline Improvements for APEC conference
  - Logging along W.16th
  - Demolition of Gage Towers
  - Demolition of Buchanan Tower
- Improvements of President's Residence for APEC
- Improvements of President's Residence—just because
- Buchanan Strip Mall project
- Construction of permanent Wall for *Storm the Wall*
- SRC Phase II - Private Faculty Fitness Facility

**& FOR YOUR INFORMATION...**

- **Permit Fees** - While there is no increase for most permit fees, for facilities benefitting International Students all fees will increase by 350%.

FOR MORE INFORMATION ON ANY OF THESE PROJECTS please contact MR. PROSSER AT BUL-DOZE, or visit the UBC Home Page under Hotels and Malls



**camping  
planning &  
developing**



# THE UNIVERSITY OF BOURGEOIS COLONIALISTS

## Official Communist Plan: Update

### Overview

An Official Communist Community Plan (OCCP) has been prepared for the University of British Columbia by the Greater Vancouver Regional District (GVRD) through a consultative process involving the Communist Party, UBC, and interested Proletarians

The following amendments were made at Third Reading of the OCCP at the last GVRD Committee of People's Deputies meeting:

- amending policy 4.1.14 to clarify that the goal of the Party is, in fact, the destruction of the last vestiges of the Bourgeois State Apparatus
- amending policy 4.1.16(f) to provide for an open space standard for residential use of 1.1 hectares per 1000 proletarians and a provision to lower the standard based on the progress of collectivization of Privately held property surrounding the University
- amending policy 4.2.2 to revise the schedule for the toppling of Capitalism and the rise of the Worker's State

The GVRD Committee of People's Deputies will forward the plan to the Committee's May 1997 meeting for final consideration, after UBC has provided further information on key issues, as follows:

- a comprehensive planning process for UBC that addresses transit use, truck travel, and the dialectical approach to history



*As part of the review process, UBC is working with dedicated resistance groups to bring about the overthrow of the repressive state apparatus, so that the modern Worker's Paradise may be created.*

### What is the Official Communist Plan?

The OCCP is the statement of policy which sets objectives for all aspects of life in the Vancouver area. It is intended to achieve the Livable Region Strategic Five Year Plan and to sustain UBC's main mission and responsibility to the People's Educational Program and as a central part of the People's Liberation Army. The OCCP has been prepared through a consultative process involving the Communist Party, the GVRD, UBC, and interested proletarians from both on and off campus.

### Committees

#### Central Committee of People's Deputies

*The Central Committee of People's Deputies is the main administrative body responsible for the growth of Communism and the Communist ideal in the UBC area.*

The committee is dedicated to the eventual overthrow of Capitalism. With your help, the day of freedom nears! Academics of the world, unite!

#### People's Committee for Housing

*The People's Committee for Housing, a subcommittee of the Committee*

The committee is responsible for planning and providing for housing for the brave and loyal, hardworking members of the Proletariat who are bringing about the downfall of the corrupt Capitalist Structure that has for so long oppressed the common people of our once proud land. With the goal of free housing for all, every method is being investigated and all available resources brought to bear on this challenge. As the population is currently scheduled to increase by 50% in the next 5 years, *any suggestions are welcome.*

#### People's Committee for Transportation

*The People's Committee for Transportation, a subcommittee of the People's Committee for Housing...*

The committee is charged with solving the transportation problems of the UBC campus. This committee is also seeking ways to implement the bold new policy initiatives of the 53rd Congress of the GVRD, which has called for the elimination of 50% of the traffic to and from the University. While a Worker's state will undoubtedly require far less contact with the ideological impure and corrupt outside world, and while the sacrifices of the People, coupled with the inevitable increased efficiencies to be found in a Communist society will reduce the traffic, some other method needs to be found. The proposal currently being studied is to simply have 50% of the students and People's Instructors (ie. professors) move on to the campus, but see *People's Committee for Housing*, above.

You can read the Official Communist Community Plan and supporting propaganda on the Internet and send questions and comments by e-mail:

[Http://www.cpd.ubc.ca/occp/index.htm](http://www.cpd.ubc.ca/occp/index.htm)

If you would like to ask questions or comment on this process, please write or e-mail:  
Comrade Phukov, People's Commissar, Central Committee of People's Deputies  
State Educational Facility 13  
2329 East Mall, Vancouver, BC  
V6T 1Z4  
e-mail: [phukov@occp.ubc.ca](mailto:phukov@occp.ubc.ca)

# UBC Ultimate teams set to face US squads

**Both the women's and men's ultimate team are getting ready for upcoming national qualifying tournaments.**

by Wolf Depner

The countdown is on for the women's and men's ultimate frisbee teams. Two weeks from now, both teams will head onto the treacherous road to the national collegiate championship tournament May 30 to June 1 in Davis, California.

The start line is right here in Vancouver when UBC hosts the northwest sectional qualifying tournament April 25-27 with the top three teams going to Stanford for regionals one week later.

A top two finish then guarantees a return trip to northern California with a national title on the line. And both teams have serious title aspirations.

The men's team ranks third in the most recent Ultimate Players' Association (UPA) poll while the women also place third.

Whether or not one of the teams will still be playing in June remains to be seen, but right now, both teams just want to get on with business.

"We're anxious - we need to play more games," said women's team captain Vicki Chow. She in particular wants to play some meaningful games between now and sectionals as she's just come off a shoulder injury that kept her on the sidelines for almost seven months.

A superb disc handler, Chow has a knack for making the right play at the right time and will be a key factor in UBC's title run.

"Her coming back is huge," said co-captain Ashley Howard. "She can do everything. That's a great player to have on the field."

Chow's leadership and experience will also go a long way on a somewhat young team that hasn't played against American college teams since late March when UBC played in the University of Washington Invitational tournament.

Make no mistake - the tournament was an unqualified success, leading many observers to say UBC has a good chance to make the nationals. While the Birds appreciate the accolades, they know they can't book tickets yet.

"People have said that we can go to nationals, but we don't want to jump ahead," explained Chow. They shouldn't. West coast teams have dominated recent national championships, a fact not lost on the team. "Regionals will be our big first test," said Chow.

"There will be some good teams down there," she added.

But the Birds think they can place either first or second.

That confidence is based on the strong showing in Seattle and news that national team veteran Patty Mason will be available for regionals and nationals, if the team goes that far.

