THE UBYSSEY

UBC'S OFFICIAL STUDENT NEWSPAPER

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Instructors oppose change to student evaluations

Faculty Association troubled by lack of communication surrounding new questions, online publication of scores

BY STEPHANIE FINDLAY
News Staff

In a controversial move last Wednesday, the UBC Faculty Association demanded a moratorium on the implementation of a recent UBC Senate policy intended to improve the way student evaluations are collected and used by students, instuctors, and faculty. The Faculty Association contests that the policy will violate faculty members' rights.

The policy—drafted in May

see "UBC Senate" | PAGE 03

GHO IROMOTO PHOTO / THE UBYSSEY

A former student protester who stood up to the Burmese military junta in 1988 rallies against the current wave of opression sweeping through his South-East Asian home, in front of the Vancouver Art Gallery on September 29. See page three for more details.

EUS: 'consultation before con-

Engineers want student input ahead of proposed referendum to fund new social space

BY MICHAEL KENACAN
News Writer

Engineering undergraduate students, who are currently without a student space due to the forced closure of the 'Cheeze', should be concerned about the future of an official student space, says Engineering Undergraduate Society (EUS) President Bowinn Ma.

Concerns over EUS space began to crop up soon after the EUS's longtime home was shut down by UBC Plant Operations over health concerns regarding mould and rodents in the aging building early in September.

The issues revolve around differing ideas between the EUS and the Faculty of Applied Science dean's office concerning the creation of a new engineering undergraduate student space—a space which is intended to be similar to the Ladha Centre recently opened for science students.

Ma said that her organisation was presented with three options regarding the future of engineering student space by Dean Michael Isaacson. The EUS could either participate in a brief consultation period followed by a fall referendum regarding the creation of a new student space and the accompanied increase in student fees, renovate the Cheeze, or do nothing and put off making a decision about the space to a future date.

EUS Council decided that before a decision could be made, they would need extensive consultation with engineering students regarding the design and potential uses of the building. "We came to a very simple and obvious conclusion—we need to ask the students what they want," said Ma.

Ma pointed to a previous failed referendum on engineering student space when explaining the reluctance of the EUS to move quickly towards another vote.

"We already have one failed referendum," said Ma, "Everybody [on the EUS council] agreed that a second failed referendum would basically mean the end of

see "Engineers" | PAGE 02

JULIAN MORSE PHOTO / THE UBYSSEY

The engineering undergraduate society is homeless and are seeking to construct a new space.

Taking a look at the University's gender gap

BY FREEMAN PORITZ
News Writer

The next time you stumble into your first class of the day, pause for a second and look around you. Chances are that you will be surrounded by more women than men. Is this a good thing? That depends on you.

Gender disparity is continuing to gain ground at the University of British Columbia, much like it is at nearly all other North American post-secondary institutions. Females are outnumbering males in nearly every faculty, and the trend shows no sign of subsiding. According to UBC's Planning and Institutional Research website, as of November 1, 2006 there were 19,868 female undergraduates at UBC, compared to 16,047 males.

Science and Arts, the two largest faculties on campus, are predominantly female, with women making up 64 and 52 per cent of their respective

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CALENDAR

OCTOBER 2ND TO OCTOBER 5TH

TUES 2 — Speak
AMS Deans' Debate
Where: Norm Theatre (SUB)
Time: 12:30 - 1:30pm

WED 3 — Film
Vancouver International Film Festival
Where: Empire Granville 7 Theatre
Time: 10am - 10pm

THUR 4 — Speak
International Writers & Readers Festival: Naomi Klein
Where: John Oliver Secondary School
Time: 7:30pm

FRI 5 — Music
Martin Sexton
Where: Richards on Richards
Time: 7 pm
Price: $25

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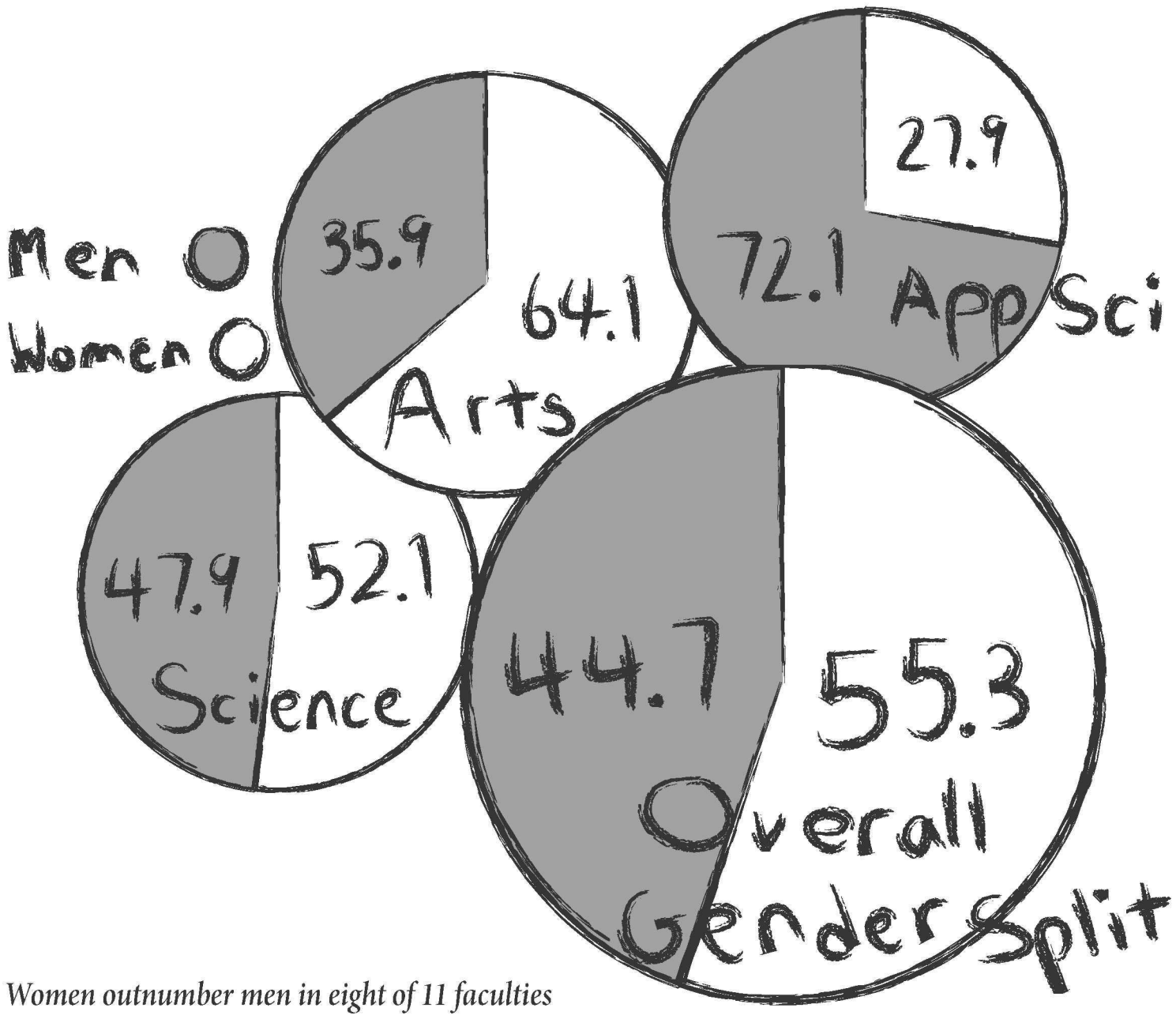

Women outnumber men in eight of 11 faculties

from "Taking a look" | PAGE 01

demographics. Out of eleven listed undergraduate faculties, only Commerce, Forestry, and Engineering remained dominantly male.

John Cooper, associate dean of Arts, said his faculty is not concerned by the growing gender disparity on campus.

"I'm not exactly sure why there are more women than men in the Faculty of Arts. Our enrolment policies are essentially blind. We go by grades and in some cases we look at other factors as well. We have no knowledge really of the individual who applies to us, especially within the domestic population. [Women] are simply getting better grades in high school."

"We haven't even thought about this whole question of attracting more men to the Faculty of Arts yet, but now that you bring it up I know that [dean of Arts] Nancy [Gallini] is probably going to ask me about it," he added.

Current UBC undergraduate students gave their opinions on the statistics.

"I hadn't really noticed the gender disparity that much, but some of my classes have a lot more girls than guys," said Arleigh Lambert, a fourth-year science student.

Third year sociology major Craig Louis added, "there's way more girls than guys [in my sociology classes]. It's completely disproportionate. It's because of the social roles that society places on everyone. It's more likely that guys will be mainstreamed into the more capitalist side of education—commerce, medicine, engineering, science. In my economics classes there are more guys than girls."

Andre Lamontagne, department head for French, Hispanic, and Italian studies, commented, "traditionally there have always been more female students in language and literature courses. It's a trend. It was the same when I was a student in literature. I don't think there's been a significant change in patterns. From my teaching experience it's always been pretty much like that—classes with one, two, three male students."

Men are undoubtably becoming a rare commodity on the university campus these days. Whether this is a good or bad thing however, remains open to debate.

Engineers looking for new home

from "Consultation" | PAGE 01

the project."

"[In June] the Dean presented us [EUS council] with a plan created by a designer, Steve Yeomans," said Ma. However Ma says Yeomans didn't consult the student body adequately.

"The students had no idea what the fee was for, and we really didn't know [what the project was]," said Engineering Physics Club President Charlie Yao. "There was a lack of information combined with a sense of a lack of control [over the project]."

The Cheeze's future is also uncertain. Ma said that the basic estimate by UBC Plant Operations to minimally renovate the Cheeze would be in the neighbourhood of $170,000, and given EUS support for the current plan, the Dean's Office would contribute thirty thousand dollars towards the repairs.

Ma said that while the Dean's Office wasn't willing to compromise on its imposed timeline originally, in recent days it has become more willing to talk.

The Dean's office did not respond to inquiries by press time.

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The dashing Kellan Higgins and the winsome Oker Chen pursued Champagne Choquer and her second cousin, Boris Korby. Matthew Jewkes saw this and was aroused to the point of swooning; he was caught by Paul Bucci, who in turn tripped over Brandon Adams. Levi Barnett entered the fray and yelled "Humaira Hamid, come hither!" Instead, Jordan Chittley came arm-in-arm with Goh Iromoto. Shun Endo, Tiffany Pan, and Tierney Milne, saw these events and decided to buy a Kasha Chang doll for Sabrina Marchand. Stephanie Taylor was devastated by the betrayal of her lover Samantha Jung in favor of Freeman Poritz; as a consequence, Stephanie Findlay jumped on Michael Kenacan's back, which made Joe Rayment cry, "Laura Morrison, wherefore art thou Julian Morse?" Jacob McNeil rode in on a shining silver unicorn with David Zhang clutching him closely. Helen Ng followed them levitating on a microphone powered by the passion of Julie Kang. Ricardo Bertocon, Celestian Rince, and Jesse Ferreras gazed upon the scene, and quietly approved. Henrique Barbowe spontaneously embraced Andrew Strain and James Johnson in a warm hug. Michael Bround played with a hamster named Jorge Amigo at the same time Matt Hayles fought out of the depths of the earth. Isabel Ferreras tripped over Connie Do, who carried her to Claudia Li's home, where Hereward Longley awaited.

EDITORIAL GRAPHIC *Kellan Higgins*

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Burmese-Canadian protestors plead for peace

GOH IROMOTO PHOTOS / THE UBYSSEY

Above: UBC student Deanna Scott, seen here at Saturday's rally, is organizing a second demonstration in support of Burmese Democracy. It is scheduled for this Thursday, October 4.

by Laura Morrison
News Writer

Protestors, banners, and incense lined the steps of the Vancouver Art Gallery last Friday in a demonstration of solidarity to support the courageous Buddhist monks and peoples of Myanmar who have been marching against the injustices of the country's military dictatorship.

