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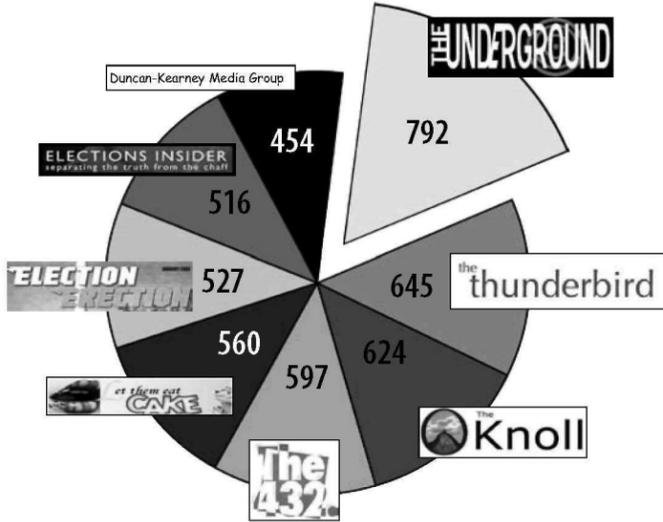


	Friedrich 2653
	Maxwell 882
PRESIDENT	
	Goodmurphy 1510
	Krayenhoff 810
	Fan 787
VP ACADEMIC	
	Tyson 1891
	Rizov 1260
VP FINANCE	
	Naiman 1436
	To 992
	Lougheed 567
VP ADMINISTRATION	
	Naylor 1017
	Kozwarski 916
	Masterson 695
	Brush 670
VP EXTERNAL	

Voter Funded Media Results

The following prizes were awarded:

- | | |
|-----------------------------|--|
| The Underground (\$1,500) | Let Them Eat Cake (\$900) |
| The Thunderbird (\$1,400) | Election Election Magazine (\$800) |
| The Knoll (\$1,200) | Elections Insider (\$600) |
| The 432 Newspaper (\$1,100) | The Duncan-Kearney Media Group (\$500) |



Preliminary AMS Elections results courtesy of Chris Anderson, AMS Elections Coordinator

THE UBYSSY

FRIDAY, 2 FEBRUARY, 2007
VOL. LXXXVIII N°35

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Letters to the editor must be under 300 words. Please include your phone number, student number and signature (not for publication) as well as your year and faculty with all submissions. ID will be checked when submissions are dropped off at the editorial office of *The Ubyssy*; otherwise verification will be done by phone. "Perspectives" are opinion pieces over 300 words but under 750 words and are run according to space. "Freestyles" are opinion pieces written by *Ubyssy* staff members. Priority will be given to letters and perspectives over freestyles unless the latter is time sensitive. Opinion pieces will not be run until the identity of the writer has been verified. *The Ubyssy* reserves the right to edit submissions for length and clarity. All letters must be received by 12 noon the day before intended publication. Letters received after this point will be published in the following issue unless there is an urgent time restriction or other matter deemed relevant by the *Ubyssy* staff.

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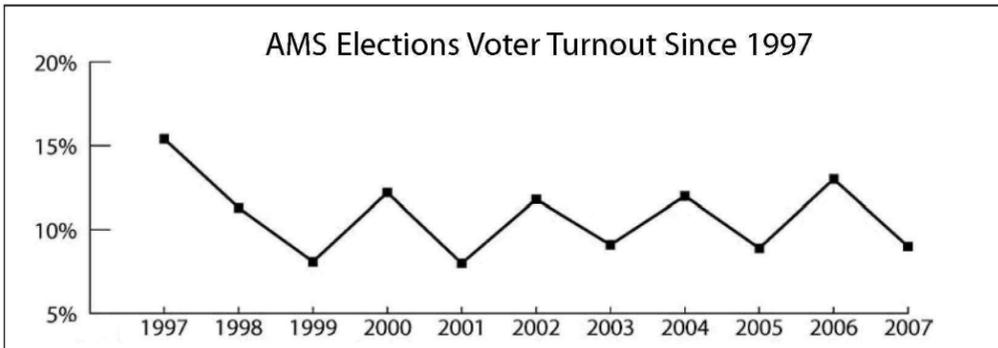
AD SALES *Cynthia Zhao*
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One morning, Paul Bucci awoke to find that he had been transformed into a giant beetle. Fleeing his room, he was welcomed by Jesse Ferreras, Boris Korby, Momoko Price and Champagne Choquer, who were engaged in a rigorous chakra-balancing session led by Levi Barnett and his lovely assistants Andrew McRae and Matthew Jewkes. Nearby, Andrew Cheng, Candice Okada, Jessica Kim and Claudia Li haggled furiously with Sarah Nelle Jackson over the price of her world-famous banana-flavoured kayak, the S.S. Kellen Higgins. Unfortunately, everyone failed to notice that Andrea McLoewen and Samantha Fung had stolen it, on behalf of their fruit vendor friends Justin McElroy, Kasha Chang and Yalin Lin. They made it halfway across the river before they were summarily dispatched them with a top-secret karate move, the "Carolyn Chuang".

EDITORIAL GRAPHIC *Michael Bround*



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'tweens

<p>Two Plays, One Great Price Feb. 1-3, 7:30pm and 9:40pm Dorothy Somerset Studio Theatre at UBC presents two plays, <i>Agatha</i> (by Marguerite Duras) and <i>Diary of a Madman</i> (by Nicoli Gogol), for only \$5! What else is there to say? Tickets are \$5.</p>	<p>Rock 'n' Resistance Series Feb. 5 and 15, 8:00pm St. John's College (2111 Lower Mall, UBC) Lectures by professors and musicians on the influence genres of music such as pop, punk and blues have had on social movements. Admission is Free.</p>
<p>Robotics for Society Feb. 2, 9:00-5:00pm; Feb. 3, 9:30-5:00pm UBC Robson Square Conference by the Vancouver Society for Cognitive Science. Looks at the connections between robotics and society. Includes speakers and student presentations. Free for UBC Students.</p>	<p>Women Leadership Feb. 6, 5:30pm (Dinner at 6:00pm) University Women's Club of Vancouver/Hycroft (1489 McRae) Speaker Elaine Allison provides a feminine perspective on leadership, through personal experience and science. Tickets are \$45</p>

CLASSIFIEDS

Announcements

SPARTACUS YOUTH CLUB CLASS SERIES. Part two of a five-part series. *Women's Oppression and the Family: For Women's Liberation Through Social Revolution!* Wednesday, February 7th, 6pm. Room 212, Student Union Building, UBC. For more information and to obtain the readings, call the SYC at (604) 687-0353, email trotskyst Vancouver@shawcable.com or write to: Box 2717, Main P.O., Vancouver, BC V6B 3X2. www.icl-fi.org

UBC TAX ASSISTANCE CLINIC FOR STUDENTS. TAX RETURNS? We're here to help! From March 2 to April 6, UBC TACS will offer professional tax return services and answer any related questions at NO COST. Tuesdays to Fridays, 10:00AM to 4:30PM, at International House. Please register online. Spaces limited. For more info or to register, visit www.ubctacs.org. Questions? Contact us at tacs.ubc@gmail.com.