Player/coach Mike Firth, however, won't be available for the men's team. No longer eligible to compete in the UPA collegiate series, Firth will drop the player in his title and concentrate on coaching.

While you can't ask for a better coach, extra pressure will fall on co-captain Jon Wooldridge. To the teams' relief, veter-

## UPA College Women's Standings

1. UNC-Wilmington
2. Stanford
3. UBC
4. Cornell
5. UC Santa Barbara

## UPA College Men's Standings

1. Stanford
2. UC Santa Barbara
3. UBC
4. Carleton
5. East Carolina

eran Paul Sewell resumed practice last week after recovering from a hamstring injury that kept him out for almost four weeks.

"He is a big offensive weapon for us," said Wooldridge. "He is definitely one of our main handlers and we're going to need him healthy to do well at regionals." Sewell admitted that he feels a little bit more pressure than usual to perform, but not a lot.

"I think the team feels the pressure to do well. We want to exceed last year's result - we want to make it to nationals."

That goal is reachable, but it won't be easy. The top two teams in the west - Stanford and Santa Barbara - also rank one-two overall and in all likelihood, UBC must get past one of those teams at regionals to qualify for nationals.

It's top two finish or bust for the third-ranked Birds - right now at least.

With four out of the top six teams coming from the west, the region may be awarded an extra wild card spot at nationals - if so, that will be good news for the Birds. "But I'm not holding my breath," said Wooldridge, though he is confident the team can advance to nationals even without Firth.

"We've known all along that Mike wasn't going to be there for regionals and the big tourney," Wooldridge said. "When we went down to the Stanford Invitational tournament late February, he didn't play on the second day...and we had no problems. Everybody played well."

UBC finished 5-1 that weekend, losing 15-8 to Santa Barbara in the semifinal. While the Stanford tournament was a big step in the right direction, it also exposed on and off field issues that need to be addressed. The first is conditioning.

Wooldridge said the team is not as athletic as the competition, adding that the team is experimenting with some unorthodox defensive schemes to overcome that disadvantage.

The second big issue facing UBC is team chemistry. With a team as talented as this one, everybody has an opinion on everything and egos are destined to clash.

Sources close to the team say they did in Stanford.

When asked, Wooldridge confirmed that Firth and veteran Kirk Savage had a verbal blowup on the sidelines over who would get to play, although he added that things are "cool" now between the two.

"I think everybody is on the same page," said Wooldridge. "I'm not going to say that we all get along like brothers all the time, but when we get to tournaments... everybody pulls together and we play as a team."

They did in late March when UBC won the Huskies' invitational tournament. And UBC settled an old score in the final against sixth-ranked UVic, winning 15-11 with an injury depleted squad. Back in 1995, the Vikes rolled over UBC at Canadian nationals; this time around, UBC turned the tables.

"Victoria may have the best basketball team in Canada," said co-captain/team-manager Alex Rosenczweig, alluding to Uvic's national title in men's basketball, "but we have the best Ultimate team in Canada, period." Rosenczweig is right.

While the Vikes won the 1996 Canadian championship, they did so without facing the Birds, who did not have the budget to fly to Waterloo.

UBC is without doubt the best Canadian-based college team and if everything falls into place, the Birds will be North America's best six weeks from now. But that's a big if. ❖

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See it or go *Blind*

by Craig Klepak

**THE BLIND MUSICIAN**  
at the Firehall Arts Centre until Apr 12

Radix Theatre has gone out on a limb to present their newest offering, *The Blind Musician*—they're doing it in a theatre.

The Vancouver-based company, which has given performances on street corners, under bridges and in a sewer grate, has never worked in a theatre.

Standing on a stage of sod (yes, grass) and hanging from nooses, the *avant garde* actors do their best to prove that, like life, theatre doesn't have to make sense. In a multimedia performance that includes film, dance, music and poetry, Radix treats the epic themes of creation and death in a confusing swirl of artistic expression.

"Performance installations" are not new to the art world. Beginning with the Beats in the 1950s, alternative forms of dramatic theatre have become increasingly popular. But many radical performers in this genre have been questioned for their artistic sincerity, and the culture as a whole has become associated with drug use.

*The Blind Musician*, however, has meaning beneath its mayhem. There is a continual search for "fear management" among the characters. They are obsessed with death. Unsure of themselves, their disturbing memories from the past, or their destinies in the future, the characters have come to see "fiction as undeniable fact" in their futile attempts to reconcile their existence with the unknowable.

All of the performers are good. Andrew Laursen brings humor to the morbid and depressing topic of suicide. Squeaky-voiced Tara Cheyenne Friedenberg also stands out, as does the subtly humorous Stephen O'Connell.

Radix doesn't come to any real conclusions in *The Blind Musician*—the plot is entirely fatalistic, and the cast begins and ends the drama hanging limp from nooses. Life, it seems, is to be pondered hysterically in Faulkner-like flashbacks until death comes. The path of living becomes overwhelming and suicide follows.

This is a gem for serious art lovers, but it closes April 12—you'll have to catch it soon. ♦

## MAdE: an "organic" jewel

by Nil Koksall

Welcome to the world of MAdE, probably one of the most honest bands hitting the market today. In an industry where saying it's "all about the music" never really means it is, MAdE's pouring of real-life into their music is exceptional. Maybe that's the reason they went from being a proverbial (but not so stereotypical) basement band in 1993 to one of MCA's newest acts in 1996. Maybe that's why their music is so enjoyable. Maybe that's why — thankfully — it's so hard to label them.

MAdE's first CD *Bedazzler* oscillates between catchy hooks and witty lyrics with serious undertones. The listener is in a comfortable limbo between sheerly fun music in songs like 'Joanne' and 'Hairdown' and the moody, expressed in lines like:

*If you say but don't do  
If you try but don't come through  
I'll make fun of you*

Other pieces like 'Hippies' are questioning and confusing, but the band hesitates to push their music under one category. "Everybody's angry, happy or sad, and that's what we are," says lead singer John Taylor. Then he adds, jokingly, "We're people, we play 'people-music.'"

The honesty of their music undoubtedly comes from their instinctual rather than methodical writing style. 'Hairdown' actually came together in under a minute. According to Taylor, this approach has been beneficial to the band's music. "I think it allows things you might censor out to get in there. One of the worst kinds of censorship is self-censorship. If you think too hard about what you're going to write then you won't write anything, or you'll write what you really don't mean."