Although now free from the abuse and restrictions of the oppressive military junta, some refugees continue to exist in a degree of trepidation, afraid to contact family members still under the watchful eye of Burmese government surveillance—a type of comprehensive supervision that is at best, intrusive.

One Burmese demonstrator who made the trip from her new residence in Victoria, lamented that since she left Burma two years ago, she has had no communication with the family she said good-bye to: "It's too dangerous. The government might track the call to my village," putting her family in danger. It's dictatorships like this that incensed the politically active group, the Burmese Democratic Organization—formed by exiled Burmese students in 1995—to rally freely and uninhibited on September 28th.

Deanna Scott, a local demonstrator, has been fighting to raise awareness on the issue of Burma since returning from Mae Sot—a border town in Thailand where she says she "worked with refugees and migrants. Scott noticed that it was basically a collaboration of professional artists living on the border." She explained, she bought the supplies, the kids in the centres composed the art, and she brought the works back to Canada to display. Scott developed the group, Voices of Burma, to educate the public via the artwork produced. Feeling that it "is easier to reach the university community than it is to reach the wider community," Scott has begun spreading the organization to schools across Canada, including UBC where she claims with excitement, "students have responded very well."

The exhibit of works will be displayed at a second demonstration at the Vancouver Art Gallery Thursday October 4th and on Saturday October 6th for the Global Day of Action for Burma at noon at a location to be announced soon. With voices as loud as these, one can only hope for a better Burma.

UBC Senate dealt blow

from "Instructors" | PAGE 01

by a UBC Senate committee co-chaired by Anna Kindler, vice provost and associate vice president academic affairs—was intended to be implemented this term. The new student evaluations included a web-based survey system with standardized questions across all faculties, an emphasis on midterm feedback, as well as the publication of instructors' scores online.

An email was presented to the Senate calling for a moratorium and outlining the Faculty Association's concerns. Alma Mater Society (AMS) Vice-President Academic Brendon Goodmurphy called the e-mail "shocking, especially since it came out in such strong language."

"If [this policy] doesn't go through it would be a huge disappointment and jeopardize everything we've been pushing for."

A representative for David Farrar, UBC provost and vice-president academic, said that the "implementation details of the policy are being investigated," and was unable to comment further.

Dr. James Tansey, a member of the Faculty Association, maintains that the tempering moratorium was invoked because of "poor communication." Because of time pressures the association had to act very quickly, or else there would have been "trouble" with the membership.

"Very few members of the Faculty Association knew that this policy was being implemented," Dr. Tansey said. "Speaking for myself, my department in the Sauder School did not know anything about it."

"It's a concern about introducing a system too quickly. We couldn't see evidence at the time that experts had been consulted."

Tansey cited the new evaluation questions as a source of contention. "If faculty are evaluated by popularity then there is incentive to give great grades. We don't want this culture at UBC. We are not promoting a commercial environment, students are not consumers of education."

However, it is the publishing of results which is "the most important part for students," according to Goodmurphy. "Access to that information helps students make decisions about which courses we are going to take."

The idea of going public with teaching results has been talked about at UBC for years. Gary Poole, director of Teaching and Academic Growth, which is charged with improving the teaching skills of faculty and graduate students at UBC, emphasized that the "student membership is very committed to the need of informed decision making that was more valid and useful than RateYourProf.com."

Senate documents from 1973 chronicle the discussion surrounding appropriate and effective use of student data. Since then, interest in student evaluations has risen and fallen in waves, with 1991 marking a shift in increased momentum to address flaws in the ways in which student data was collected and used. Spurred in part by an increased dissemination of professor information over the internet, students, faculty, and administration became cognizant of the need for a new system.

In 2005, Kindler organized a committee whose goals included better assessment of teaching and learning, encouragement of effective mid-term student feedback to professors, and a review of hiring procedures to ensure quality undergraduate education. On May 16th, 2007, the Senate passed the committee's proposed student evaluation reform policy in support of ensuring a quality learning experience for the students of UBC. The new student evaluation procedure emphasized a student-centered teaching evaluation. It included mechanisms for effective midterm feedback and response, as well as capacity to continually provide data to determine problems with teaching, and strategies to address them.

A critical feature of the new student evaluation forms is that the web-based surveys would give access to previous assessments of teachers. Faculty members would have to consent to the information being released.

However the option to access information is a refreshing acknowledgement of students' desire to have autonomy in pursuit of the best education possible.

As the student evaluation saga unfolds Gary Poole observes, "the thing about teaching is that you can always improve it, you cannot be complacent.

VFM making come back

by Brandon Adams
News Editor

The upcoming Alma Mater Society elections will again be accompanied by a rush of student media as the AMS has approved the Voter Funded Media (VFM) initiative for a second time.

The AMS will award another $8000, donated by VoterMedia.org founder Mark Latham, to campus media outlets covering the AMS elections. As in the previous trial, the funds will be distributed based on votes cast at the AMS election polls. This time, voters will select which outlets they found most valuable, and prizes will be distributed based on the number of votes each outlet receives.

"It [will] encourage the development of new media sources on UBC campus," said AMS VP External Matt Naylor. "I think that's something we can all agree is a good thing."

After debate spanning two AMS meetings, councillors approved the VFM initiative in addition to amendments to the AMS Code of Procedures that for the first time will allow VFM contestants to receive prize money based on the amount of votes they receive.

The introduction of VFM did little for last year's AMS election turnout, with the number of students showing up at the polls remaining at around ten per cent, similar to previous years.

Despite the apparent stalemate, Naylor spoke positively about the role of VFM in last year's AMS elections.

"In my opinion, [it] got a fairly good response, he said. "Media sources were allocated revenue, and it did generate a number of new voices on campus, like *Elections Erection Magazine* or the *UBC Insiders* blog."

Naylor did acknowledge that problems arose when a number of media sources did little actual election coverage but won prizes based on their perceived popularity—what he termed the "Duncan-Kearney Problem," based on one of last year's media contestants.

But Naylor was ultimately dismissive of the problem, and argued that students would elect valued media sources.

Stephanie Ryan, president of the Arts Undergraduate Society and a member of the committee that set out the contest's rules, was also quite positive about the VFM initiative.

"It was nice to see the project changing its format slightly this year so as to empower voters to a greater degree," Ryan wrote in an e-mail to the Ubyssey. She said the project moved through AMS Council with a general consensus and the initial AMS motion passed without dissent.

Ryan also stated that her constituents were quite positive about the VFM project, saying, "my constituents have by-and-large told me that VFM is amazing, especially since *The Underground* (the Arts Undergraduate Society newspaper) kicked ass last year."

The contest, which according to Naylor will be launched "within the next several weeks," will run until the close of the AMS polls next February.

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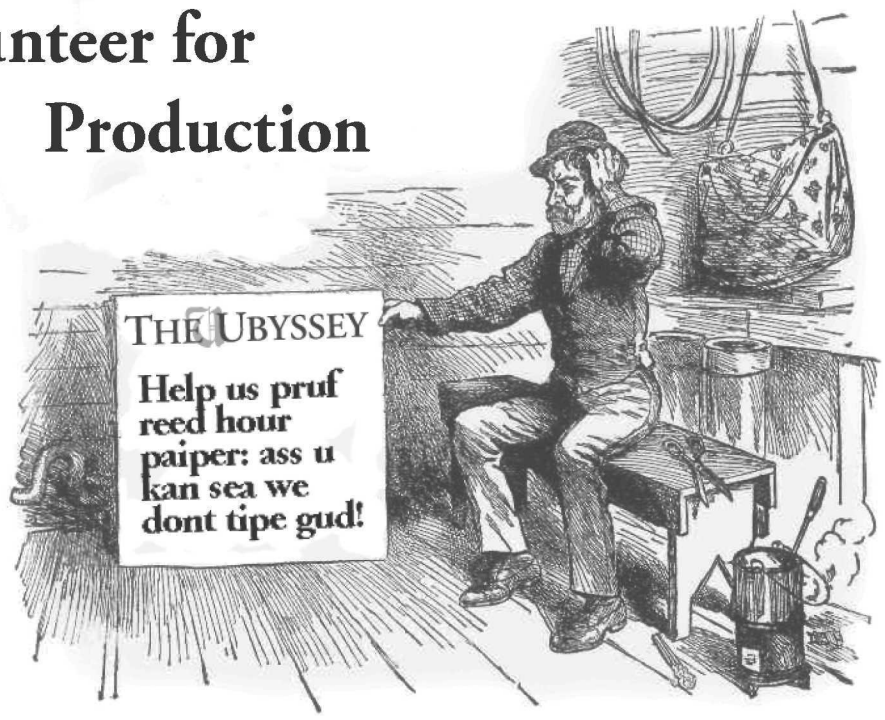

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Candidates from all research disciplines are encouraged to apply. To download eligibility criteria and an application form, please visit www.cbcf.org/bcyukon .

The deadline for submissions is November 2, 2007.

For more information contact Haifa Staiti, Manager of Grant Allocations at 604 683-2873 ext 239 or hstaiti@cbcf.org.

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Al Gore speaks at a convention in Vancouver this past weekend

"Gateway to hell"

Local activists protesting Gordon Campbell's Gateway project collected outside of the Westin hotel this past Saturday, in an attempt to see ex-vice president Al Gore.

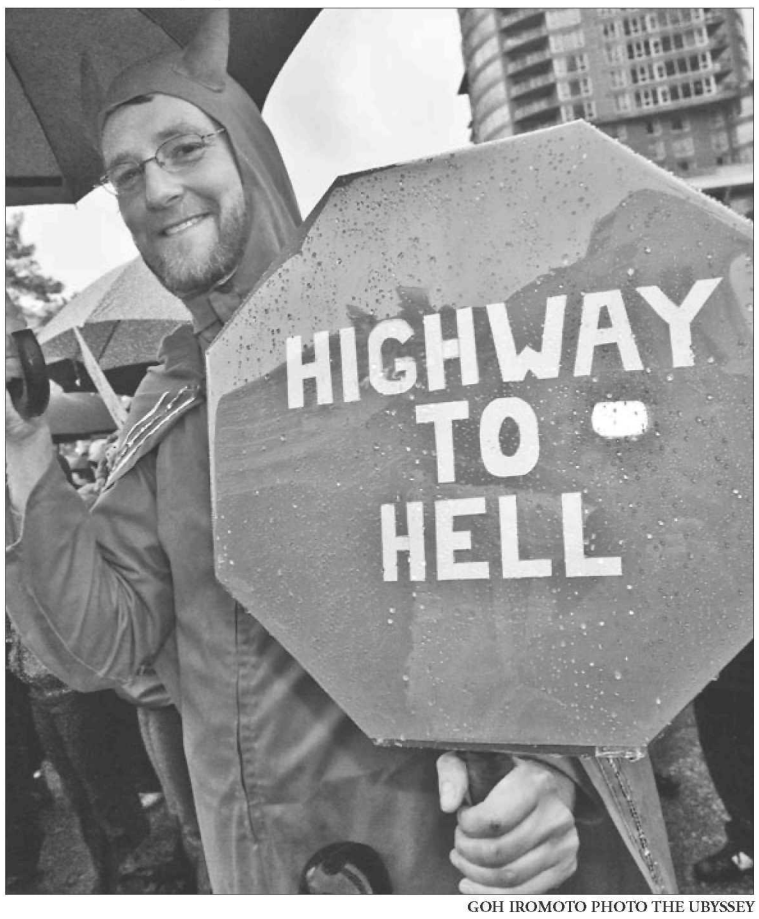
Gore, visiting Vancouver to present his "Inconvenient Truth" lecture, attracted crowds of protesters against the development of "Gateway", a contentious project that aims to improve local suburban transportation routes.