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Call for Submissions

MULTIDISCIPLINARY UNDERGRADUATE RESEARCH CONFERENCE (MURC): Deadline for submission of abstracts to present at the conference is February 5. Deadline to register for the conference is February 23. <http://www.research.ubc.ca/murc>

UBC INTERNATIONAL WEEK PRESENTS UBC PASSIONS. The UBC 2007 Passions Gallery is coming on February 28th! We welcome your submissions (artwork, photography, poetry, paintings, pottery, etc.) for display! Prizes available for top entries in each category. Please send your submissions and a write-up about your work to ubcpassions2007@gmail.com. Do not hesitate to contact us with your questions! Submission deadline: Friday, February 9, 2007

Lost and Found

FOUND. Camera on West 10th Avenue two months ago. Contains photos from Nov grad ceremonies of female graduate. For further information email: fpereira@interchange.ubc.ca

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UBC Film Society

February Movies

SINCE 1935

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7:00 Casablanca (PG)
9:30 Stranger Than Fiction (G)

WED FEB 7 - THURS FEB 8
7:00 Son Frère (PG)
9:30 Aimee and Jaguar

SPECIAL EVENT: FRIDAY, February 2
Pulp Fiction Bzzr Garden
Doors @ 7:00pm, Show @ 8:00pm
Pulp Fiction (Rated 18A)

Screenings @ Norm Theatre in SUB
Admission: \$3.50 (non-members) \$2.00 (members)
Membership: \$10 (students)

For more info, call 604 822 3697 or visit www.ams.ubc.ca/clubs/filmsoc

Friedrich dominates elections

'It was kinda what the betting money was on,' says Friedrich

by Brandon Adams
NEWS EDITOR

There was plenty of celebration but few surprises in the Gallery Lounge on Wednesday night as this year's Alma Mater Society (AMS) elections results were announced.

Current VP Academic Jeff Friedrich was the centre of attention as it was announced that he had won the race for AMS President, besting his sole competitor Max "Maxwell Maxwell" Kuhn.

In an interview the day after the results were announced, Maxwell was very candid with his thoughts on the elections.

"I was fairly happy with getting about 900 votes and a quarter of the vote, especially considering I didn't spend any money whatsoever, except for on alcohol and I didn't put up any posters."

Both Maxwell and Friedrich talked about possible collaboration on AMS events and visibility.

"I still can't exactly say what format that is going to take but I've been speaking with Jeff Friedrich who I've gotten very friendly with and he's a very talented person. He's going to be an excellent president. I think, the only area where he's kinda weak is in the public relations department. Hopefully I'll be able to help with that."

Friedrich also took a seat on the Board of Governors (BoG), where he will be joined by former 'Fire Hydrant' and Graduate Student Society representative Darren Peets.

With only a seven vote difference between them, the race between Peets and competitor Aidha Shaikh may not be over, until the results are ratified. AMS Elections Code stipulates that a recount can be called if the difference in the number of votes



OKER CHEN PHOTO

between two candidates is less than one per cent of the overall number of votes cast.

Friedrich said he was surprised at getting a BoG seat as well as the presidential position, "I'm glad that people bought the concept...that it's a good idea to be sending the president [to BoG]."

The VP Academic position went to Brendon Goodmurphy who bested Bruce Krayenhoff and long-time AMS enthusiast Jerry Fan Fan. Goodmurphy will be moving into his new position from his current role as an Arts Undergraduate Society (AUS) representative on AMS Council.

Outgoing AMS President Kevin Keystone loudly shouted, "Three more years! Three more years!" while embracing Brittany Tyson and current VP Finance Sophia Haque in response to the news that Tyson had beat out Peter Rizov for VP Finance. Tyson, an AMS Finance Commission member who is moving on to VP Finance, is following in the footsteps of both Haque and

Keystone.

Matthew Naylor will move from his current position as Science Undergraduate Student representative to VP External, beating Joel Kozwarski, Thomas Masterson and Chris Brush.

"I'm just in awe really—I'm really excited," said Naylor about his successful bid for VP External. "I really respect the people I was running against. They campaigned hard and I wish they...weren't running against me and were running for other positions because they are people that I'd really liked to have worked with."

The position of VP Administration went to a "very excited" AUS representative Sarah Naiman, beating out Suvina To and Alex "Lougheed the Barbarian" Lougheed. Liz Ferris ran earlier in the election but bowed out of the race, citing "personal reasons."

The winning senators, in order of votes received were: current AMS Senators Jaspreet Khangura and Tariq Ahmed, Alfie Lee, Hillson Tse and Raymond "Peter" Pan.

"I thought the quality of candidates was pretty good in general compared to last year," said Ahmed, who was still recovering from the elections results festivities. "In the AMS races there was actually strong competition in the races when compared to last year."

"I was really happy that both of my races turned out," said Friedrich, "I'm just happy with the executive team that got elected...It was kinda what the betting money was on but it was nice it worked out the way it did."

As for the race, "It was a good learning experience because I did take away a lot of things on where people's complaints about the AMS are...going through that process you hear a lot about [the problems]," said Friedrich.

Maxwell also seemed to be relieved that the elections were over.

"Let's face it, I probably would have been a crap president... Basically, I'm looking forward to some good parties." ☺

Same old story

Stagnant AMS turnout doesn't surprise

by Colleen Tang
NEWS EDITOR

"If students don't care...we're not going to get anywhere." One year ago Ian Pattillo noted this as a central issue for the Alma Mater Society (AMS). Yet according to preliminary results, voter turnout has remained the same.

According to Anne DeWoolf, executive coordinator for the VP Students office, there were approximately 3,000 more eligible voters this year than last.