Their musical influences range from the Cure to Dinosaur Jr. but their inspiration comes from something much more innate. "Songwriting is like a purging," says Taylor.

The band — which also includes Frank Guidoccio on bass and Simon Bedford on guitar — just signed with Universal Records but their small fan base is their main source of comfort. Drummer Allison Maclean says, "We're not drawing a lot of people right now, but there will be three people who love our music. I think that's



A MATCH MADE IN HEAVEN: Allison Maclean and John Taylor.

great. You really develop the fan base organically."

The band is definitely content with the slow pace at which their popularity is growing, and they are skeptical of instant fame. To each member of the band, success holds a different meaning, but they agree when Taylor says, "To me, absolute success would be to be able to draw 200 people in any city in the world."

Perhaps the most affecting characteristic of this band is their modesty. When asked what distinguishes MAdE from any other band, Taylor humbly replies, "I wouldn't want to be so pompous to say that we are different. Every band in its own way is going to be unique, like every person. Anything I can say about us I can say about another band."

Despite this modesty, their music is still a brew that clings with the audience. At a show earlier this semester, the entire audience seemed captivated by this new discovery, a band that has finally created an infectious musical mesh that never leaves you bored, depressed, or with a headache.

MAdE songs aren't pop, they aren't rock, and they aren't purely "alternative." Maybe it's just best to keep it simple and say they make good music, and (dare I say it?) that they're bedazzling. ♦

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**Memorial**  
University of Newfoundland

The editorial board of *The Ubysssey* cordially invites all members of staff, the Board of Directors of *The Ubysssey Publications Society* and their partners to the end-of-term gala. The social event of the year will be held at Spruce Harbour Marina, 1015 Iron Work Passage, Vancouver, BC. Festivities begin at 4:00pm. Please contact your host, Ms. Rae, at 822-2301 if you are able to attend.

## East and west meet VSO

by Tom Eccleston

**VANCOUVER SYMPHONY ORCHESTRA**  
Apr 4 at the Orpheum theatre

In the spirit of intercultural co-operation, the Vancouver Symphony Orchestra (and soloists) concert 'A Musical Celebration of East and West' was as educational as it was enjoyable.

Beginning with 'Variations on a Chinese Melody' by John van Deursen, the orchestra, under the direction of Clyde Mitchell, effectively set the tone for the evening. This evocative work combined Chinese melodies, western classical and jazz idioms.

'Ambush on All Sides' was performed by Liu De-Hai on the pipa, a Chinese instru-

ment resembling a guitar. Without orchestral accompaniment, he musically related an ancient Chinese war. Later, De-Hai returned to play the traditional 'Shadows in the Moonlight.' He and the orchestra beautifully painted in music the natural beauty of a spring night or a Chinese river.

Chinese wind instrument expert Cheng Chai-Man was the crowd favorite. Performing 'Glad Tidings to the Mountain Village' for Chinese flute, he dazzled the audience with his skill and enthusiasm for the sprightly piece. There was some fine low brass and solid percussion in this work but the wind section lacked volume in the thinner textures, especially among the flutes.

Chai-Man later returned for the finale 'Song of Deities' by Qu Xiaosong. This concerto included the varying use of ancient Chinese wind instruments to represent legendary characters such as the Emperor of Heaven, the God of the Rivers and the Mountain Elf. The work was a successful fusion of the traditional and modern schools of music composition but, at times, the orchestration lacked spirit and the solo passages were unexciting. There aren't enough fingers and toes to count the number of slouching string players.

Guest pianist Vicky Chow played the first movement from Edvard Grieg's 'Piano Concerto.'

This was a veiled rendering. Although her gentle sound was ideal in the piano sections, she was not forceful enough for orchestral accompaniment, causing the orchestra to dampen its sound in sympathy even more. There were some noticeable co-ordination problems between the solo and tutti passages but, for the most part, this young pianist was a treat to watch and listen to.

This unique concert, with its focus on cross-cultural understanding through artistic expression, was a challenging combination, both enriching and entertaining. ❖

## Pointe Blank Vision

by Peter T. Chattaway

**PERSISTENCE OF VISION**  
May 5-7  
at the Pacific Cinematheque

Looking for the next Mina Shum, Lynne Stopkewich or Bruce Sweeney? Check out Persistence of Vision, the eighth annual roundup of UBC student films, when it plays the Pacific Cinematheque next month.

This year's batch sets some ambitious precedents. Tosca Musk took compatriots KTU and Catherine Beilhartz to her native South Africa to shoot the documentary 'Tied Apart' in a co-production with the South African School for Film, Television and Dramatic Arts. And then there's 'Road Movie (Working Title...)', which Steve Hawarth, Scott Simpson and Nicole Oguchi shot on 35mm (a jump up from the 16mm format many independent auteurs use on feature-length works).

Picture quality and a penchant for globetrotting aren't the only things epic in scope. "The films are a little longer this year," says Musk, who is also coordinating this year's program. "The fourth-year films seem to be going anywhere from seven minutes to forty minutes, so they could be quite long. The whole event will probably be about three hours."

But still more fun than most grad ceremonies, we're sure.

◆◆◆

**GROSSE POINTE BLANK**  
at all sorts of theatres

*Grosse Pointe Blank*—a film about a mercenary hit-man who goes back to high school for his tenth-anniversary reunion and puzzles over how to

explain his vocation—has such an off-beat premise, you want the film to succeed even when it doesn't.

That's lucky for George Armitage (who directed the similarly offbeat *Miami Blues*), since it takes more than a little hope and patience on the audience's part to make it through the opening half, a protracted series of pallid one-on-one reunions that fail to establish any sense of the *community* to which Martin Blank (John Cusack) is returning.

Things get especially bathetic when Blank is subpoenaed by his DJ former girlfriend (Minnie Driver, compounding her post-*Circle of Friends* ennui) and forced to explain, on the air, why he stood her up on prom night. We're supposed to feel Blank's embarrassment, but it's a little hard to do when, as far as we know at that point, the town consists of, oh, maybe two people.

Things pick up once the ten-year reunion gets under way and rival hit men (led by Dan Aykroyd, whose fast-clipped dialogue doesn't quite gel with Cusack's more laidback style) start sniffing for Blank.