One of Gore's hot topics, carbon emissions, appears especially relevant to the protest of local development. Demonstrators claim that the project will lead to an increase in CO2 emissions from commuters and transport vehicles to and from Delta ports.

In light of the environmental movement that Gore has spurred, many took to the local environmental cause, sporting signs with pointed messages such as "Gateway to hell" and petitioned for Gore's appearance.

One activist noted that the expansion of these ports is of concern because it will "damage the Fraser Estuary and disrupt the Robert Banks ecosystem."

– Laura Morrison



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Scammers targeting university students

OKER CHEN PHOTO ILLUSTRATION/THE UBYSSEY

BY SAMANTHA JUNG
NEWS STAFF

In a report published by Statistics Canada in 2006, the rate of fraud cases in B.C. was found to be 350.8 per 100,000 people. This is one of the highest rates in Canada.

As citizens emerging into a world that depends so much on consumerism and money, university students should be aware of dangers facing them, what resources there are around campus to help them, and what they can do to protect themselves.

Scholarships and financial aid scams

You're attending university in the fall, but you need money to pay for your tuition and books. You turn to scholarships and bursaries for financial aid, and find an application for a $1500 scholarship online. There is a $35 fee to apply, but you figure it is worth it, and send off your application with the money. Weeks pass, but you never hear anything further about the scholarship.

This is one of the scenarios that the website www.finaid.org cautions against: scholarships that require a fee. Since the number of applicants is so high, scammers make a large profit from fees alone. Another is what FinAid calls a "Guaranteed Scholarship Search Service". This type of scam guarantees that you will win money, and claims to match you with potential scholarships applying specifically to you. However, they take your application fee and never give you a refund, nor provide you with money.

Barbara Crocker, Associate Director of Student Financial Assistance and Awards (SFAA) at UBC, says that she has never come across any bogus scholarships, but that doesn't mean they aren't out there. She says that most scholarships are "affiliated scholarships", which means they are attached to an institution. She also warns against applying for scholarships that aren't of this type.

"I would caution anybody against doing that nowadays, to apply for anything that doesn't have a significant presence, like a corporate name or a university name," said Crocker.

However, she says that there are some scholarships named after their donors: "and they are legit, but how would you know that? If you're sending it to Mary Jane Smith's home?" People legitimately offering a scholarship usually donate their money to an institution, they don't manage it themselves. This is so they receive a tax receipt for their money.

How can you protect yourself from scholarship scams? FinAid outlines things to watch out for, one being application fees, or loan fees, because "[l]egitimate scholarship sponsors do not require an application fee". Also, the "everybody is eligible" statement is another sign of a potential scam. Most scholarships have criteria to narrow down the number of applicants. As in any scam, claims of high success rates or lots of hype about the scholarship in advertising are good indicators that something isn't right. "Trust your instincts," seems like an obvious one, but it is true: if something seems suspicious, chances are you are right.

Housing

So you have your tuition paid, but where are you going to live? A lot of students look for housing on or around campus. Classifieds for housing can be found almost anywhere, in newspapers, posted on campus bulletin boards, and online.

But how do you know that the posting you respond to isn't a con? Or that the resident that answers your ad is really looking for housing and not interested in taking your money? The campus newspaper of Queen's University in Kingston, *The Journal*, published an article about an incident where some students posted an ad looking for a roommate. A scammer named "Lyte" responded, then proceeded to confuse the students. She never arrived to claim her spot, and kept saying she had sent the money. "Lyte" eventually sent cheques for American money then asked for them back, claiming sending them was a mistake. The students eventually told the boarder not to come, ending the transaction. They then notified the right people on campus about the problem.

Finding a reliable and secure source for housing ads is crucial to avoid potential scammers. AMS Rentsline is a way for local students to place and search for ads for affordable student housing. Shagufta Pasta, the Executive Coordinator of Student Services for the AMS, says there is no official AMS policy for Rentsline against potential scammers, because it is a third party organization that serves as an advertising venue.

"If we saw a bogus service," said Pasta, "we would remove the posting, but [Rentsline] is primarily a venue for people to find housing, and for people in housing to find a resident."

There are some regulations for Rentsline, however, to give users some security. John Calveley of Rentsline says that there hasn't been a problem in the past. "One of the main reasons no problems have arisen," said Calveley, "is that each new posting is screened and each member has to register their name, address, et cetera."

When choosing a place to live, potential renters should familiarize themselves with the general agreements and policies surrounding tenancy. One source is the Residential Tenancy Branch on the BC Government website. The site outlines everything searching students need to know before renting out a place. It is also useful because students can watch out for landlords who are not following the policies.

Help at your disposal

There are many campus resources to aid you if you are ever the victim of a scam. One of the most important and helpful of these sources would be Campus RCMP.

"We would definitely investigate it," said Constable Chohan, "anything that's criminal code falls under a mandate to investigate. If it meets the criteria of a fraud, we would treat it accordingly."

Chohan also encourages the use of Equifax, a company that will put a tracker alert on your credit card. If there is fraudulent activity of any kind occurring on your credit card, it will show up on your credit record and they can try to protect you.

To address the psychological ramifications of losing your well-earned cash, Campus Counselling can help. Dr Cheryl Washburn of Campus Counselling says the service "encourage[s] students to seek assistance and support them in finding resources" outside of campus as well as counseling help.

The University Counsel includes a section in their Board of Governors' Policies, Procedures and Guidelines that pertains to students needing emergency funding. Policy 72 states that when an unexpected incident occurs, funding will be used from the UBC Emergency Financial Assistance Fund, which is funded from tuition.

The Student Finacial Aid and Awards (SFAA) Centre employs said policy. While the centre can't reimburse your lost rent money or student fees, Crocker says they can and will provide you with the textbook you lost when your backpack was stolen. This type of incident would count as requiring "emergency funding". Care would also be taken to speak with the student about what happened, so as to inform others of potential harm.

It's up to you

From a study done by Ipsos-Reid in 2006, 73% of Canadians are worried about becoming identity fraud victims. In addition, only 33% of Canadians feel educated enough to protect themselves from scams or theft of their personal information. Protecting oneself from a scam is ultimately a personal endeavour.

The police are the first people to go to, and the most knowledgeable about scams and fraud. The RCMP offers an online practical guide for students against scams. Precautions that the site suggests include tearing up your mail and personal documents before throwing them away and cleaning out your wallet or purse, taking out things such as your SIN card or passport. Also, be aware of who you give your personal information out to—it could be given to a third-party organization that could scam you or steal your identity.

Constable Chohan doesn't think that students are at a higher risk from scams, but notes that the 18-40 demographic shows to be the age group most prone to reported instances of fraud.

"They grew up in the technology era," said Chohan, "and so we're finding a lot more fraud and a lot more identity thefts are occurring online."

Although Crocker doesn't feel that students are at any more risk for scams, learning how to protect yourself is still a good idea.

She says it's all about awareness: "I think any of us could be in that predicament at any time, by not realising that could happen."

Students can begin educating themselves while on campus. The SFAA Centre offers workshops. Besides one for financial planning, they also offer one called "Simple Things That Can Ruin Credit", and are working to implement one on ID Theft for the future. These are usually advertised around campus.

Crocker outlines how easy it would be to be scammed or to have your identity stolen. If your wallet was stolen, it would be very easy for a scammer: "if you had in your wallet your driver's license, your student card," says Crocker, "very quickly, I could become you."

However, don't be too worried about being a victim of fraud. Just be aware of your surroundings and your actions. "There's a happy medium," says Crocker, "you don't have to be paranoid but you do have to be sensible."

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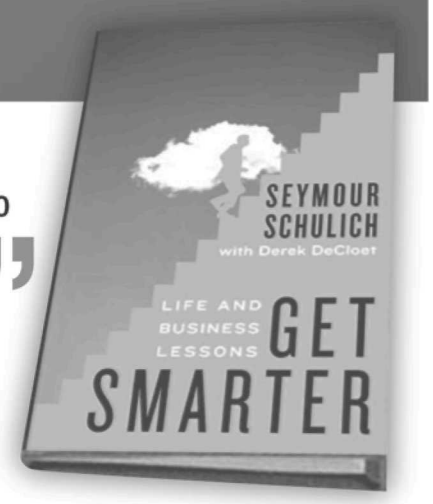

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Fall fashion advice from industry experts

Raincoats Skirts Boots Umbrellas Shoes

by Paul Bucci
Culture Editor

Fashionistas, friends, and hangarounds, take notice: *the Ubyssey* brings you fall fashion so you can stay warm while looking sharp.

This fall, practicality does not give way to haute couture. And though you'd like to be as comfortable as you can going to and from class, the waterproof synthetic jackets over UBC hoodies of campus fashion don't mesh with current trends. To stand above and beyond the huddling masses at the bus stop, take note of this simple advice.

"I used to wear garbage bags over my head, because they're easy," said a local fashion consultant from Bryam's. "You can cut across so that the pointy end goes on your head and it can cover your backpack as well. But that's not very fashionable."

So to keep the rain off of your head and look good, you'll need more than a piece of plastic and a smile.

"Generally, it's not fashionable to wear a raincoat, so buy an umbrella," said our consultant. "Just because most of the coats you can buy are long and they're warm, but they won't keep dry."

Umbrellas for the student budget are easy, as they can be as little as ten bucks at a dollar store, but if you need to go above and beyond that, there's a little store on Granville Island that'll do the trick. The Umbrella Shop on W. Broadway has been in the umbrella business for years and can sell you a large array of styles and prints from collapsable to parasols.

For your feet, rubber still works, though looking sharp rather than cute will take more than a pair of printed gumboots.

"A lot of the fashionable boots that aren't advertised as waterproof leather won't keep you dry," said the consultant. "The best you can hope for is water resistant. You can buy a shoe spray that will make your boots water resistant, and they are made for specific fabrics."

Advising against raincoats, what are the alternatives?

"Double-breasted coats are still in fashion, so if you bought one last year, you can still wear it," said our consultant. "Last year coats were long, and if you were short, they made you look silly. Coats are still long, but they can be as short as the bottom of your ribcage, and standard blazer length.

"Layers are still fashionable. A scarf, a turtleneck and a coat. But not a long coat. Not if it's heavy.

> *So to keep the rain off of your head and look good, you'll need more than a piece of plastic and a smile.*

You can layer a waist length coat, a turtleneck and a scarf. Looking fashionable doesn't mean you have to be cold."

When asked about new trends coming up, our consultant said that "Turtlenecks, leggings and boots...High waisted pants are coming in. And riding pants. That's what everybody's seeing on runways. And ankle boots... No fur, though. Fur hasn't come back."