But, according to the preliminary results provided by AMS elections officials, of the eligible voters the highest vote count was in the VP external category, which yielded 3298, only a hair more than 2006.

"The turnout itself just seemed...kind of low," said incoming AMS President Jeff Friedrich.

Like other candidates, Friedrich mentioned that Voter Funded Media (VFM)—a contest designed to reward media sources according to their performance as decided by voters—might have contributed to the low voter turnout because he devoted so much time to the media.

"There just weren't as many posters up this year," he said. "I didn't expect a large turnout."

Darren Peets, Graduate Students Society representative had his own take. He suggested that "a large group of students...treat the University like a shopping mall" and thus have no reason to get involved more than it takes to get their diploma.

Friedrich, mirroring Peets' comments, also believes many UBC students ignore student life and campus issues because they are too focused on their careers and degrees.

He explained that, as part of his portfolio, he intends to implement several plans in upcoming council meetings to address issues related to apathy. Better use of marketing money for AMS services, among other planned initiatives, he said, might increase awareness.

Allan Tupper, UBC political science professor, was not shocked by the low voter turnout.

"Broadly speaking...student elections at Canadian universities do not generate high voter turnout," he said.

Tupper feels that there are many other ways to participate in the governance besides voting.

"In one sense you can say there's no burning issues but this has generally been the case even when there's been burning issues, cut backs, rise in fees and all that stuff..."

Tupper suggested that a rethinking of the governance structure from the bottom-up might be worthwhile if turnout gets to a critical low point.

DeWoolf said she isn't worried by the student turnout for AMS elections: she is positive that those who decided to vote made educated selections.

"You still have got 3,000 people that voted," she said, "It would be nice if there was a larger student turnout for the elections but it's so hard to achieve that on such a large campus." ☺

Shock abounds Voter Funded Media election

VFM founder willing to sponsor next year, AMS undecided

by Boris Korby and Eric Szeto
NEWS STAFF

While the results of the much anticipated Alma Mater Society (AMS) elections were being announced Wednesday night, 13 publications eagerly waited the outcome of Voter Funded Media (VFM).

A combination of both established campus media—ranging from *The 432* and the UBC School of Journalism's online publication, *The Thunderbird*—and upstart publications including *Elections Election Magazine* and *The Radical Beer Tribune*, competed in the contest.

For almost two weeks these publications churned out an unprecedented amount of AMS elections coverage, vying for votes as students took to the polls to choose their favorite media source.

But in the end it was *The Underground*, the Arts Undergraduate Society's newspaper that claimed the \$1,500 top prize.

Tim Louman-Gardiner, publisher of the heavily favoured *Elections Insider* blog, was "definitely surprised" by the outcome of VFM.

"I just can't explain the results," said Louman-Gardiner, whose publi-

cation finished seventh.

Although Louman-Gardiner was not concerned about placing in the competition, he did express his disappointment with frivolous candidate the Duncan-Kearney Group finishing eighth and claiming the last cash prize of \$500.

"I'm disappointed that the Duncan-Kearney Media Group beat the *The Radical Beer Tribune*," he said. "[*The Radical Beer Tribune*] brought up a great perspective and did really great work."

Presidential candidate Maxell Maxell, who lost to Jeff Friedrich by almost 1800 votes, thought that VFM was a sham.

"I just think it's funny that some people can get so much money for such total, worthless bullshit and people like *The Radical Beer Tribune* can be screwed over, basically, on the basis of name recognition," he said of the Duncan-Kearney Media Group.

Even though the elections environment was much more saturated than it had been in previous years when *the Ubyssy* was the primary source for elections information, the vote turnout remained the same or slightly lower than 2006.

Mark Latham, founder of VFM,

was puzzled by the low turnout.

"That's a disappointment. I thought especially with things like the *Election Election Magazine*, which really reached out with physical space on campus surely that they must have had an impact.

"It made me think that even if [*Election Election Magazine*] wasn't out it was possible that turnout was going to fall this year. Basically we didn't connect with it as we thought," he said.

Louman-Gardiner said that increased voter turnout wasn't the goal of the competition. "I'd much rather produce educated voters than more voters," he said.

Latham also suggested that the lower than usual turnout may have been attributed to the unusual amount of attention candidates devoted to different publications during VFM.

Matthew Naylor, newly elected VP external shared Latham's thoughts.

"It was hellish," he said, adding that the truncated campaign time combined with attention from VFM was extremely taxing on candidates.

"I spent a lot more time than I might have liked having to go to each of the candidates and filling out questionnaires. But then again it gave me

a little more of an opportunity to get my message out."

The VFM committee was accepting applications until January 19, and because of this late start, publications were only able to produce content for 12 days.

Tiffany Glover, VFM administrator, admitted that this may have contributed to the results of VFM and voter turnout.

"There was a hope to start earlier," she said. "To have gotten off the ground earlier, to have gotten people registered earlier, perhaps you wouldn't have seen such a discrepancy between recognised established media outlets and brand new media outlets."

Despite all the complications, Latham said that he would be willing to sponsor VFM next year.

"With VFM we did not hit a home run but we did get to second base," he said.

The AMS has not given any indication whether they will be on board for VFM next year.

"The next step for us is to evaluate VFM, to evaluate its success, to evaluate where we want to go with it," said Glover.

"Whether or not VFM continues is the will of the AMS council." ☺

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ONE MORE TO GO: Former Manitoba lineman Israel Idonije is looking to become just the second CIS alum to win a Super Bowl.

Bears' Idonije adds CIS Flavour to Super Bowl XLI

By Romer Bautista
THE MANITOBAN (UNIVERSITY OF MANITOBA)

WINNIPEG (CUP) – Playing on the frozen grass of Soldier Field is nothing new to Israel Idonije, the Chicago Bears' fourth-year defensive lineman, especially when you consider that Idonije first made a name for himself playing on the frozen fields of University Stadium at the University of Manitoba.

What will be a new experience for Idonije, however, will be competing in the biggest game of the season, on the grandest stage of the year: Super Bowl XLI. Idonije and his Chicago Bears will battle with the Indianapolis Colts to determine the year's best team.

It's quite the accomplishment for someone whose favourite sport wasn't always football.

"Growing up, I wanted to be Michael Jordan," chuckled Idonije as he spoke to students at River Heights Collegiate when he returned home during Chicago's bye-week in October.