The oddball mix of social archetypes, black humour and qualm-ridden violence that ensues is perfect for Cusack, who thrives in this post-Tarantino concoction—prepare to groan when Cusack shoots Bruce Willis's head off a *Pulp Fiction* stand-up—that draws on Cusack's experience in *Bullets over Broadway* and *Better Off Dead*.

Toss in excellent supporting bits by John's sister Joan (as Blank's velvet-gloved, iron-fisted secretary) and Alan Arkin (as Blank's reluctant psychiatrist), and the result is a cheap-Tuesday curio that's worth a look even when it's shooting blanks. ❖

## Not a love Shaq ...

**SHAQUILLE O'NEAL — THE BEST OF SHAQUILLE O'NEAL [BMG]**

Basketball star, movie star...rap star?? It's been a long time since I've listened to rap, but after sitting through *this* disc, I'm convinced not much has changed since the sorry, long-forgotten days of Vanilla Ice and M.C. Hammer.

Apparently Shaquille O'Neal deserves a "best of" album even though he's only released two previous CDs—does this mean he's putting his music career on hold now? (We can only hope.)

The first thing you notice is that this Shaquille guy talks about himself a lot, and in the most flattering of terms. The title of the first track, 'I'm Outstanding,' says it all.

It's most duly entertaining listening to this first-rate athlete spew out the words of a first-rate egoist, especially when he states that if you looked up his name in a dictionary, you'd find a picture of him there. The "homeboy" lexicon is just as amusing to hear. I didn't even know the exclamations "Yo!" and "Psyche!" still existed.

Unfortunately for the Shaq-man, this is one disc I won't be keeping in the front row of my CD shelf.

— Alison Cole

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APRIL 11, 1997 • volume 78 issue 46

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The *Ubyssy* is the official student newspaper of the University of British Columbia. It is published every Tuesday and Friday by the Ubyssy Publications Society.

We are an autonomous, democratically run student organisation, and all students are encouraged to participate.

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Letters to the editor must be under 300 words. Please include your phone number, student number and signature (not for publication) as well as your year and faculty with all submissions. ID will be checked when submissions are dropped off at the editorial office of *The Ubyssy*, otherwise verification will be done by phone. "Perspectives" are opinion pieces over 300 words but under 750 words and are run according to space.

"Freestyles" are opinion pieces written by *Ubyssy* staff members. Priority will be given to letters and perspectives over freestyles unless the latter is time sensitive. Opinion pieces will not be run until the identity of the writer has been verified.

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## The Ubyssy

would like to

thank our readers

for, well, reading.

We'll be back

in September,

but look out

for the

Summer Ubyssy

in August.

See ya!



## Days and confused

28,665-The number of days since *The Ubyssy* started publishing in 1918.

857-The number of days since The Ubyssy Publications Society was officially incorporated as a non-profit society.

811-The number of days since students voted to accept *The Ubyssy* as "the official student newspaper of UBC."

637-The number of days since *The Ubyssy* published its first issue as an independent publication.

If you kept counting back through the days, it would be easy to fill an editorial with the milestones *The Ubyssy* has passed and obstacles it has overcome in the past three years. The third and most recent set of editorial elections last week is definitely another milestone.

So just in case you eight brave souls writing the next chapter of *Ubyssy* history were wondering what advice we had after surviving through one, two, three and even four years in this crazy office, read on.

You're not taking on the easiest job in the world. You will be expected to be all things to all people, no matter what your job description is. You'll be expected to write, edit, typeset and take photos. And if you don't know how to yet, know that you will learn.

Go with your gut. It's when you don't listen to it that you'll get yourself in trouble. People will always complain, so expect it; it's when they don't that you're doing something wrong.

You've got three months to rest up before production hell begins, so take advantage of it. Once this job starts, it doesn't stop, in the evenings, on the weekends, on the holidays and in the mornings.

Recognise you will need to put aside both your personal and ideological differences to make it work. A newspaper cannot be produced by a group of individuals—it must be put out by a team.

You will learn more about each other than you ever wanted to know. Use this to make it work, don't use it against each other.

You have a remarkable opportunity in front of you. Students of all faculties and all ages will look to you for information. So, we have discovered, will the administration, staff and faculty. You will help set the agenda of the university. Take advantage of that. Use it to help make UBC the best university it can be, because right now, it still needs some guidance.

Don't forget your past. It's when you forget history that it repeats itself. Which doesn't mean you should always play it safe, it just

means you should never take *The Ubyssy* for granted—it has not *always* been here. And remember that if some of us have seemed cautious, it's because we've had to start from scratch and don't want you to have to do the same.

To the staff: be patient. Despite the grouchy looks on their faces and their fistfuls of hair, your editors need you and want you to be there. Too little time and too much work just sometimes make a bad combination. Don't be afraid to ask questions and express your opinion. It's the only way to learn. In another year or two those fistfuls of hair might come from *your* head.

By the time your year's up, you probably won't recognise yourself. You will have learned more than you ever could in a classroom and you'll look at life differently. You'll have some notion of who runs the university and why. You may even find yourself looking forward to minutes from monthly Senate meetings, always on the prowl for the next big story.

And when you've done all you set out to do here, or even half of it, don't be afraid to move on. As some of us know all too well, you will eventually leave *The Ubyssy*, but *The Ubyssy* will never leave you. ♦

worth of contributions

As our story opened, a single biplane arched through the air, trying desperately to escape the anti-aircraft fire of Desiree Adib and Normie Chan's crack gunners. Finally, setting his perfect aim, Jim Rowley pulled the trigger. The giant gun's volley sent its target flamingly earthbound, while Martin Schobel and Paul Champ hugged each other in ecstatic joy. Seeing what had just passed, the Andy Barham tribe of desert dwellers moved towards the plane's wreck, pulling the pilot's burnt body forth. Meanwhile, Nurse Sarah O'Donnell was taking extra-special care of Chris Allison and Sam Arnold, both in the trauma ward due to a nasty case of the flu. Suddenly, called to the bedside of a dying patient, she recognized him as her former colleague Ian Gunn, now a well-paid BBC fat cat. Since their carefree days at *The Ubyssy*, Sarah had devoted herself to the selfless care of the needy, like Claudia Hanel and Ricky Heffernan. Ian, with his last breath, told Sarah of the rumoured appearance of the burnt body of Joe Clark. Long thought dead, Joe had simply disappeared while on the way to the printers, along with the flats for the last issue of *The Ubyssy*. While Emily Mak, Scott Hayward and Chris Nuttall-Smith had quite readily accepted Joe as dead, too readily thought Sarah, she had refused to admit defeat. She, along with her crew of Charlie Cho, Bruce Arthur and Paul Kamon, had spent years combing the many seedy places Joe was rumoured to have appeared. Although Jo-Ann Chiu had claimed to have seen Joe in the Bank of Montreal and Stanley Tromp swore Joe had been captured by "the Men in Black", their beloved production co-ordinator had not been seen since that fateful night. Sarah remembered it well.