The Ubyssey
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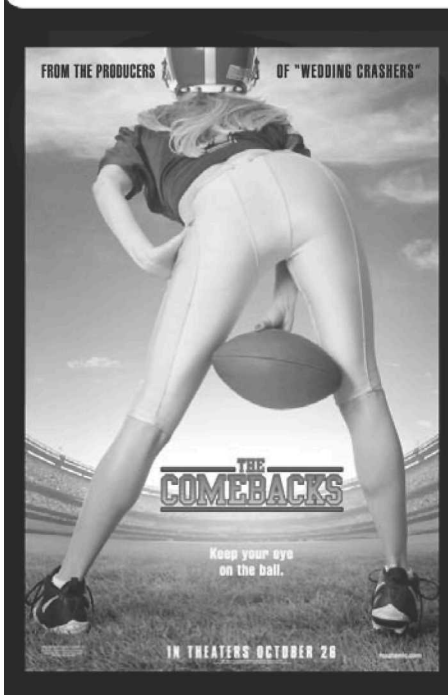

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This is The Ubyssey

New Pornographers heat up the Commodore

Crowd response was strangely dismal for such an enthusiastic performance

BY CHARLOTTE NOBLES
Culture Writer

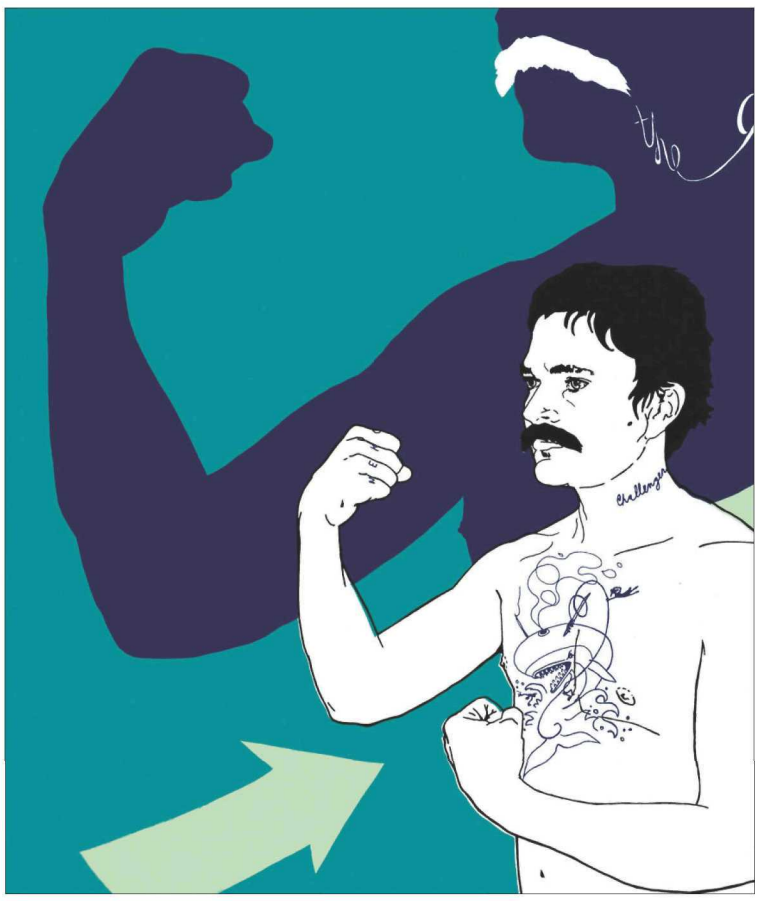
Following this summer's release of *Challengers*, The New Pornographers convened at The Commodore on Friday, September 28th, to play to an anticipatory, but not overly energetic audience. With almost the entire band present, including Neko Case and Dan Bejar, the New Pornographers seemed excited to be performing in Vancouver, back at their old stomping grounds. This reunion of the band provided the audience with the opportunity to hear the songs as they were recorded, which made ones like "Mass Romantic", sung by Case, definite crowd-pleasers.

The crowd was surprisingly mellow, but did perk up for some of the more popular songs such as "Twin Cinema" and "Sing Me Spanish Techno." The chance for audience participation was readily taken during Bejar's "Testament to Youth in Verse" at the end of the show. The band's effort to involve and stimulate the crowd throughout was consistent, and frontman Carl Newman's friendly banter between songs was a lively accompaniment to the performance.

> *I'm sure that those who were unfamiliar with the band are now fans.*

Opening with "All The Things That Go To Make Heaven and Earth," the almost two hour performance included a good selection of songs from past albums and all but one of the tracks off *Challengers*. The set list mostly consisted of The New Pornographers' highly energetic songs, but was nicely complemented with slower ballads, including a gorgeous performance by Case of "Go Places" and her charming performance of "Failsafe" with Kathryn Calder. The band played two encores following their set, the first of which showcased the crowd-surfing skills of one member of opening band Lavender Diamond. Case's outstanding performance of "Letter from an Occupant" closed the show on a high note that had everyone in the crowd dancing and cheering.

The band was energetic throughout the show and gave a fun, high quality performance that demonstrated why The New Pornographers have caught the attention of and sustained their solid, if small, fan base. Considering their marketable sound and excellent showmanship, I have to question why The New Pornographers are not better known; however, I am certain that those who were unfamiliar with the band prior to the show have now been converted into dedicated fans.



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HISTORY OF VIOLENCE

by Henrique Barbone
Culture Writer

MANDA BALA
Empire Granville Theatres
Playing October 5 at 4:15pm

Exploitation, corruption, and violence.

From my experience in living in Brazil, these are the three underpinning characteristics of Brazilian society. This is what young New York director Jason Kohn attempts to capture in his first ambitious documentary *Manda Bala* ("Send a Bullet"). He follows the life of Jader Barbalho, a politician accused of embezzling over $9 million dollars, along with the lives of many other tattered characters.

Kohn's achievement in this documentary is the depiction of violence as a dual entity. With the upper classes imprisoning and stifling the masses, certain individuals, such as Magrinho (a savage kidnapper), irrationally vent their anger and frustration by kidnapping their jailers. This could be seen as the very embodiment of the paradox of violence in Brazil.

> *Kohn made no use of a narrator throughout the documentary, but simply let the audience ask questions.*

Kohn made no use of a narrator throughout the documentary, but simply let the audience ask questions and find connections. This is a rarity in a world where it seems like the norm is for us to become passive, spoon-fed viewers of commercially oriented Hollywood-propaganda.

Amongst the fluctuating stories and characters, Kohn gives us glimpses of the media hysteria surrounding the mounting kidnapping rates in São Paulo. The media, however, pays less attention to the gangsters running the country from Brasilia, and the industrialists, who, protected by the same Brasiliense gangsters, pillage Brazil's wealth. This in turn ends up in the United States, Canada, and the European Union. Kohn acquaints himself with this Brazilian criminal network as he spends some time with the manager of a frog farm financed by Jader Barbalho, the influential senator from Brazil's northern state of Pará. This farm, whose cost is evaluated to be $300,000, actually cost the government over a million dollars, and is barely beneficial to the poverty-stricken local population.

Although extremely corrupt, Barbalho is intelligent. Following Juvenal's idea of providing 'panem et circenses' (bread and circus) in order to subdue the masses, Barbalho bought the local newspaper, radio and television networks. He has since managed to manufacture consent in his state by giving alms to the cattle-like masses, while wallowing in the luxury that his inestimable fortune provides him. As the kidnapper cynically puts it; in Brazil there are 'those who steal with a pen and those who steal with a gun'.

My disappointment with *Manda Bala*, however, would only come in the post-screening Q&A period with Jason Kohn, when he told me that *Manda Bala* would not be screening in Brazil due to legal reasons. The documentary then struck me as a wasted effort. It hinted at what the not always free Brazilian press treats as a taboo subject: that kidnappings are nothing but the incarnation of class oppression in Brazil. But if this message cannot be conveyed to a Brazilian audience, then what is the purpose of Kohn's endeavour? More broadly, I couldn't help having misgivings about the future of documentary making, because I had always envisaged documentaries as having a great social and political potential. U

THREE QUICK CAPSULE REVIEWS

by Jesse Ferreras
Culture Staff

FUGITIVE PIECES
Finished run

Jeremy Podeswa's adaptation of Anne Michaels's 1996 bestseller is everything you could hope for in a literary adaptation. Or, at least you wish it was, because despite the clear passion that has gone into its making, the film is long, plodding, and stretches a little far beyond a few logical ending points. These are forgivable sins in a book, but not so much in a film. It tells of Jakob, a young Polish Jew taken in by kindly Greek archaeologist Athos and reared after the boy's family is murdered in a Nazi raid. The two actors show great chemistry in the boy's younger scenes, but like many adults, he loses much of his charm and becomes a brooding bore. That doesn't stop his luck with some beautiful women, and won't deter fans of the book. U

THE STONE ANGEL
Empire Granville Theatres
Playing October 9 at 7:15pm

Liberty Stands Still director Kari Skogland puts American Ellen Burstyn into a very Canadian role, an elderly woman who defies her son's attempts to put her in a nursing home and runs off on her own, all the while lamenting a past in which she held a higher social standing. Her regrets are shared through endless flashbacks showing that everything has aged in her except her feistiness. If you have that, what else matters? The film puts an accessible spin on a figurative novel and boasts a strong lead but doesn't let you into its central characters as much as it wants to. Its setbacks, however, will nevertheless draw audiences comprised of English students, disgruntled or otherwise, who read the book as part of course reading. U

UP THE YANGTZE
Pacific Cinematheque
Playing October 7 at 11:00am

China's mythical Yangtze River is slowly rising, and only has more height to go as construction of the Three Gorges Dam moves forward. It's displacing millions of people and forcing many of them into abject poverty, while others are lamenting a China they'll never see again once their towns are flooded. Director Yung Chang takes a "farewell cruise" down the river to meet with people who will be flung from their homes by the flooding and comes up with a devastating documentary about the cost of economic prosperity in a developing country. An issue like the Three Gorges Dam needs as much talking as possible and if Chang's film reaches enough people, it's bound to generate that discussion. Simply stunning. U

SAVE YOURSELF, DON'T SEE *ATONEMENT*

ATONEMENT
Finished run

by Matthew Jewkes
Culture Staff

Atonement has made me seriously question whether most moviegoers can think for themselves, while simultaneously making me unsure as to whether film producers even know what makes stories worth telling. While the film recently opened the VIFF and has garnered much critical acclaim at a number of festivals, *Atonement* is a disjointed, pointless, emotionally manipulating, shallow film.

I walked out of the theatre feeling like I'd seen the film adaptation of a grocery store pulp novel. Certainly, it contains some beautiful shots, however, the story never explores the deep issues that are filmed so prettily.

The protagonist is a groundskeeper's son living on the grounds of an aristocratic English lord. The lord's family and the groundskeeper's son dress similarly and regularly attend dinner together. Later in the film, a war hospital is used for graphic effect, but is left behind before anything can settle in. And the main protagonist's involvement in the war is limited to a beautiful but highly choreographed and totally uncontextualized and unprecedented scene of the retreat from the beaches of Dunkirk.

As a result, the potential intelligence of the film is dulled. Major English class differences become blurry. A brutal war hospital turns into nothing more than a backdrop for a touching but otherwise disconnected moment with a dying French soldier. And World War II turns into little more than an excuse to separate the protagonists.

It is in this which I most dislike *Atonement*. The entire point of the movie is to evoke empathic pain in the viewers. There is no other cohesive point. Even the stated premise of the film—a child who must atone for her childhood sins—is unexplored until the last seconds of the film.

So how could such a film become the opener of two major film festivals? The only reason I can come up with is that *Atonement* contains all of the elements that people think a film *should* have—from beautiful people fucking to epic landscape shots. And so, as people walk out of the room, no one actually checks with themselves as to whether they actually enjoyed or appreciated it. The only reason I can think of for *Atonement* to have become so popular is that people must think it is "supposed" to be good.

And it isn't. U

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Survive the rain at UBC

by Paul Bucci, Graphcs by Stephanie Taylor, Goh Iromoto and Micheal Bround

Tips for the practical survivor

In case you hadn't noticed, wham, bam, it's fall now. And you know what that means. Torrents of rain, constantly soaking our poor campus life beaten bodies to the bone, and filling up giant swimming pool-sized puddles across the front of Buchanan tower. Everyone on campus will suddenly don a pair of hip-waders just to get to class, and the first big wind will turn our streets into a veritable umbrella graveyard.

It gets messy.

Luckily, we only need to withstand that weather until the middle of November, when a third factor comes in: the icy cold.

Then watch for students bundled up in anything they can put on their bodies. Giant balls of wool walking down the lanes with a few slim, stylish black-overcoat-and-scarf people interspersed in between. Watch out for them. They make good kindling.