Luckily for Idonije, the coaches at Vincent Massey High School in Brandon, Man., noticed that his size and skill set made him a perfect suit for football, and urged him to join the team.

His skills and strength continued to grow during his CIS career with the Bisons, with whom he had a terrific four years. During his tenure with the team, Idonije racked up numerous awards, including the J.P. Metras Trophy in 2002 for the nation's top lineman, all-star and All-Canadian selections in 2001 and 2002, and the award for Manitoba Male Athlete of the Year, presented by the Manitoba Sportswriters and Sports Broadcasters Association in 2002. On the field, Idonije had similar success, leading the Bisons to a Vanier Cup appearance in 2001.

After declaring himself eligible for the 2003 draft, Idonije garnered attention from several NFL teams, but the only team to draft the 6-foot-6, 275-pound defensive lineman was the CFL's Ottawa Renegades.

Although he had no reserva-

tions about continuing his career in Canada, Idonije's ultimate goal was to play in the NFL. So when the Cleveland Browns came knocking that same summer with a contract, it was an offer that Idonije could not refuse.

Despite getting cut by the Browns without stepping on the field for a single game, Idonije did well enough to draw the attention of the Bears—enough for them to take a chance on the free agent in 2004. It was a move that both parties should be thankful for.

In his first two years with Chicago, Idonije carved himself a niche with the Bears, playing mostly on the special teams unit. His numbers didn't jump off the page, but they were impressive enough to garner a four-year offer sheet from the Buffalo Bills, meaning that the Bears had to match the Bills offer, or risk losing Idonije.

Well, the Bears matched the offer-sheet, and it may have punched their ticket to the Super Bowl, as Idonije has made big plays in each of the Bears playoff wins this year.

In the NFC divisional against the Seattle Seahawks, Idonije made a play that didn't even show up in the stat book. With the Seahawks punting in overtime, Idonije broke through up the middle, forcing Seahawks punter Ryan Plackemeier to shank an 18-yard punt. That gave the Bears the field position necessary to drive down for the game-winning field goal.

Then in the NFC championship, with the New Orleans Saints driving on the first possession of the game, Idonije sacked Saints quarterback Drew Brees to push the Saints out of field goal range, instead forcing a punt. The Bears would strike first a couple of drives later and never look back, cruising to an easy 39-14 win.

Now, Idonije is just one win away from becoming the second CIS player to win a Super Bowl ring. All that stands in his way is the Indianapolis Colts.

One thing's for sure; Idonije and the Bears will have not just an entire campus, not just an entire city, but an entire province cheering them on the whole way. @

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NEW RINK TAKING SHAPE



IN THE BEGINNING: Work continues on the new UBC Winter Sports Centre with completion scheduled for 2008. OKER CHEN PHOTO, RENDERING COURTESY OF UBC ATHLETICS

by Jessica JiYoung Kim
SPORTS WRITER

More than 40 years after first opening its doors to public, the Thunderbird Winter Sports Centre is going through a \$47 million makeover.

The reconstruction of the Winter Sports Centre began back in April 2006 in anticipation of the 2010 Vancouver-Whistler Olympics and it is expected to be finished in spring of 2008.

"The original budget was \$35 million given by VANOC. And that was to build two rinks. Subsequent to that, we decided that we would renovate and keep the third rink. And now the budget is \$47 mil-

lion," said Mike Rose, manager of the Winter Sports Centre.

As for the unexpected overhead, the funding is expected to come from various sources, including further contributions from VANOC and UBC, as well as private donors.

"All of the money contributed by UBC comes from either the Athletic Operations or a donor," explained Joe Redmond of UBC Properties Trust.

"[UBC] would like to name the facility by having a donor come forward and [make] a contribution. We originally had Telus but they are not one of the Olympic sponsors, so they decided not to do it. So with the degree of funding

from sponsors so far didn't cover the full cost."

The timeline for reconstruction is divided into two phases, the first phase focusing on the completion of the new practice rink and the reopening of the Father Bauer Rink.

"We will take possession of the rinks in spring, sometime in April or May. We expect to open doors to the public in September. The varsity teams will start at the same time as the public," said Rose.

The second phase involves the completion of the 2010 competition venue, slated to be finished in the summer of 2008.

The details regarding the interior, said Rose, are "a little undefined and they will be developed

one way another but it is still undecided." The numbers for the capacity for each of the rinks are still undergoing some adjustment, however it is expected that the existing Father Bauer rink will hold approximately 1,000 people and the competition venue is expected to hold about 5,000. But when 2010 comes around, the arena will go under "Legacy Mode," bringing in temporary seating to increase capacity to approximately 12,500.

The new facility will serve as venues for some of the preliminary games for the men and women's ice hockey, as well as some of the final rounds. Most importantly, the T-Birds will

be back in action in their home rink, and hope to draw larger crowds than in years past in their new digs.

Despite having lost their home ice, the men and women's ice hockey teams have been more than patient and cooperative. After all, upon completion of the rinks, the teams will have full use of a state-of-the-art facility that will be one of the largest arenas in the province.

"It's tough being without ice...they are without a place to call home. But as far as progress goes, we couldn't ask for more from Bird, the construction company. I think they are doing a good job, meeting their time line," said Rose. ☺

FRIDAY COMMENT

Recent struggles blessing in disguise for men's basketball

by Justin McElroy
SPORTS WRITER

Yogi Berra would probably agree with me when I say that sport clichés are 100 per cent true part of the time.

Take the phrase, "winning isn't everything—it's the only thing." Sure, sometimes the only thing that matters at the end of a game is who's doing the celebrating. You can bet Peyton Manning won't care about any 'moral victories' if the Chicago Bears win the Super Bowl on Sunday. But in a long season, when every game isn't for the championship, it's important for a team to learn lessons, build character, and fight through adversity. You know, clichés like that.

What is the point of this lengthy explanation, you may rhetorically ask? Well, on our Point Grey campus this year we have our very own case study that is going through this process right now: the 2006-07 Thunderbirds men's basketball team.

This year's team is strong, to be sure. Behind the play of fifth-year Casey Archibald and a seemingly endless supply of sharp-shooting guards and forwards, the Thunderbirds leapt out to a 13-0 start this season in Canada West play. A look at the record alone would indicate a seemingly flawless team, one that was well on its way to post-season success. Yet anyone who has watched this team during the past few months knows that this is anything but the case. They lack height. They lack depth. They rely too much on the three point shot. They don't have enough

players who can effectively penetrate to the hoop. Yes, this team is good—but it's not 13-0 good.