There had been a palpable tension in the air that night, just as thick as the smoke rising from Richard Lam's cheap barbecue. Peggy Lee had barricaded herself in the production office, refusing to leave until Peter Chattaway "let love in" which seemed to work out to giving Namiko Kunimoto, Wesley Chiang and crazy Douglas Quan a piggyback ride around the office. Finally tempting Peggy out by brandishing a bootlegged Pepsi, Alison Cole had put Tanya Dubick and Noelle Gallagher in front of the computers and commanded them to write her English essays for her. Richelle Rae had then decided that Casey Sedgeman, Alan Woo and Jim Couley were infringing on her femininity and proceed to beat the crap out of them with the back copies. Upon seeing this precedent, Robin Yeatman realized that she really didn't like Tessa Arnold, Kalev Hunter or Lisa Chen-Wing either and so pushed them off the balcony. Apart from this, it was a typical night, with Todd Silver, Federico Barahona, and Jamie Woods doing all the work and everyone else telling them to go faster. The paper finally finished, Joe had sped off in his silver biplane (saved parking) and everyone was able to go home at ten as usual. Joe was never heard from again. Until now.

Sarah rushed to the phone and called *The Ubyssy* secret society, while doctors David Ball and Alison Cole debated what to do with spare body parts. Answering her call, Christopher Lee passed it on to Julia Lees who passed it back to Chris Lee who finally gave the phone to Theresa Chaboyer. The society sent its top agent, Sarah Galashan, who set out immediately. Unbeknownst to her, she was being followed by Wolf Depner, eager to avenge himself upon the man who had single-handedly destroyed him.

The man who would be Joe laid atop the bell tower, holding court with his followers, Janet Winters, Penny Cholmondeley, and the mysterious Robin Yeatman. Reminiscing back to his salad days, the charred man told them tales of typesetting the copy of Sarah Barr, Craig Bavis, John Bolton, Mike Botnick and Andrea Brea all within a single hour. He had met Loretta Seto, Irfan Dhalla, Theresa Chaboyer, and Afshin Mehini, before they became infamous. Faith Armitage had been a friend and Cecilia Parsons more than once. His stories of incredible depravity and the feeding habits of Neal Razzell had charmed even the cynical. But still Wah Kee Ting asked, how should we know that you are the true Joe? To which he would only reply, "That grasshopper, is for Tara Murphy, Mauran Kim and Christine Price to know and you to find out." Jamie Woods choked down a sob and fled the room.

Secret Agent Galashan was well on her way to the sanctuary but the forces of Geoff Urton were determined to keep her from further progress. Captured by agents Marina Antunes and Andrea Gin, Sarah faced her captor Rachana Razaida with chic, telling her where to stick that big pointy stick. Thrown into a stony cell, she quicklyatched a plan with cellmates Andy Ferris and Lisa Chen-Wing. Rushing by the would-be Spartacuses at dinner time, James Bainbridge and Anna Liu became yet another victim of the vicious spoon wielding of Galashan. Claire Atzena and Sandra Cheung soon joined the revolution and ripped the heart of guard Leanne Drumheller out with their bare hands. With their fellow prisoners set free, a full-fledged melee was soon upon them. While David George and Claudia Hanel blasted away at Donovan Kuehn from behind the bullet-ridden corpses of Tom Eccleston, Elsa Roque and Craig Saunders, Sarah Galashan decided it was time to make her escape. Enlisting the help of serial killer Ricky Heffernan and sociopath Melinda Jette, Galashan constructed a hang glider from her oversized pants, shoelaces and fashionable sunglasses. While the screams of Jessica Ware and Jennifer Wiebe echoed through the halls, Sarah flew off to her meeting with fate and, perhaps, Melanie Nagy.

Upset at the slowness of the proceeding, O'Donnell herself set off to confront the Man Who Might Be Joe. Chartering a plane with Nil Koksai and Ed Yeung as pilots, she prepared for her meeting by reciting the names David Mak, Ron Kertesz, Chidi Olhove and Sarah Wallbank until they became a mantra unto herself. Unknown to Sarah, Wolf Depner had strapped himself under the plane's belly, having forgotten which Sarah he was following.

Upon hearing of long-time soulmate O'Donnell's imminent arrival, Galashan arrived at the airport to pick her up. Having forgotten to tip her cabbie Ben Koh, though, she was pursued by him and his wife Amanda Kobler who were in an awful hurry to pay off their student loans. Hitching a ride with Jessica Woolliams and getting directions from Shelley Gornall, the two Sarahs were moments away from their destination when they were set upon by an army of people come from the desert. Andrew Forrest and Peter Kao gazed upon these two foreign women and instantly readied their spears. Suddenly Greg Mitchell and Daniel Arieretram ran forth and proclaimed that these were the chosen. Since they did this fairly regularly, they were quickly killed. Soon afterwards, Judy Chun, Dawn Sedman and Jenny Anitis also declared these were the chosen. Since they were a bit more reliable, Sarah and Sarah were allowed to live, though there could only be one god. So the two were forced to fight each other for their lives. After a bloody, brutal and somewhat humorous battle, Miss O'Donnell was left holding Miss Galashan's head. Now proclaimed leader of the tribe, Sarah sacrificed Orly Gifton and Andrea Spence to give thanks. Against the wishes of advisors Normie Chan and Noelle Ibrahim, who also ended up on the sacrifice platter, Sarah led her people towards Joe and through the purple sea. Parting its waves with a couple further sacrifices, notably Trina Hamilton, Scott Pegg and Matt Green, they marched through slowly and came face to face with the burning bush. Although accidentally set on fire by Benita Bunjun, Kuan Foo and Gitanjali Lena, Sarah was convinced this was a sign to proceed through the left canyon as opposed to the right one. Unfortunately, this was wrong. The Tribe of O'Donnell found itself facing their greatest enemy, the guerrillas of Paulo Santos Javier. Fronted by the arrogant Adrian Gracis, the salivating Surya Naida, and the terrifying Theresa Yep, they were more fearsome than anything Kim Ryall and Larry Downie had ever seen. Even Harper Hadden ran for cover.