The time to prepare yourselves for this is now. If you're like me, you'll keep putting off the purchase of a new pair of shoes until it's summer, and the giant holes in the soles don't matter anymore. This is unwise. Your feet won't dry out until late June, and by then, they've turned unto perma-prunes. It took a lot of reconstructive ironing to get my leg-ends into beach-show shape last summer.

So, let's think solutions*:

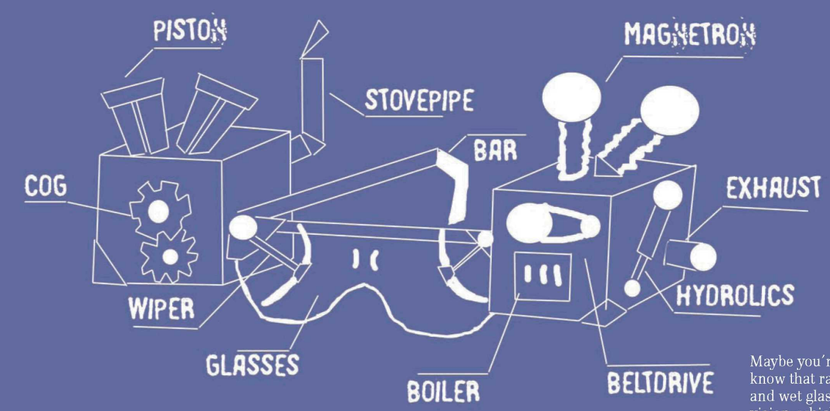
Problem: Your shoes have holes.
Solution: Buy a cheap tube of Shoe Gum, which can hold nearly anything together for a short time. Construction workers use this substance to keep their steel-toe boots together. You can also put garbage bags on your feet and wear them in your shoes as well, because waterproof shoes are expensive.

Problem: You don't have an umbrella (or it was killed in the windy massacre)
Solution: Use a Ubyssey newspaper to cover your head and wrap your books.

Problem: Your shoes are soaked, but you don't have access to a dryer.
Solution: Turn an oven on high and lay the shoes on the end of the open door. Be sure to watch them, and rotate every 20 min, or so. If you don't have an oven, kill two birds with one stone and place your shoes directly in front of the mouth of that really annoying guy in POLI 260.

Problem: You don't have a rain jacket.
Solution: Garbage bag. Or shrink-wrap your entire body. (If you actively use this solution, be sure to stop by the Ubyssey office wearing the wrap and the Culture Editor will buy you a drink, guaranteed).

The nearly-patented Spectacle wiper

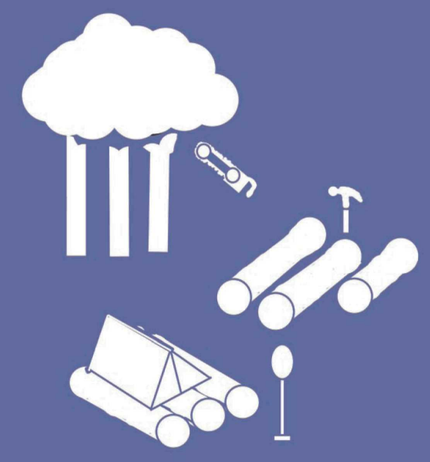


Maybe you're a practical person, and know that rain means wet glasses, and wet glasses means impaired vision, which we all know is very dangerous, and can lead to major social faux pas such as ignoring friends, mistaking stop signs for lovers, and colliding into science students.

Rainwater bottler

You may think that with all the pain and tribu lation the rain causes, you're entitled to make a quick profit off of it. That's where the almost-patented Ubyssey dorm window rain catcher/bottler comes in handy. These simple instructions will show you how to collect and bottle water—then sell it.

The Pacific Spirit life raft

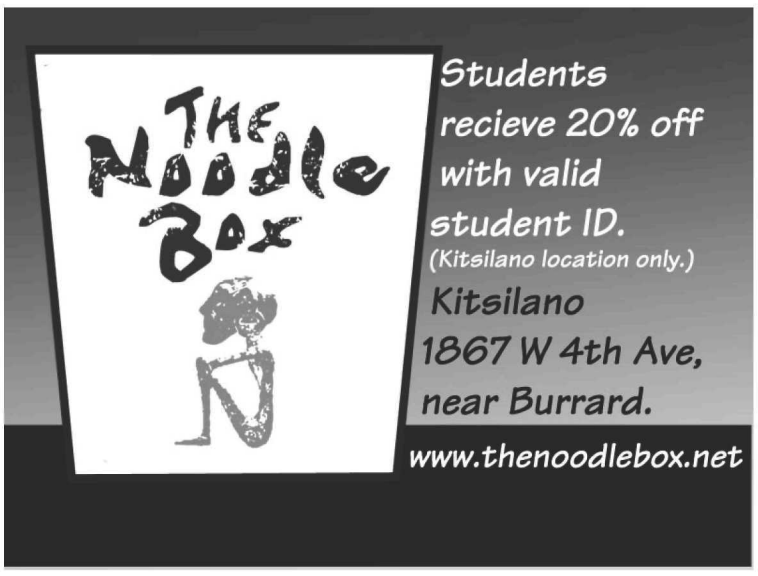


Perhaps you're more survival minded, and need an escape plan in an all out flood. This Ecuadoran raft design can be whipped up in a flash (flood), leaving you above water while Buchanan becomes the newest Vancouver Aquarium. Simply choose a few very substantial trees, apply a chain saw liberally, then bind together with some hefty yellow dollar store rope, add nails and a shelter, mix thoroughly, then bake on high for forty minutes.

**These are just a few of the pitfalls of the fall-winter season at UBC. Others include, but are not limited to:*

Wet seats on the bus, knee-high wet patches on your jeans, constantly wind-blown hairdo, Trek Park protester accidently burning down their tents in an effort to stay warm, lovers getting too goddamned intimate in the interest of conserving heat, environmentalists freezing in an effort to reduce winter greenhouse gas emissions, nudists freezing at Wreck Beach, frozen hair straight out of the shower, mould growing in your armpits as they never dry, Ubyssey editors trying to move into your dormrooms, homeless men trying to move into Ubyssey editor's homes, thirty people huddled under one bus stop shelter, being perfectly dry until you get on the SkyTrain and are suddenly soaked by everyone else's jacket, cigarettes getting rained on and put out, no-fat-extra-hot-two-pump lattes being required for central heating every ten minutes, permanent ear damage from a thousand sneakers constantly squeaking, Professor Gateman's sarcasm (though this can also be a mood lifter), wonderment at how the floods possibly could have been a problem during the summer, hometown farms drowning on the plains, flooded basement suites, floating laptops, coworkers telling you they've lived in the Lower Mainland for their whole life and are just starting to feel right, and constant sun dances by brainwashed first-years in the lobby of Buchannan A.

THE UBYSSEY



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Why are

With rising costs of books, rising inflation and new course packs becoming mandatory every year, Max Halparin looks into where the money is going.

by Max Halparin
The McGill Daily (McGill University)

MONTREAL (CUP)—Craig Park and his friend Hagen Menhert started producing course packs at McGill University in 1991.

After receiving permission from their professors and the Dean of Arts, then-political science undergrads Park and Menhert gathered course readings, cleared copyrights, and sold the first McGill course packs themselves.

Park is now CEO of Eastman Systems Inc. and Menhert is Eastman's director & vice-president. Their company is now contracted to provide initial services on course pack production at McGill University.

> *One finds out [the price] after the fact, and then you turn it over and say, 'Oh, say it isn't so.'*
>
> Prof. Brenda Lee,
> *McGill University*

But what started out as a small photocopying operation is now big business. And students are the ones who are paying the price.

After students in an urban social geography class at McGill University paid a hefty $72.36 before taxes for this year's collection of readings, Professor Brenda Lee apologised for the high price during a class discussion. "One finds out [the price] after the fact," she said. "And then you turn it over and say, 'Oh, say it isn't so.'"

Second-year student Tyler Kreider was frustrated with the course pack's price tag."It seems like they're just trying to make money off students," he said.

Course pack production, however, is not such a cut-and-dry issue. There are many players involved and less profit going around than one might expect.

McGill Copyright and Course Pack Services, as with many universities, covers all aspects of course pack production, including printing and distribution through the university bookstore. These services usually contract out the initial steps, such as contact with professors, generation of the master file and clearing the copyrights. This is what Eastman does for McGill. Then, from August 1 to mid-September, two 30-foot long printers run 24/7 to keep up with demand.

"My operation makes no money, which is the way it should be," said Course Pack Services Coordinator James Warne.

There are two main costs that contribute to a course pack's price. The first is the base price of 10 cents per page for paper and the second is a royalty charge for selections that exceed reproduction limits. This includes using more than ten per cent of any work or more than one chapter of a book.

The cost of paper is as volatile as any other commodity. In 2004, the base cost per page was around nine cents. It increased to ten cents this year with rising paper and production costs.

Course packs can be useful, often intending to provide students with hard-to-find articles related to the course. Lee said that if she had known about the price increase she would not have included the reference articles.

"I will never do this again; there's not much satisfaction to students," she said.

The extra royalty costs for the urban social geography class added up to $8.32—compared to just $3.12 last year—although no single selection accounted for more than $1.44 in extra charges.

Much of the money is shipped straight back to the author of the articles.

COPIBEC, a not-for-profit collective of authors and publishers that collects and distributes royalties in Quebec, collects both the aforementioned royalty charge and the copyright fee, which is a flat fee of $20.50 per full-time student per year. The fee is scheduled to increase to $22.00 for next academic year.

When asked why the copyright fee continues to increase steadily—from $8 in 2001-2002 to $25.50 for 2011-2012—COPIBEC Executive Director Hélène Messier explained that the fee is tied to the "sheer volume" of pages reproduced.

Messier said that in the past four years, the number of pages reproduced in Quebec has increased by 33 per cent. The copyright fee, she said, has increased by the same percentage.

The additional copyright royalty adds an extra eight cents per page. This fee is increasing as well. In 2001 it was six cents per page, but will be nine cents in 2009-2010.

> *My operation makes no money, which is the way it should be*
>
> James Warne,
> *Course Pack Services Co-ordinator*
> *McGill University*

Messier noted that the reproduction limits exist to protect the authors' original work.

"We don't encourage reproducing above the limits," said Messier. "The costs should be high enough to have a deterrent effect."

In 2005-2006 COPIBEC collected nearly $11 million and distributed $8.2 million of it back to rights holders. The following school year, COPIBEC collected $11.7 million and distributed $10.8 million back to rights holders

Messier said that a 13 per cent administrative fee is deducted from costs and that the organisation holds on to left over funds intended for authors who

see "Expensive" | page 13

course packs so expensive?

Expensive packages

from "Why" | PAGE 12

are hard to track down. When those authors are located, they are given the money.

Messier maintained that with more employees and a larger database of authors' works, COPIBEC is becoming more efficient at distributing royalties.

All that for a photocopy?

For someone involved with a student-run enterprise that is now a part of a bigger business, Park had mixed feelings towards the copyright system and course pack production.

"Overall, this is still a pretty ridiculous price for a bunch of photocopies," he said.

OKER CHEN PHOTO ILLUSTRATION

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Universities have influence on Burmese Government

By William Wolfe-Wylie
CUP National Bureau Chief

TORONTO (CUP)—Organisers of a Sept. 27 demonstration at Toronto City Hall said that they need to let Burmese citizens know that they have international support.

The demonstrators in Toronto expressed their support for ongoing pro-democracy demonstrators in Burma. Now, they said, they need to get their messages of support inside the isolated South Asian country, also called Myanmar.

Ulla Laidlaw graduated from the University of Guelph in 2006 and spent the following year living along the Thailand-Burma border. She became involved in the pro-democracy movement then and is still in contact with many of the friends she made.