Which is why the past month of trials and tribulations for this team should be no surprise to anyone. A loss against No. 2 ranked Concordia in late December. Another loss to No. 1 Brandon two weeks ago. A week later, another loss against No. 8 Victoria. And you know what. No one should be surprised by these losses, and no one should be disappointed by them either. The struggles the Thunderbirds have endured over the past month should serve as a wake-up call to this team that if they are going to be an elite team, a team that will contend for the CIS Championship, their current level of play is quite simply not good enough.

A team learns more from its losses than from its wins, and coach Kevin Hanson knows this. He can practice these Thunderbirds to death, he can implore them to box out on rebounds, and he can scream at them if they don't hustle for loose balls, but at the end of the day, the players have to believe that the extra effort is required. If they keep winning games playing with 80 per cent effort, then they'll continue to play at 80 per cent effort. But there's no better motivator in sport than a loss, and the losses this team has suffered in the past month should—one would hope—make Archibald, Dyck, Friesen and company realise that if they are going to beat the elite teams of the CIS, they will have to dig deeper

than they have for the first half of the season.

If they need any reminder of that, they can look back to last season, when the UBC men's basketball team trounced all comers in the regular season, finishing at 20-0 and ranked in the top two in the country for months on end. But a team that at many times last year coasted on its superior talent could-

n't get it done when it mattered, and finished a disappointing sixth in the CIS Championships. That was a team so confident in their abilities that they never corrected their lingering weaknesses, and when the games got tougher in March, those weaknesses were fatally exposed.

So perhaps this year, a loss here or there in Canada West conference

play may not be all that bad in the big scheme of things for the Thunderbirds. Because when they head into the playoffs three weeks from now, they need to have already dealt with adversity, played a bad game or two, and know that anything less than 100 per cent effort will end their season.

Otherwise, it could be déjà vu all over again. ☺



Who said science students don't have any fun?

As part of Scienc Week, the Science Undergraduate Society staged the second annual SUS Jello Wrestling Wednesday in the SUB ballroom. KELLAN HIGGINS PHOTO

Viral



...were not...
2000-era hackers and
Internet home-
steaders I

...am I...
stuff is more...
than it is about business.

He then asked himself what would...
with the conventional marketing techniques...
he learned years ago and what consumers...
today, with little time and trust, would...
actually respond to. And he...
touched on 'word-of-mouth'
marketing, or WOMM.

How does his business work, exactly?

Essentially, his firm hires people like your hypothetical friend

...date what...
second is...
rich insights...
focus groups...
real-world...
Further...
ing are far...
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ing firms that...
manipulative...
WOMM or...
wealth of info...
available to...
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big love
by Charles L. Mee

WARNING: NUDITY, COARSE LANGUAGE, VIOLENT IMAGERY AND... A CAKE FIGHT.

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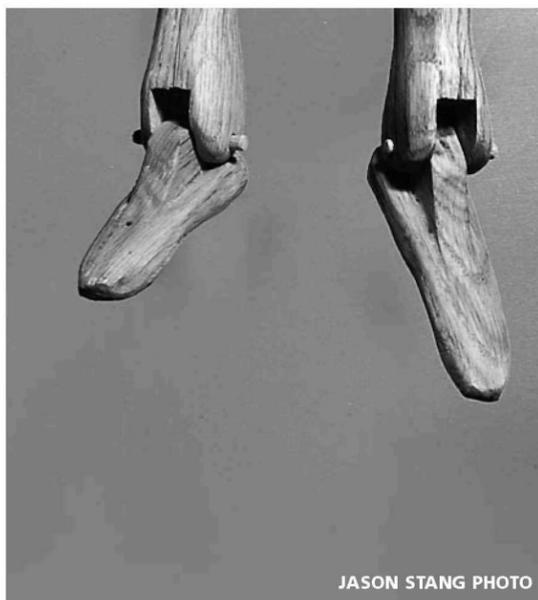


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Send in the puppets



JASON STANG PHOTO

FAMOUS PUPPET DEATH SCENES
at the PuSh Festival for the Performing Arts
January 27

by **Andrea Loewen**
CULTURE WRITER

success with *The Feverish Heart* series, in which a stout puppet is stalked by a giant fist that tries to knock it out at every turn.

Das Bipsy und Mumu Puppenspiel is a techno-German scene that pokes fun at game shows and death with a fatalistic bent. *How the Spirit Entered Me* is set in the future where everyone looks like Johnny Depp and death has been abolished—until a man from the past is awakened from his cryogenic slumber. Presenting the idea of death serving as a gift to humanity keeps the audience laughing at the same time.

Throughout the show the "Tour Guide," an elderly, spindly puppet, comments on the scenes and implores the audience to open their hearts and minds. He riffs on the question of the immortal soul and the importance of love. His interjections are generally touching and humorous, but the sentimentality wears thin from time to time.

A highlight of the show is the puppeteers themselves. One might traditionally expect that puppeteers would remain hidden in a puppet show to avoid distracting from the puppets themselves, but these men constantly entered the frame. They were so involved in what the puppets were doing and had such flair for dramatic presentation that they were a joy to watch. This was especially so in a scene when two puppeteers emerged with giant Viking puppets attached to their legs, or when one puppeteer dressed as a giant butterfly under a magnifying glass.

Overall, the play had many elements of a great show: lively performers, fantastic sound and light design, great writing, and the constant building up and inverting of expectations. But there was something missing. One major problem was that the venue was far too large for the show. When dealing with such intricate (and small) subjects, everyone in the balcony of the Vancouver East Cultural Centre was left out to some degree. Beyond that, the play made big promises to deconstruct and reconstruct its audience's perception of death until it would become meaningless, which were not followed through. Despite its faults, however, *Famous Puppet Death Scenes* is an outstanding, memorable work. **B**

It is always a little dangerous to go to a show that received so much hype that it is brought back for a second year at the PuSh Festival. There's just too much space to be disappointed, and as much as you want a piece like *Famous Puppet Death Scenes* to be all it's been made up to be, disappointment is inevitable.