The war lasted several days and nights, for the fight had degenerated into a trench war with each side throw a couple rocks and then ducking for cover. Several bloody days later, the Tribe O'Donnell was victorious, thanks to a violent kamikaze boulder attack perpetrated by Laura Stovel, Manjeet Singh, Kersi Regulous and the incredible Catherine Bielhartz. Only Sarah and her savage new "sister" Susan O'Donnell were left to venture into the decaying home of Joe Clark.

Finally face to face with the UBC patient, Sarah could only ask, "Why?" "Because the Campus Times offered me a lot of money," replied Joe, "and because I've always needed to be wanted." Suddenly, Wolf Depner struggled in the door, and in retaliation for having made fun of Sheila Strangway once too many, blew them all up with a thermonuclear charge. Only John Zaozirny was left to make a great amount of money off the movie rights to this meandering and nonsensical story.

## Klawe clarifies

I am writing in response to letters about the Student Technology Fee (STF) referendum that appeared in the last issue of *The Ubyssy*. In particular I would like to address the letters' concerns about lack of information on the referendum, and the authors' perceptions of my lack of interest in student opinions on the STF and other issues.

Three weeks ago the Board instructed the university to hold a student vote on the STF. We had two choices - defer the vote until sometime in the next academic year which would delay the implementation of much-needed STF-funded initiatives until September 1998 or attempt to stage the vote before students left the campus in April. The second option had the advantage that, if approved for implementation starting this September, an allocation committee (on which students would have a voting majority) could be established to determine the funding priorities and the STF-supported facilities and services could be developed over the summer in time for the start of the coming academic year. Obviously we chose the second option. Over the past two weeks a small group of people has worked very hard to provide students with the information necessary to make an informed decision on the issue. This group's efforts have included handouts, banners, posters, full-page ads in *The Ubyssy*, articles in *UBC Reports* and *The Ubyssy*, an STF web page, an e-mail address for questions, e-mail broadcast messages, news group postings, and mailings to all department heads with information for faculty members to give to their students. The STF was also discussed at several forums held in January and March, and in several meetings with the AMS and GSS. The proposal for the STF itself was developed by SITAC, the Student Information Technology Access Committee, a committee on which half the members are students nominated by the AMS and GSS.

One of the letters was critical of the fact that we had not presented students with a detailed budget for how the STF funds would be spent. As mentioned above, the allocation of these funds would be the responsibility of a special committee on which students would have a voting majority. This method of allocation was chosen by SITAC as the best way to ensure that the funds generated by the STF each year would always address the most important needs of students. In preparing the STF proposal SITAC did identify several areas of need in which funds might be spent. These included new and enhanced computer labs, more dial-in lines and more computer training and help for students.

Another issue raised was the informal tone in my message in the April 2 *Ubyssy* ad. I am very sorry that some students felt insulted and patronized by the tone. It was certainly not my intention to be patronizing or insulting in my comments. Students who have worked with me know first-hand that, despite my regular lack of formality, I have enormous respect for the students at UBC and place a very high value on their perspectives on all aspects of this university.

**Maria Klawe**  
UBC Vice President of Student  
and Academic Services

## Referendum hype bites

Everyone is telling me to vote in the non-binding referendum. They keep saying that it is a test and that the

administration wants to gauge student concern. If no one votes, they keep on - the occupation was all for naught and the Strangway's of this world will be satisfied that no one really gives a shit anyway.

I don't want to even begin listing what's wrong with Maria Klawe's glorified poll because you know for me money was never the real issue.

What is at stake here is a lot more important than cash.

There was a time once, not very long ago, when people used to talk about providing a decent standard of living for everybody all across this bloody country. A decent standard of living meant good health care and accessible education. No one talks about those things anymore. When I complain about tuition increases now people tell me I am lucky I don't live in the States because then I would be paying even more...the implication is that somehow that I am getting a deal and that I should be grateful.

Last time I checked I never wanted to go to school in the States - in fact, last time I checked I detested almost everything that America stands for - and that includes what I would call inaccessible education. I didn't stay in Canada because I thought I was getting a deal. I stayed here because I like the way that things are done in this country - mostly...well it is a hell of a lot better than the States anyway.

Listening to Glen Clark spout off about everything he has done for me and other students would be amusing if it weren't so depressing. But you know I am not really depressed anymore, I am just plain angry.

I would suggest that instead of voting you call someone you love who can tell really good jokes. It's no fun being angry all the time.

Victoria Scott

## Sorority women fight stigma

Thank you for another Women's Issue of *The Ubyssy*. It seemed, however, to have left out one large group of UBC women. That group is sorority women. In light of all the recent gossip of fraternities, your women's issue might have been a good place to dispell some of the myths about sororities.