"We're trying to develop some initiatives to get the support inside Burma," she said, noting that a number of people are distributing flyers and pamphlets in Burma's urban centres, encouraging the demonstrations to continue.

"So we're thinking about having photos of our rallies and sending them in that way," Laidlaw said. "We don't just want to write the general to pressure the general, we want to write to the people to tell them that the world is supporting them," she said.

Paul Copeland founded the Toronto Burma Roundtable, an advocacy group, in 1990. He said that there are significant differences between the current demonstrations in Burma and the 1988 protests in which the military killed more than 3000 civilians.

"One of the reasons the movement is so strong this time is because the images are coming out," said Copeland, arguing that images need to be sent back to show the international support.

WILLIAM WOLFE-WYLIE PHOTO / CUP
Monks joined a demonstration at Toronto City Hall on Sept. 27, showing their support for democracy in Myanmar.

"If they know that there's international support for them, it helps, it helps give them courage to continue on. It's going to take huge courage for them to continue the demonstration," Copeland said.

Other demonstrators conceptualised the protest differently.

NDP MP Olivia Chow spoke to demonstrators, calling upon Canada to divest from any company that supports Burma's military rulers.

"Put pressure on the Canadian government to say to places like China and India to stop shipping arms and mediate," she said into a megaphone. She also called upon Canadian mining companies to stop operations in Burma.

Copeland, however, feels that with the Canadian government's lacklustre track record on Burma, it's up to the private sector to make a difference.

"The Canadian government has been verbally great and actively useless," he said, noting that Canada's economic sanctions are non-existent while the US continues to strengthen theirs.

Copeland said that Canada's universities, with their investment power, have an ability to influence the outcome of the demonstrations. He cited a protest against Pepsi Co. in the early 1990s which resulted in that company's operations being removed from Burma.

"That was ultimately hugely successful but it only happened when Pepsi lost a couple of contracts at universities," Copeland said.

Copeland also pointed to the successes of consumer boycotts helping to overthrow South African apartheid.

But for now, as the military government continues to rattle its sabres, the majority of demonstrators simply hoped to minimize bloodshed.

"Budhhism teaches us peace. Buddha never teaches to kill others. Burma is a Buddhist country," said one Buddhist monk at the rally. "Please wake up and try to understand and forgive each other."

Copeland agreed that this is really the only way forward. Simply overthrowing the military rulers will not work, he said.

"The question is what kind of transition can they arrange," he said. "If the less senior members of the military actually get rid of the thugs who are there, and start having some dialog with the National League for Democracy, they could very well form some kind of interim government."

Copeland said that Aung San Suu Kyi, the winner of the 1990 Burmese election who has been under house arrest for 12 of the past 18 years, has enough support to lead the country.

"She is a sufficiently strong and popular figure that she, I think, could hold the country together," Copeland said. "Having the military on side would actually be a good idea."

In the meantime, Canadians need to show the peaceful demonstrators in Burma that the world is standing with them. "From filming, emailing, and letting them know," Chow said. "They will feel the solidarity."

Burma has been under military rule since a military coup in 1962. It has been under one form of military government or another ever since. In 1988, a pro-democracy movement, much the same as that currently underway, was crushed when the military government killed upward of 3000 civilian protestors. In 1989, the military government changed the name of the country from Burma to Myanmar. Aung San Suu Kyi won a general election in 1990, but the incumbent powers refused to relinquish the government. She has been under house arrest for 12 of the past 18 years.

A UN envoy sent to Burma to negotiate and discuss the situation on Sept. 29 made it clear that Suu Kyi must be a part of the discussion.

Since 1989, confusion has reigned in many areas as to whether or not to call the country by its former name, Burma, or its new name Myanmar.

For many citizens, the self-identification of Burmese is a way of showing dissent to the military rulers. Similarly, during the independence movement from Great Britain in the late 1940s, left-wing independence groups preferred to use the more inclusive Burma and the traditionalist right-wing factions preferred the more historical Myanmar.

The political connotations of the name usage are not lost on modern society. At Toronto's rally, protestors unanimously called for a "Free Burma."

"We all knows what it means," said Chow. "A human life is a human right. It's Burma."

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Longboat: a day on the stormy sea

ANDREW STRAIN PHOTO / THE UBYSSEY

The Ubyssey's production manager , Kellan Higgins , sprints to shore to win the championship for the greek division. Some teams rather had the spirit to get out there on the cold and rainy weekend.

by Samantha Jung
Staff Writer

With Longboat team names such as such The Wu-Tang Clan, S.S. Your Mom, and Wet Dirty Oars, I hoped our name of Winner Not Quitters would instill confidence in my teammates.

Our heat was at 9 am and the team was ready despite our freezing bones and tired eyes. "No jitters, I'm just really pumped up," said teammate Michelle Radley, a second-year Land and Food Systems major. "The music's playing, [and] everyone's excited. It's going to be good."

We loaded our boats with anticipation. Our runner, Alvin Lam, a second-year engineering major, sprinted from the shore and leaped into the boat. Although we paddled feverishly, we quickly encountered an obstacle: our boat was jammed between two others, not an uncommon dilemma to Longboat.

This put us and another team behind right from the beginning. We missed the first buoy but made it to the beach to retrieve the baton before continuing the race.

Triumphantly passing a team, we rounded the second buoy. We were neck and neck with them until the home stretch when their bow painfully peaked in front of ours. The finish line was in sight. We dug our paddles deeper and pushed them through the water faster, splashing water around like a wet dog after a swim. Approaching the shore at an amazing rate, we were gaining on the other team. Maybe we wouldn't be last after all! Excited, Lam jumped out of the boat to bang the gong—before we rammed the shore. But no matter how much Lam flexed his ankles and toes there was no way he was going to reach the bottom.

We quickly lost hope for a fast run into the beach and the possibility of achieving our main goal of second last as Lam doggy paddled a few metres before limping toward the beach. Ironically, it was our excitement and enthusiasm that defeated us. We all groaned in unison as the men and women in wet suits swarmed our boat to help Lam out of the water.

A collective cheer rose from our boat as Lam limped to shore, dripping wet with defeat, and hit the gong.

Lounging in the hot tubs provided by UBC REC, we warmed up and felt better. Despite our last place finish and time of 21:42, we were optimistic. The team that finished second last was only 30 seconds in front of us, and other teams were probably more experienced, as only two of us had done Longboat before.

When asked why he jumped out of the boat so early, Lam's answer was simple: "I wanted it bad." As an afterthought, he added, "I want to try it again, I know I can probably do better." Lam, like the rest of our team, believed our next bout in the boat would be even better.

Unfortunately, luck wasn't on our side. Not only did it start to rain and the water became more aggressive, but two of our members had to drop out due to illness. Nevertheless, we decided to grab some lunch and come back to the beach to try to recruit more teammates.

However, no one wanted to stay in the freezing rain for a 4 pm second heat. Tired, but not defeated, we went home. Day of the Longboat proved once again to be a great way to start off the year and experience true UBC spirit.

Saskatchewan Huskies hold on to take down T-Birds

by Paul Albi
Sports Writer

The UBC football team had its hands full Saturday with the rain, wind, a muddy field, and the University of Saskatchewan Huskies.

Saskatchewan 19 - UBC 16

Despite some big plays on defense and special teams, the Thunderbirds ran out of time while driving within the final minutes and lost to the Huskies 19-16 Saturday at Thunderbirds Stadium. The loss drops the Thunderbirds to 2-3, while the No. 5 Huskies improve to 4-1.

Rookie quarterback Marc McVeigh only managed to complete six passes out of 25 throws while running back Chris Ciezki had 50 yards on the ground. This lack of offense forced the defense to come up big as linebacker Shea Emry lead the charge blitzing from all angles giving the Huskies' no time to throw and nowhere to run. The Huskies thought changing quarterbacks early in the second quarter would get their offense in gear.

The story on offense was the same for the Thunderbirds except their former backup quarterback was already in the game. With starting quarterback Doug Goldsby injured, pressure was put on the shoulders of McVeigh. UBC's offensive line couldn't seem to help McVeigh's cause or get the run game established with Chris Ciezki.

An interception by UBC's Alex Betts lead to a six-yard scamper up the gut by Dave Boyd for the first touchdown of the game giving UBC a 9-5 lead. But McVeigh's interception lead to a Saskatchewan touchdown and the Huskies took a two-point lead going into the locker room.

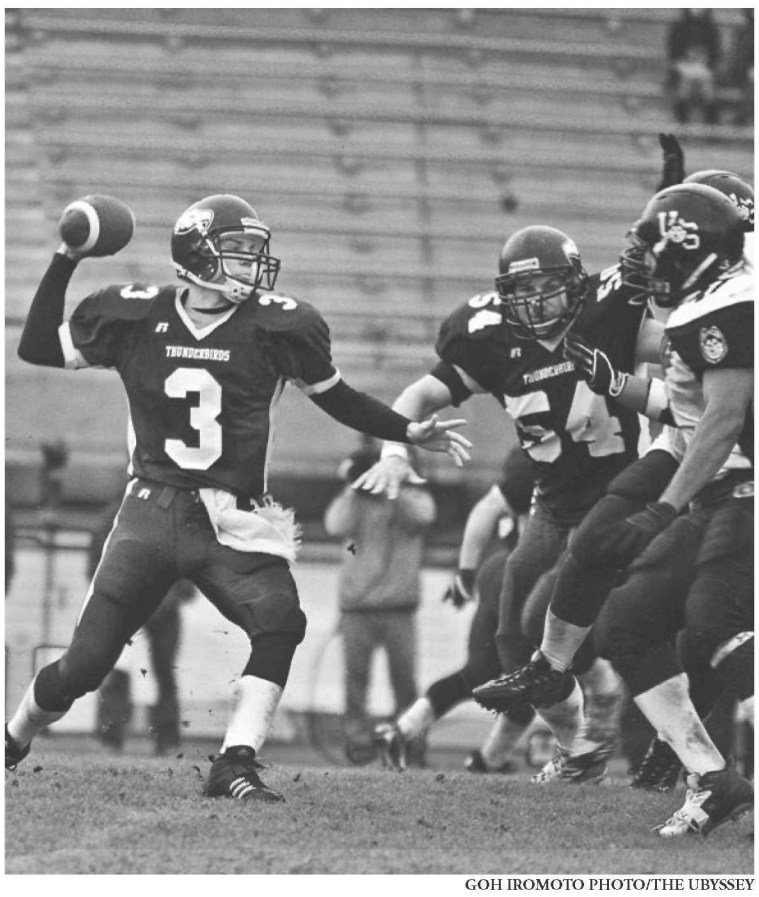
The muddy and wet field seemed to play a part as both teams combined for six completions, three interceptions, and only 215 yards of total offense at halftime.

Disaster struck early in the second half as the Huskies converted a fumble recovery into a touchdown.

With the Thunderbirds down ten points in the fourth quarter, hope seemed to be fading away as the UBC offence was having trouble moving the ball on offense.

With time ticking, a deep pass by McVeigh was deflected by a Huskies' player and then caught by receiver Alan Pepper down the sideline for a gain of 62 yards.

The very next play McVeigh connected with Townsend for a 17-yard touchdown pass with just over a minute and a half left on the clock.



GOH IROMOTO PHOTO/THE UBYSSEY

UBC quarterback Marc McVeigh prepares to throw as the Huskies defensive line looks for the sack. McVeigh only managed to complete six passes out of his 25 attempts as both teams had good days on defense.

The rain was coming down harder than ever, but the crowd was back in the game and the sideline was riding momentum. UBC then failed to win an onside kick, which may have been their only hope for a victory.

But, the T-Birds' defensive unit rose to the occasion when Emry forced a fumble with 1:22 left. McVeigh then scrambled for 25 yards down the side line. Unfortunately, things weren't meant to be as the play was called back on a holding call. That was UBC's 13th penalty of the game, counting for 97 total yards. The Thunderbirds just ran out of time and couldn't get those last three points to bring them into a tie with the Huskies.