Not that it was a bad show—it was really quite good overall. Made up of 22 death scenes from "the greatest puppet shows in history," most scenes are both funny and anywhere between mild and incredibly disturbing. Nathaniel Tweak and the creators from The Old Trout Puppet Workshop use repetition to hilarious

French spares Irish *Howie* no grit



HOWIE LE ROOKIE
at the PuSh Festival for the Performing Arts
until February 3

by **Sarah-Nelle Jackson**
CULTURE WRITER

Let's do some word association. I'll say "French." What images come to mind? Wine—a fine red vintage savoured with cheese; promenades through winding streets to admire striking Gothic cathedrals, a handsome gentleman or dame dressed at the height of fashion; whispering sweet, incomprehensible nothings into your Anglophonic ear. Right?

In this case, wrong.

Try this: a chaos of blood, sex, and booze unfolding not in idyllic Montreal or Paris, but on the grimy, pub-laden thoroughfares of Dublin. Instead of come-hither whispers, you hear gangs exchanging expletives and threats. Instead of fine French perfumes, you smell blood and the odd terror-induced fart.

Howie le Rookie, directed by Jean-Denis Leduc, plunges its audience into the dregs of Ireland's urban sprawl. There we meet two young men, Howie Lee and Rookie Lee, connected only by a coincidence of common surname—and the fact that Howie's gang, led by a fellow sporting the emasculating moniker "Peaches," is out to beat Rookie to a pulp.

The play is set up as two monologues. Howie (Claude Despins, *L'Odyssee*) goes first, setting up a bleak reality in which love is a one-night stand and friends are the guys who don't beat you up. He tells us about his gang wailing on Rookie in an alley, and confesses that his icy disregard for his family has led to fatal consequences. But although Despins delivers a fine performance, the dystopia of the troubled young man is a story we've heard before.

Rookie (Maxime Denomé, *Quadra*) picks up the

tale post-beating, and the play changes quickly from a run-of-the-mill yarn about down-on-their-luck youths to a tale of dark redemption. With poignant naïveté, Rookie reveals how Howie transforms from rival to unexpected ally. The story's subsequent twists, as well as Denomé's talent, more than compensate for the play's unremarkable beginning.

Cue novelty: the whole play is in French and has subtitles projected onto the rear wall of the stage. This makes the play accessible to Anglophones, and the small venue makes the subtitles easy to see. The venue's cramped quarters would ideally have kept *metteur-en-scène* Fernand Rainville from being quite so zealous with the smoke machine, but as the rest of the set was pleasant, he can be forgiven unless you're asthmatic.

Cue hitch: though the play was written originally in English by Mark O'Rowe, the subtitles to Olivier Choinière's translation are at times unclear—and they're written to convey an Irish accent, which comes across as forced. Also, the English content seems lacking compared to the French. Subtitles were often displayed long after the actors had obviously started saying something else.

By the time Rookie appears, luckily, the play's quality makes its dubious translation fairly easy to ignore. Despite never actually appearing, the play's secondary characters are vivid. In particular, Avalanche, a grotesque, scuzzy gal who takes up three bar stools, and Ladyboy, Rookie's creepy, abominable nemesis, induced some particularly memorable imagery.

Howie le Rookie was a moving performance with unexpected plot twists and equally unexpected depth. Black wit mingles with a perpetual sense of foreboding that threatens the characters' innocence. If you can overlook the unprofessional translations, or speak French, it's definitely worth checking out. Otherwise, keep an eye out for playbills advertising *Howie le Rookie*—it will be well worth your while. **B**

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Fantastical, disturbing *Kahunsha* falls short



GEOFFREY WEBB ILLUSTRATION

THE SONG OF KAHUNSHA
by Anosh Irani
Doubleday Canada

by Jesse Ferreras
CULTURE EDITOR

You know it's a good sign when your sophomore outing as a novelist brings you comparisons to Charles Dickens, but a locally-based writer has done it. Anosh Irani, a graduate of the UBC Creative Writing program, has penned his second novel with *The Song of Kahunsha*, a fantastical, sometimes disturbing tale of a young boy growing up in desperately impoverished surroundings who slowly discovers that his grip on childlike fantasies is waning in the face of a harsh reality. In passages that waver in and out of its hero's hopeful dreams, Irani's novel is a touching work that provides grim, visceral details of its setting, but only truly becomes absorbing late in the narrative. It leaves a cold, haunting, but ultimately ambiguous impression that unfortunately does not quite grip from beginning to end.

Chamdi is an 11-year-old orphan growing

up in Bombay, which in this story is a grim, unforgiving environment that spares little sympathy for those who live on its streets. Children risk beatings and arrests while trying to find food and vie with dogs for places to sleep. But to Chamdi, none of that matters. Praying every day to a statue of Jesus, in his mind he holds up hope that he will one day see the construction of his Eden-like city of Kahunsha, where people speak in a language devoid of words to harm each other, the streets are lined with golden pillars and no one ever goes hungry. Not even a harsh reality can deter Chamdi from holding on to his dream city and his goal that he will take with him everyone he loves.

At the announcement that the orphanage where he has lived his whole life will close down, he flees in search of a father who left him there as a baby with only a handkerchief tied around his neck to remember him by. Fleeing into the city, his newfound path leaves him lonely and hungry, but never breaks his faith in the eventual existence of Kahunsha. He arrives at the home of Sumdi and Guddi, a brother and sister who survive

by stealing for the terrorist gang leader Anand Bhai. Chamdi is invited to join them in their struggle and is unwittingly plunged into a criminal underworld racked by political and ethnic tensions. Chamdi holds onto his dream the whole time. But he does not anticipate the struggle it will take hold on to Paradise as he fights to survive in Hell.

Irani deserves the highest praise for working so diligently to tell his story through the idealistic eyes of a child. Many of us don't remember how we thought or felt at that age, but the author maintains a fairly firm grasp of the imagination, idyll and hope that a child can conjure no matter what the circumstances. Some of the passages narrated solely through the boy's thoughts nearly made me cry just thinking of the innocence and idealism of childhood:

"In Chamdi's Bombay, children play cricket in the street with a red rubber ball and even if the batsman hits the ball hard, sends it crashing into a windowpane and the glass breaks, no one gets angry. The glass mends itself in a few seconds, and the game resumes."

It's in passages like these that I admire Irani the most for hanging onto his inner child because for me, cynicism set in at about 18 years old and I have since forgotten what it's like to have such a positive outlook on the world.