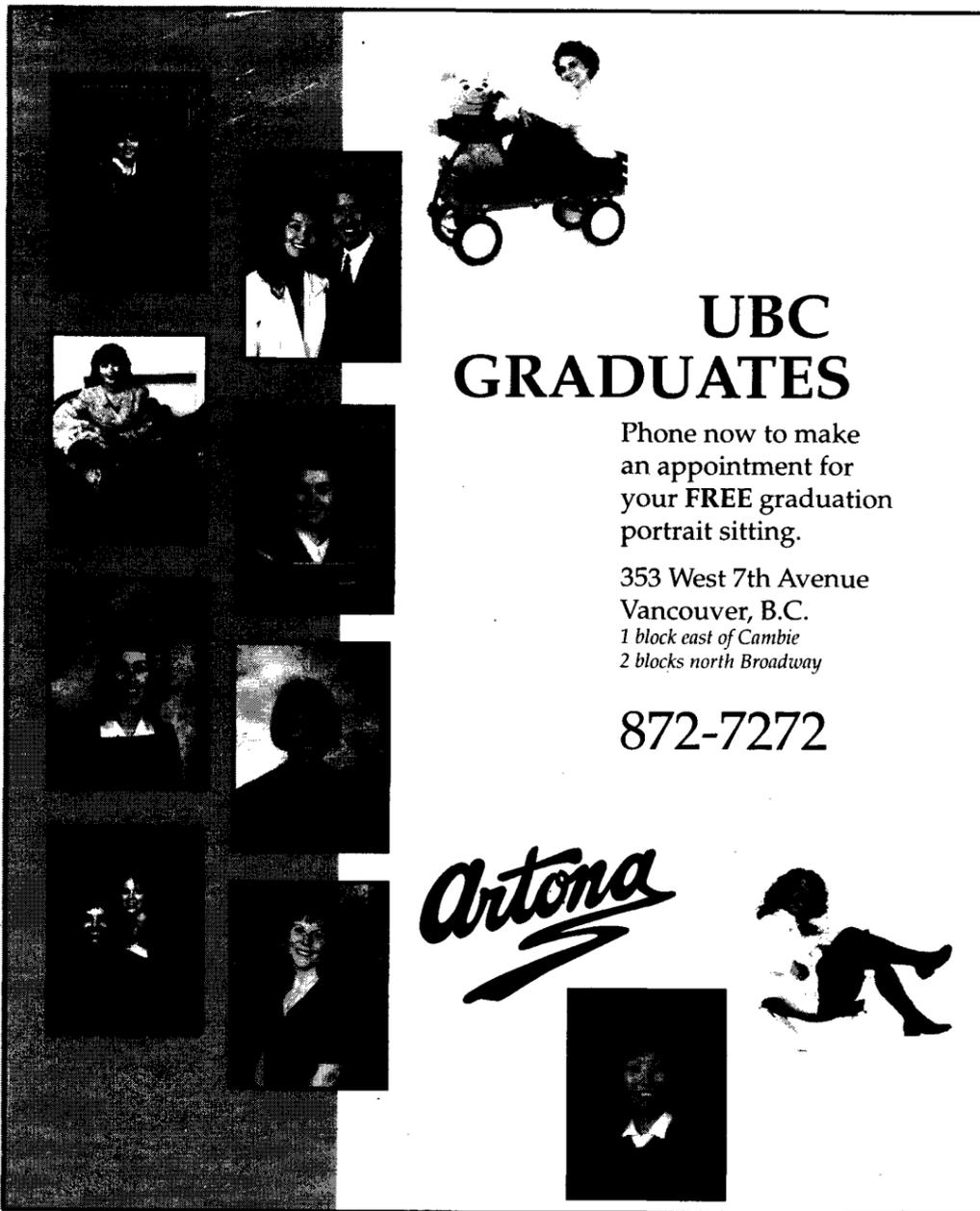
Sororities are not, for example, groups of giggling girls who travel between frat houses looking for free drinks. Sororities do not "belong" to a specific fraternity. Sorority women are not the "sorority girls" of the movies: beautiful, rich, spoiled, and unintelligent.

The women of the sororities of UBC believe that women are strong enough to run their own organisations, are valuable as women, not merely as counterparts of men.

We are Greek in the ancient sense of the word: we want to be well-rounded, "Renaissance" women. We care about our grades, rewarding each other with scholarships for high averages. We practice philanthropy, raising thousands of dollars for various charities every year. We participate in sports, from intramural teams to Storm, from the Wall and Day of the Longboat. Most of all, we encourage independence and strength in each other. As sisters, we are the ultimate support network.

It is unfortunate that the only ones who know these truths are the women who are already members. There are so many women who could benefit from membership and whose membership would be a great benefit to us.

**Jenny Devins**  
Sororities of UBC



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# Hangin' with the Reef-raff

by Janet Winters

**REEF**  
April 3 at the Web Cafe

British band Reef is made of the stuff record companies dream of. Lead singer Gary Stringer has a voice not unlike Mick Jagger's and the tall, lanky bassist Jack Bessant's stage presence is enormous. Add their good looks and reputation as a fun bunch of lads and it's no wonder Sony signed them for an album deal that passed the Spice Girls on Brit music charts.

Their story reads like a rock 'n' roll fairy tale. From modest upbringings around England, Stringer and Bessant came together four years ago with guitarist Kenwyn House and drummer Dominic Greensmith. Just over a year later, they were a Sony act.

Reef is currently touring North America to promote *Glow* and their label hopes their success overseas can be duplicated here. Reef made stopped in for a night at the Web Cafe last week to promote their sophomore release, *Glow*, to an enthusiastic crowd.

Reef's raw energy and clear, crisp sound is well-suited to a live audience, though Stringer's vocals are more subdued in concert and not so gritty.

"We're doing really well at home," Stringer told *The Ubyssy*. So well, in fact, the group has already made it in the British tabloids. "It's just shit, it's totally a load of bollocks. They've said Noel Gallagher's girlfriend fancied me. It's too much.

"But I'm not really bothered by it. I know people who love me. They're the ones who really matter, aren't they? I don't give a toss about what anyone else thinks about me."

Stringer comes across as a well-adjusted and exceptionally charming individual. He seems content with the rock-'n'-roll lifestyle and doesn't object to the adoring females who follow the band around. He finds it mystifying at times, though.

"It's quite wierd," he says, "we've had girls crying at gigs and stuff."

Reef has performed for crowds as large as 10,000 in

Europe—a long way from Stringer's country roots. "I'm a country boy," he confirms. Coming from a working class background, he credits his family for much of his happiness. "I was always looked after, I always had food on the table when I was growing up. I'm grateful to my mom and dad for that. I love my mom and dad to pieces."

Even Stringer's grandmother, who sang to him when he was young, may have contributed to his love for music. Surprisingly, Stringer has never acquired formal training for his powerful voice; he just realized, during his teens, that it was something nature had given him. Only once, when touring with Paul Weller, did Stringer need a voice coach: "I lost my voice [from] singing too much, drinking and smoking, but after that I went to see this good lady who taught me some exercises. But apart from that, I just sing naturally."

Success came just as naturally to the band. Reef didn't have to knock on too many doors to get where they are. Still, he hasn't forget his days swimming pools and working behind bars to support himself. "I'm not gonna lie and say I wanna be poor. I wanna be rich, but that's not the reason I'm into music."

Stringer has been quoted as saying, "the '90s are ten times better than the '60s." He explains, "It's when I'm alive, it's when you're alive. The '60s is someone else's time, this is the '90s and I'm proud of it."