"Our defence played outstanding all day long and gave us chances to win," said UBC head coach Ted Goveia. However, he was frustrated at the finish saying, "We had too many dropped balls and penalties at key points in the game."

UBC receiver Alan Pepper concurred as he pointed out "give all the credit to special teams and our defence, they gave us a chance at the end."

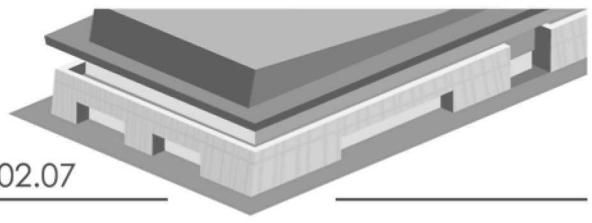
Despite Goldsby being out, Goveia seems optimistic saying "Marc [McVeigh] will get better with time."

With a record of 2-3, UBC finds themselves fighting for their playoff lives. They continue their season with the Shrum Bowl next Saturday at 1 pm at SFU.

The game will be played at SFU for the first time ever on a make-shift field which is expected to hold 3000 spectators up on the hill.

ams student society | Insider

a weekly look at what's new at your student society - 10.02.07



AMS EVENTS 07 fall Schedule

New AMS Website

We've been working hard to bring you a new and improved AMS. This year you'll notice a brand new website **(ams.ubc.ca)** that will help keep you in the loop with what's happening at your student society and with your elected executives.

AMS Link

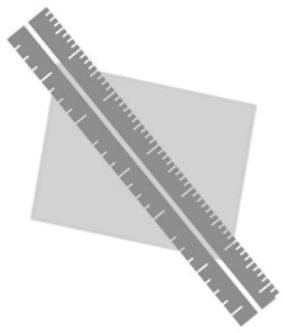
AMS Link is your gateway to involvement with our UBC community. Browse the over 300 campus organizations ranging from cultural to athletic to academic clubs, and more.

Fill your calendar with upcoming events, connect with UBC students, read the latest news with RSS feeds, and participate in discussion groups and surveys.

ams link

Submissions

The AMS is calling for student articles for The Yardstick, a revived publication that will create a dialogue around academic quality at UBC, and increase institutional accountability to students. We want to hear about any unique experiences you've had at UBC that have influenced your education. If you are interested in writing or submitting an article to the Yardstick, please contact Blake Frederick at **avpuniversity@ams.ubc.ca**



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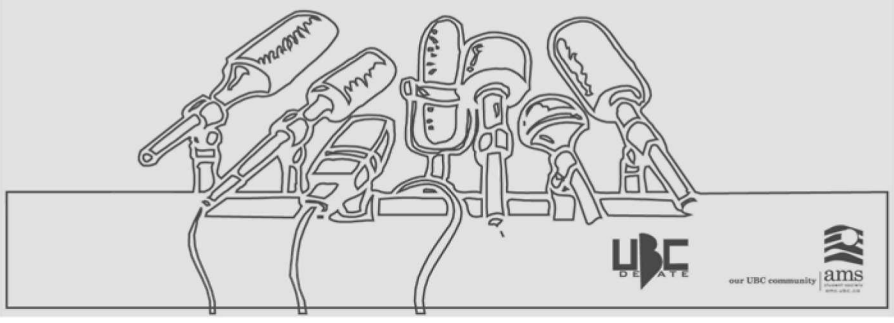

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BEATSTREET RECORDS

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Dick Pound rails against steroids in sport

World Anti-Doping Agency chair speaks about the need for more drug regulation

by Leslie Day
Sports Writer

Richard Pound, chair of the World Anti-Doping Agency and former International Olympic Committee vice- president, spoke at UBC on Saturday as part of a free lecture series put on by the Vancouver Institute.

"The science of the good guys is catching up to the science of the bad guys," said Pound. "As complex as it is, it's not rocket science."

Pound, who is also chancellor of McGill University, said that some sports need to step up and clean house. He believes the American professional sports leagues need to stop negotiating collective bargaining agreements that prevent useful testing, and that governments need to step in and "drag the leagues, kicking and screaming," into court, if necessary.

After an anecdote or two, Pound hit his stride by talking about doping scandals that have brought several athletes—and entire sports, such as cycling—to their knees.

Mandatory drug tests administered by sport governing bodies and leagues exist primarily "to make sure the public isn't aware there is a problem," said Pound. He traced what he called the "genealogy of a game" from two kids in a backyard, to children in a schoolyard, and on through to the Olympics.

He said that, as the calibre of competition increases, the differences between the individual athletes become smaller. For example in the 2006 Torino Olympics, the difference between the gold medal and the bronze in women's 1000m speed skating was 0.06 seconds. At that level, even the smallest change can result in huge rewards.

Pound's talk covered a lot of ground, including the wake-up call the Olympic community received in 1960 when Danish cyclist Knud Enemark Jensen died due to amphetamine use.

Drug testing was introduced at the 1968 Mexico City Summer Olympics, where a Swedish pentathlete tested positive for a banned substance and was stripped of his bronze medal.

More recently, at the 2006 Olympics, Austrian coach Walter Mayer, who had been banned from both the 2006 and 2010 Olympics due to doping offences, was found to be working for the Austrian biathlon and cross-country ski teams.

A search of a home rented by the teams resulted in the discovery of medical supplies and a blood transfusion machine, leading to a joint investigation with Italian authorities. In the end, lifetime bans were issued, and the Austrian Olympic Committee was fined $1 million.

Pound readily admits that the athletes and coaches are not in this alone. Successful doping requires the cooperation of athletes, coaches, medical professionals including doctors and nurses, teammates, drug suppliers, and even sport organization officials. Without the suppliers and enablers, the doping circle would be incomplete.

> *The science of the good guys is catching up to the science of the bad guys*
>
> Dick Pound
> *World Anti-Doping Agency*

He continued to say that despite athlete and coach claims to the contrary, doping is seldom accidental. "Seeking out and paying thousands of dollars for designer steroids is not an accident," he said.

Following his one-hour speech, Pound opened up the floor to questions. Dr. Jim Rupert, a human kinetics professor at UBC, asked about how the line between supplements and drugs is drawn. Pound replied, "If there's no rule to say you can't do it, no matter how stupid you are, you're not cheating."

When asked to comment on Florence Griffith-Joyner's early death and the rumors of drug use that dogged her career, he responded that her peak season was "too remarkable," but that we are unlikely to know for sure.

The anti-doping cause, Pound said, "is a cat and mouse game that continues to this day, and will as long as there are rules against doping in sport."

Nothing separates top two teams in field hockey

LEVI BARNETT PHOTO/THE UBYSSEY

Fourth-year forward Devon Bromley strikes the ball trying to give the Thunderbirds the smallest of advantages last weekend at Wright field.

The UBC Thunderbirds and the University of Victoria Vikes played to two consecutive ties over the weekend at Wright Field.

On Saturday, the Vikes jumped out to a two goal lead, but the Thunderbirds brought it back with goals from Katie MacPherson and Laura Dowling to leave the game at a 2-2 tie.

On Sunday, it was the Thunderbirds who came out scoring first as Whitney Kroll got one past Vikes goaltender Kaitlyn Williams.

The two ties give the women a record of 3-1-2 on the season and are once again fighting with the Vikes for the top spot in the country. Last year, the two teams faced off in the National Championship, which the Thunderbirds won.

The women head to Calgary this weekend for a two-game series with the University of Calgary Dinos before they take on the Vikes on their home turf the next weekend.

-Jordan Chittley

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SFU Harbour Centre
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Friday October 5th
"The Case of the Cuban 5 Held in U.S. Jails & Political Prisoners in Latin America"
Forum, Discussion & Multimedia Presentation
7PM
Chilean Housing Co-op
(3390 School Ave)
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Ultimate fighting ban hurts more than helps

Vancouver City Council voted to temporarily ban mixed martial arts (MMA) fighting events within Vancouver on September 20th. The motion passed unanimously.

Mixed Martial Arts is a combination of different fighting styles used simultaneously within an octoganal ring. The fights are played out with minimal rules and regulation, so that the sport resembles and emphasises the natural, unregulated outcome of a combat situation.

The sport itself became popular in 1993 with the emergence of the American Ultimate Fighting Championship (UFC). Previously touted as a "no holds barred" sport, it is now more widely celebrated as "mixed martial arts". The sport is largely divided into two techniques: striking, such as kicking and punching, and grappling, which includes submission holds, sweeps, and takedowns.

In recent years, MMA fighting has seen an explosion in popularity. Television and internet videos are going viral among young adult males, and pay-per-view bouts attract legions of viewers. With Canadians like George St.Pierre receiving accolades and the UFC welterweight title in 2006, it is no surprise that the sport has taken off in Canada. In the past year, a half dozen sanctioned fights have taken place in Vancouver and more are to be expected.

The idea behind City Council's Vancouver-wide ban is to have the province create is own commission to regulate MMA matches.

While this is a good idea, councilors need to realise that MMA fighting is here to stay. By banning it, the sport won't disappear. At minimum fights will simply move to the suburbs, where many of the fights already take place. As the provincial governing body for mixed martial arts can't be expected to be created immediately, fighters and fight-enthusiasts could be driven underground in the meantime. One draw back to this potential for underground MMA is that new locations could arise around the city attracting organised crime, endangering both competitors and spectators.

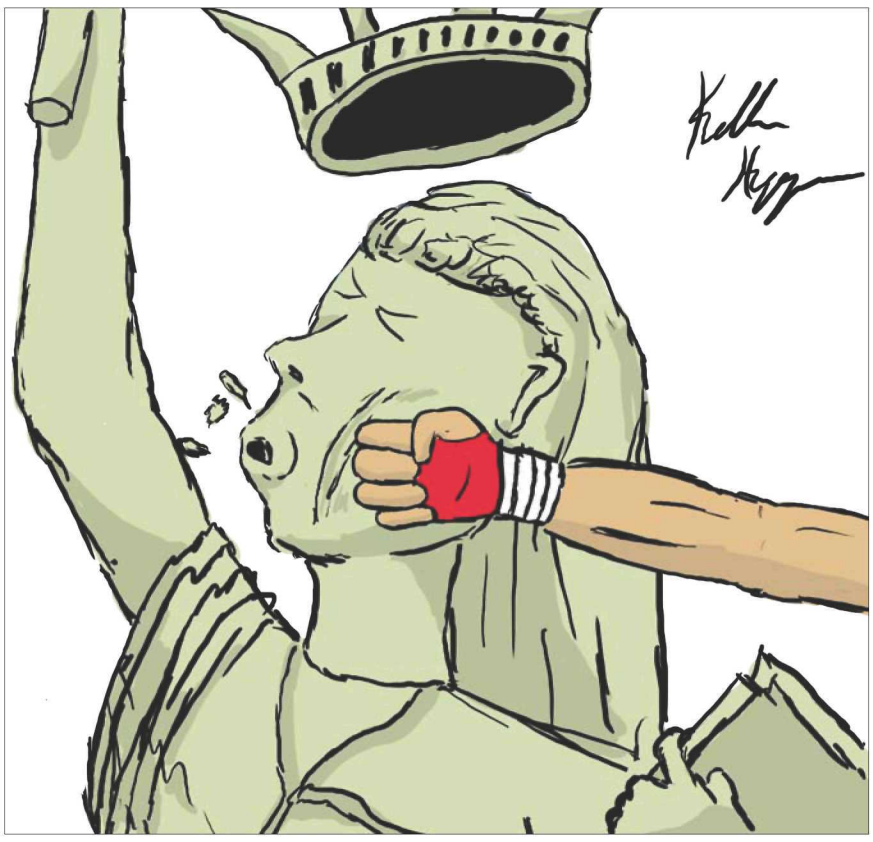
Vancouver's ban only affects Vancouver—leaving legitimate MMA promoters free to do as they will in cities like Richmond and New Westminster. According to the *Richmond Review*, Richmond currently has no governing body for ultimate fighting events. This means that, should fights move to the island city, they may be subject to even less oversight than Vancouver currently has now.