But while I laud the author's intentions, I'm not certain they translate into great fiction. Frequent retreats into Chamdi's imagination, beautifully as they are written, are not quite as sweeping as they intend to be and often detract from a predictable, conventional narrative, which relies so obviously on a formula inspired by *Oliver Twist*. Imagery of the squalor of Bombay's streets are the novel's strongest suit, and are in parts very disturbing. But the novel does not make much of an impression until its final pages, when Chamdi is faced with the very edges of innocence.

Given its potential, the novel's most powerful passages simply come too late, and thus do not grip the reader as they might be expected to. Irani is a talented author, and here he composes some memorable prose, but I do not feel that *The Song of Kahunsha* fulfills its author's potential. ☹

Distinct progressive vibe dominates Krawczyk fundraiser

MR M AND THE ALL-NIGHTERS
at the Anza Club
January 27

by Andrew Cheng
CULTURE WRITER

Arriving at the Anza Club last Saturday night to see my friend's band, *Mr M and the All-Nighters*, play their final show before some of their members move on, I quickly noticed that there were quite a few cyclists gathered just outside. Not sure what to make of it, my friends and I went inside and quickly learned the reason why—the event was put on by the Work Less Party. The event had a nice friendly atmosphere, and you could tell that those attending the event had progressive leanings. There was something about the vibe that made the event so interesting.

The night began with a few speakers describing the arrest of Betty Krawczyk, an activist with a history of participating in civil disobedience to defend BC forests. She was most recently arrested for camping outside in an attempt to block the construction of a highway in Eagleridge Bluffs for the Olympics. Although 24 were arrested in total, she was the only one who had to go to court on Monday, due to her involvement in similar past incidents. Others who were arrested wound up paying fines, while Harriet Nahanee served a 14-day jail sentence for refusing to admit to any wrong-doing.

Krawczyk refused to admit wrong-doing. The event was organised to raise funds for her legal fees.

When the speeches ended, *Mr M and the All-Nighters* took the stage and played a great set of soul, funk, and R&B music, as well as

successfully covering a couple songs such as "Tainted Love." The band had a unique setup with three singers, all of whom had very different voices. Despite this noticeable diversity, the band sounded great and the different voices added colour to their music.

This is quite remarkable because I usually find that the character and strength of a band's sound is weakened when it has more than one lead singer. Most successful bands have a single voice driving the band forward. *Mr M and the All-Nighters* sounded great, though without having to stick to this traditional formula. This might have been partially due to the kind of music they were playing. Their instrumentals sounded great too, and it kept the audience dancing throughout the set.

Next was *Fatty and the High Tops*, whose set changed the direction of the music with a more laid-back sound that had a mixture of ska, funk,

and reggae. Their music was great and I particularly enjoyed their keyboards.

For reasons unclear, I thought that the music of both bands seemed really appropriate for the audience that night. What struck me was that music and politics are sometimes so intertwined that you can't really separate them.

Culture is difficult to define, but there was something remarkable about the gathering of cyclists, the way people danced (some were swinging, others more care-free), and to some extent, even the way people dressed. I say this at the risk of homogenising the crowd, and am coming dangerously close to creating stereotypes, but I felt a distinctly progressive vibe at the event that was very positive and lively.

Besides the music, what I enjoyed about the show was the experience of its distinct culture and learned the various idiosyncrasies within it. ☺

PERSPECTIVE & LETTER

Alcan should be allowed to step up

by Mark Clements

The campaign of Mr Wozney, mayor of Kitimat, to stop Alcan from building a new aluminum plant in Kitimat may go down as the most irresponsible of ideas to ever come before the BC Supreme Court. Mr Wozney's claim that Alcan is more interested in selling power to BC Hydro than making aluminum intentionally disregards Alcan's successful history, and long-range planning on the B Northwest coast.

Alcan's smelter operation in Kitimat has employed 1,500 people for 50 years, and has generated millions of dollars in tax revenue. The new smelter would cost \$1.8 billion and employ 1,000 workers, and generate millions of dollars or more for the province. Positive news, but not positive enough, according to Mr Wozney.

Mr Wozney refuses to understand that Alcan owns the Kemano power station, and it is their business if they want to sell the electricity to BC Hydro for profit.

Ironically, compared to the 30 private power producers that signed up in the BC Liberal 2006 tender call to produce power for BC Hydro, Alcan is investing far more employment, capital, and time.

One of the problems is that the BC Commission allowed the BC Liberals and BC Hydro to entice so many independent power producers with such high yielding contracts. Now BC Hydro will not only have its \$7.5 billion of old debt to pay off, but also \$15.6 billion worth of new, legally binding contracts to fulfill over the next 30 years.

When electricity rates start to skyrocket, the BC Commission will look like a mere extension of the provincial government. Alcan's power agreement with BC Hydro should not have to suffer because of the BC Commission's recent inaction with other power producers.

Cutting the number of private producers in half and encouraging BC Hydro to develop the rest of the power was the far more acceptable solution for the BC Commission to follow.

Mr Wozney does deserve some support, as do his region's high unemployment and sluggish economy. Alcan making excessive profits through its Kemano power sales while many locals struggle to pay hydro bills would eventually be looked upon as profiteering.

Kitimat and Alcan have a long proven partnership. Alcan giving up two percent of their annual power sales to the Kitimat region would go a long way in healing old wounds and lessening the blow when BC Hydro's rates dramatically rise.

And who knows, maybe they will start a new trend of shutting down all the power stations for factories across Canada, demanding more manufacturing and less power sales. The employment possibilities would be endless and truly unimaginable.