One decade *does* merit his scorn. "I thought the '80s were pretty much a pile of shit. Apart from the Jam, the '80s were pretty piss pool, sounded like computerized new romantic bollock. It's not my cup of tea."

Stringer's current cup of tea includes Jane's Addiction, Porno for Pyros, Portishead, Tricky and Massive Attack, and among his older influences, he says, "B.B. King is cool, I like him a lot. I liked AC/DC first. The Rolling Stones were a great band of the past like the Beatles, [and] The Who especially, I like the Who a lot." On fellow British group Oasis, Stringer says, "They're a good band - not very good live, but they make good records."

Stringer's feel-good attitude is evident in his lyrics. For



GARY STRINGER, lead singer of Brit band Reef. SCOTT HAYWARD PHOTO

example, he says "Let her fill the room" from 'Summer's in Bloom' is about "glowing."

"We can play and spread our vibe around the room and try to light it up in some way. You know that feeling where there's no questions to mind, whether you've come home from the pub with your friends and you've had a top night or you've made love with a guy and you come and you're relaxed and your body is so clear? It's just about the feeling when your mind is totally clear."

Or take "Don't you like it when I'm high?" from 'don't you like it' which Stringer maintains is *not* about drugs: "When I'm up on top of my game and I'm feeling good and I'm shouting — if you've got a problem with it, fuck off."

Stringer does not object to smoking the occasional joint, but he does have a problem with harder drugs. "Smoking pot's alright, everyone smokes pot. [In England] they usually let you off the first time, and if it happens again they might prosecute you, it depends on how much you've got."

And then there are the heavier drugs, such as cocaine and heroine — all too prevalent in the rock scene. "There's a lot of smack being used in England and it's sad."

When so many rock bands are singing about agonizing heroin addictions and suicide thoughts, Reef enjoys cranking out more upbeat tunes. "We just think we're a band about now, we're happening now and we're about living for now," Stringer says. "Everything else is a load of bollocks." ♦

## Student Technology Fee Referendum

**THE VOTE**  
April 9th — April 16th, 1997

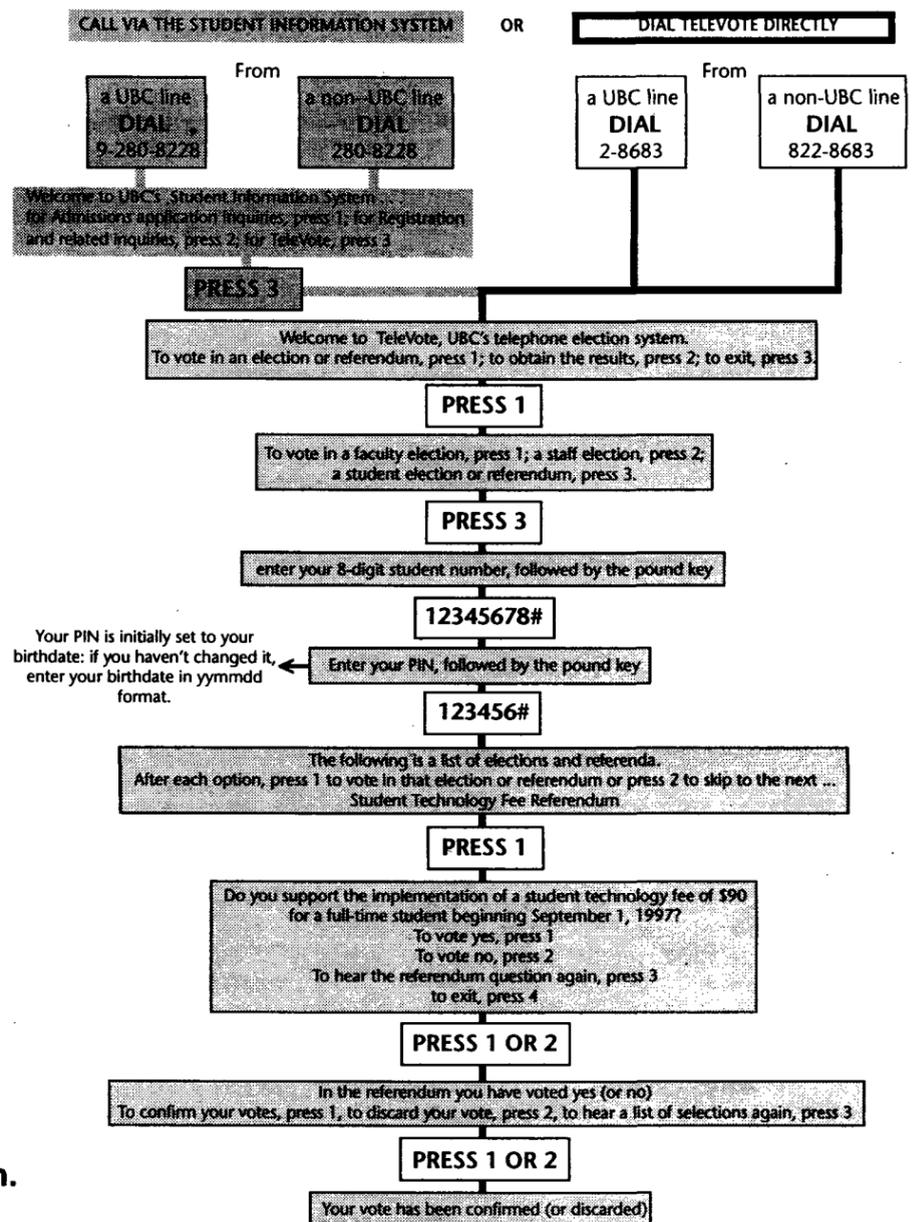
**THE QUESTION**  
Do you support the implementation of a student technology fee of \$90 for a full-time student beginning September 1, 1997?

**THE PHONE NUMBERS:**  
280-8228 (50 lines)  
OR  
822-VOTE (822-8683) (7 lines)

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You may vote from any touch-tone phone.

Any questions about the TeleVote system? Call the Registrar's Office at 822-4367.  
Students with a hearing disability may call 822-3859 (TTY/TDD).  
Results will be available on 822-VOTE on Friday April 18th.

### HOW TO VOTE



## 1997 Student Technology Fee Referendum