Under the current system, Vancouver is "not aware of any serious injuries to fighters participating in any UF/MMA events" sanctioned by the Vancouver Athletic Commission. To the extent that this is true, it means that the existing regime works—fighters are protected by regulations. This mandate denotes that there must be two doctors at each fight, medical exams for competitors, and ambulances at the ready, in case of any serious inguries.

If MMA events are banned in Vancouver, they will undoubtedly continue. Whether our politically correct society likes it or not, people, especially testosterone-fueled young males, have a need to physically exert themselves against each other. This can take place through regulated, formal, or even ceremonial sparring, rather than unregulated, underground matches.

And when unsanctioned bouts do occur, they never meet basic safety levels. Fighters will not be better off. Though the city has not banned the sport entirely, it is imparative that the current fighters be protected, as the sport can have deadly outcomes if it is not moderated to some degree.

The prudent thing to do is keep the existing commission until a new one is in place. It should be strengthened to ensure that bouts can be held where competitors receive adequate medical treatment as needed, are properly compensated, and spectators can watch in a safe environment. If the ban becomes permanent, none of these measures can be implemented, and the well-being of competitors will only be more precarious.

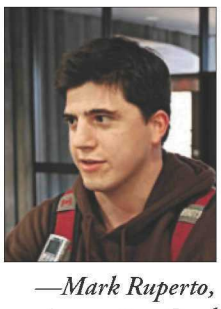


A solid punch to the face of liberty

STREETERS

Streeters is a weekly column in which students are asked a question related to UBC events.

What do you think of Vancouver banning ultimate fighting?



—Mark Ruperto, Accounting Grad

"I don't agree with any sort of banning of UFC."

—Chris Valeralt, Commerce 2

"If they move them off site, then they're taking away from what people really want to do."

—Kyle Bryce, Human Kinetics 3

"With it becoming a larger sport, I think in today's society it is not a good idea to take away all the rules and regulations."

—Leanne Ficherne, Psychology 4

"I don't like it very much, so I don't care."

—Lars Molaer, Geography 3

"I agree, I think it's a good idea to ban it. There are a lot of extreme sports you can do to push the limit, but that seems a bit crazy. But I hope people make the decision themselves."

—Coordinated by Jordan Chittley and Shun Endo

LETTERS

Chivalry is dead

If anyone is still uncertain that chivalry is truly dead, all one needs to do is point to a couple of recent headlines in *the Ubyssey*—GHB and an appallingly crude attack on the UBC Feminist Collective. The modern "replacement" that's supposed to let us all get together, hold hands, and have a powwow without killing each other—words like "education", "tolerance", and "polite public disagreement"—doesn't seem to be faring very well in terms of proper behaviour either. The Womyn's Centre vandals show a systematic level of malicious planning that is rather unsettling. This isn't some random graffiti being sprayed on, or even crude defacing, but specifically written words custom fit for a targeted audience to trigger a definite reaction. None of the other offices up in the SUB were so much as touched. There was a very clear objective in mind here. What's worse is that as far as this letter-writer knows, the Womyn's Centre and other equity-related offices in the SUB are designed to be open and accessible to immediately reach out to people who are in need of aid, making the "easy solution" of strengthened security an even thornier issue than normal.

In fact, it's quite chilling to think that the perpetrators of both the vandalism in the Womyn's Centre, as well as the GHB-spikers at the Beta Theta Pi party could be university students who attend lectures and classes like any other UBC student. I'll be the first to admit that I'm not the most outspoken on feminist issues, but behaviour like this shows really dangerous fault lines in contemporary socialisation, and is a concern that encompasses much more than women's issues. A similar organised attack on an ethnocultural group would demand an affirmation of their place and rights in society, and a clear re-examination of whether current institutions are actually doing a proper job of meeting their need for security. I do not see how this requires any less.

—Aaron Si
Political Science and Philosophy 3

Requiem for a Grassy Knoll

Word on the street is the Grassy Knoll is gonna get it. I don't know when and I don't how, but one day, when it's dark and no one is looking, someone is going to raze that MF to the ground. Now I don't know about you but personally, I say it's about f–king time.

Just mentioning the Grassy Knoll in anything less than supportive terms is enough to alienate one from certain circles. It is strange to think that a mound of dirt with sporadic tree growth can command such a level of affection with the student body and yet no one can walk passed the bookstore without noticing the Julia Hill style protest to save this endangered monument.

Truthfully, when I first heard of UBC's planned underground bus loop and the demise of the Knoll, I was ready to be right there with them (not physically of course, but spiritually). I saw the Knoll as a heritage site. It is piece of uncorrupted earth in the centre of a steel and concrete compound. Like the fertile mind it sprouts life in all directions. It is a symbol that defines the student existence.

Further more, the Grassy Knoll has captured the hearts of the people. We have grown up with her, loved her, and made love on her (not personally). She has seduced us with her simple charm and elegance. In fact, we cannot picture a meaningful life without her.

But like all temptresses, she blinds us from the truth.

In reality, the Grassy Knoll is tiny hill in the middle of the primary congregating grounds. It obstructs the view and denies the fastest route. It is unusable for the majority of the months we are at school, and, excluding the three weeks when the cherry blossoms come out, provides very little in the form of natural beauty. The Knoll is more akin to a hairy pimple in the middle of your forehead then a beacon for student identity (though if this were a high school it would fit in perfectly).

There are many people out there who love the Grassy Knoll, many more who are indifferent, and a small silent minority who hate

Letters

the fact that some students will actually waste their hard earned tuition to sit outside in the cold and protest the much needed expansion to usable recreational space. However, it is our duty as students to seek out the truth, and, when it is found, to fight to keep it alive. I encourage everyone, who has the time, to voice their opinions so they may be heard and counted.

–Jensen Metchie
Mechanical Engineering 3

Beware the NCAA

In the September 7th issue ("Friday comment,") of *the Ubyssey*, a very important issue was raised regarding the potential of UBC sports going NCAA. I fear that the points raised, such as the relevance of CIS lost titles and cash investment, merely underscore far greater concerns. The magnitude of this decision could affect the entirety of the student body and campus life as we know it.

It's not about leaving the CIS, it's about the potential overhaul to our school. And although I see the writing on the wall, I worry the significance is lost on the student body. The Thunderbirds are big fish in a small freshwater pond in western Canadian sports and they are on the verge of leaping into the vast saltwater ocean of the NCAA.

First, some points to get straight are that on average NCAA sport is leagues above the CIS, especially on the men's side. The opportunity for UBC athletes to compete at such a high level is a far more valuable accomplishment compared to vying for CIS glory, even if they are finishing middle of the road. So yes, the level of the UBC athletic pool will need to vastly improve, but it won't be done with UBC athletes as we know them now. It won't even be largely Canadian athletes either. In order for UBC to compete across the board (meaning in every sport) an influx of American talent will be needed and attracted to our school. Top-flight Canadian athletes already head south of the border if their talent permits, and it is highly unlikely that even a quarter of Canada's best would alter course to the west. And even supposing they did, Canada's most talented are usually fortunate to be part of the pack in NCAA competition, and rarely leading it.

Lets face it, Americans have sport flowing through their veins from small town families to government funding. The Canadian development programs, fan base, and monetary contributions don't come close to comparison. Mediocre high schools in the U.S can attract 20,000+ to a football game. UBC can't even fill a stadium of 5000. And we are based in a major Canadian city (third largest in Canada I believe). For UBC to compete in NCAA play we are talking about a massive influx of American athletes (possibly given academic breaks for admission), stricter training regimens for our teams, and a campus community putting in 100 per cent fan support. NCAA schools eat, sleep, and breathe sports from alumni to math club. This is something that just doesn't exist here.

The overall monetary benefit will be huge for UBC, as NCAA affiliation is sure to bring in big American bucks, which may not be so big if the exchange rate continues to shift. But all of this will be at the cost of the Americanisation of our campus communities. Many American campuses are littered with sporting facilities and concrete walkways. UBC students are protesting like crazy over the potential overhaul of a few hundred square foot Grassy Knoll. I think this issue is far greater than what it is being billed, and I am sure many UBC students will be ready to comment when they are made aware of what is at stake.

–Ryan Kalef
Integrated Science 4

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

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Island Etude (Taiwan, 108 min.)
Taiwan's surprise box office hit of 2007, Chen Huai-en's lyrical road movie is about university student Ming who bicycles around Taiwan in one week. Elegiac and intensely local, set off by breathtaking seascapes, it offers vivid portraits of the people he meets en route. <ISLAN>
Thu. Oct 4, 12:00pm, Granville 7
Sun. Oct 7, 4:15pm, Granville 7

Redacted (USA, 90 min.)
Brian De Palma's furious and incendiary take on the Iraq conflict takes its title from the practice of censoring potentially inflammatory material from public viewing. Inspired by the murder of a 14-year-old Iraqi girl, who was raped, shot in the face and set on fire by a US soldier. Left audiences stunned at the recent Venice Film Festival. <REDAC>
Tue. Oct 2, 4:00pm, Granville 7
Thu. Oct 4, 9:45pm, Granville 7

Poor Boy's Game (Canada, 104 min.)
In a world of boxing and racial tension, Clement Virgo (Lie With Me, VIFF 05) hauntingly portrays the human complexity of fear, rage and forgiveness in his fourth feature. With nuanced performances from Danny Glover, Rossif Sutherland and Flex Alexander. <POORB>
Wed. Oct 3, 2:00pm, Granville 7

My Winnipeg (Canada, 80 min.)
Guy Maddin takes us on a surreal tour of the Winnipeg of his childhood. Part memoir, part fantasy, this ode to his hometown is brilliantly conceived, beautifully realized and even stars femme fatale of the 40s Ann Savage, of *Detour* fame, as Maddin's mother. <MYWIN>
Wed. Oct 3, 6:20pm, Granville 7
Thu. Oct 11, 9:30pm, Vancity Theatre

Khadak (Belgium/Germany/Netherlands, 104 min.)
The fate of Mongolia's nomads is given a dramatic re-working in Peter Brosens (*State of Dogs*) and Jessica Woodworth's stunningly shot feature. A young shepherd goes on a picaresque journey when his family is transplanted from the countryside to the city. Shot through with mystical overtones Khadak also features a mesmerizing score. <KHADA>
Thu. Oct 4, 7:00pm, Ridge
Sat. Oct 6, 2:00pm, Granville 7
Tue. Oct 9, 9:15pm, Granville 7

Garbage Warrior (UK, 87 min.)
Architect Michael Reynolds started building houses out of garbage (old tires and empty pop bottles) almost 30 years ago—it's taken until now for the world to catch on. Oliver Hodge's portrait of this environmental firebrand makes you want to drop everything and start building Reynolds'-style "Earthships..." <GAWAR>
Fri. Oct 5, 7:00pm, Ridge
Sun. Oct 7, 11:30am, Granville 7

The Trap: What Happened to Our Dream of Freedom (UK, 180 min.)
Individual freedom is (was) the dream of the 20th century, but the ideal has withered in recent years, as long-standing laws are dismantled in the name of international security. In this masterful work, Adam Curtis (*The Power of Nightmares*) demonstrates how our increasingly diminished definition of freedom has deprived us of meaning and wreaked havoc around the world. <TRAPW>
Thu. Oct 4, 8:45pm, Granville 7
Sun. Oct 7, 3:15pm, Granville 7

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