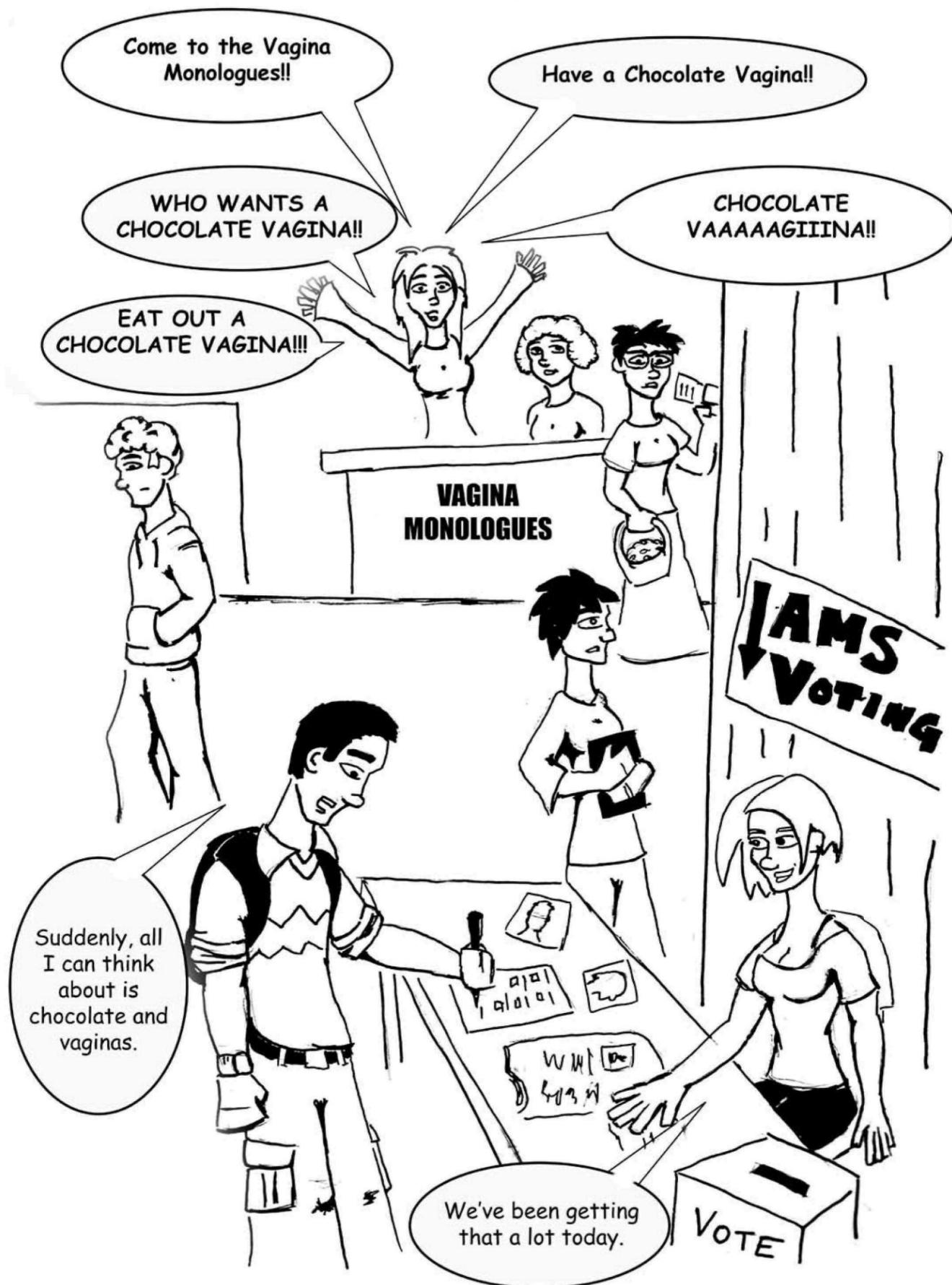
—Mark Clements is a third-year English major

Absurd reality

by Jeremy Shell

Does art imitate life, or does life imitate art? It has become a more important question than ever, considering that our society's preferred media has rapidly become parody. Hopefully my political career promoted the absurdity of the student government, an institution which revels in its liberal-fascist ideal leadership, ultimately functioning under the greater Ubyssy sovereignty which governs all they do in its grand interest. The elections are a toy and the exercise of government is just that, an exercise. I'm just sorry I didn't get to play with it.

—Jeremy Shell is a graduate of the faculty of Arts



Streeters

What would you like to see rendered in chocolate (besides vaginas)?



—Yuka Kitani
Anthropology

"Rabbits."



—Jordan Worrall
Science, 4

"Penises."



—Sam Robinson
Arts, 1

"Drumset."



—Corinne Meldrum
Accounting Grad

"Pretty much everything in chocolate is always good."



—Daniel Archambault
Computer Science Grad

"I don't really know...my creativity has left me."

—Coordinated by Samantha Jung and Oker Chen

Lesser known Herzog takes the stage

FRED HERZOG
at the Vancouver Art Gallery
until May 13

by Candice Okada
CULTURE STAFF

Over the past few years, Vancouver has consistently been ranked among the most desirable places to live. With its gorgeous view of the ocean, perfectly-sculpted mountains and diverse multicultural atmosphere, it is no wonder that so many seek out Lotusland as their destination of choice, whether for vacation or permanent residence. While this increasing popularity is a relatively recent phenomenon, one local photographer has long been appreciating Vancouver's truly unique beauty.

Fred Herzog, a career medical photographer, has been capturing some of Vancouver's most iconic images for over 50 years. Herzog has produced a massive body of photography that depicts Vancouver's urban life, and for the first time, select pieces from his overall collection are on display at the Vancouver Art Gallery (VAG).

Herzog was born in Stuttgart, Germany in 1930. His first encounter with photography came during childhood hiking trips to the Alps, having bought a camera simply to document his annual excursions. Upon the outbreak of WWII, which eventually led to the deaths of his parents and the complete destruction of his hometown, Herzog's passion for photography was put on hold. It wasn't until 1952, when he moved to Canada, that his desire to take photographs was rejuvenated.

Herzog began taking photos to document the adventure of being in a new country. The first photo-

graphs he took in Canada were of urban landscapes in Toronto and Montréal. These pictures were not dissimilar from those he had taken in Germany. It wasn't until his move to Vancouver in 1953, however, that his photographs began to take on meaning and artistic value. As Herzog explained in an interview with Vancouver Art Gallery curator Grant Arnold, "I bought a motorcycle...and this was important to me psychologically. I wanted to be mobile; I liked the idea of exploring places."

"I BOUGHT A
MOTORCYCLE...THIS
WAS IMPORTANT TO ME
PSYCHOLOGICALLY. I
WANTED TO BE MOBILE;
I LIKED THE IDEA OF
EXPLORING PLACES."

—Fred Herzog
Photographer

Herzog's first self-proclaimed "good" photographs were taken towards the end of 1953 and by 1957 he had established his own unique style of street photography that captured beautiful images of Vancouver.

On display at the Vancouver Art Gallery is a selection of Herzog's slides that make up a collection entitled *Vancouver Photographs*.

"[He would] regularly take strolls through the city after work or on the weekends," explained Arnold. "[A] kind of meandering walk through the city that didn't

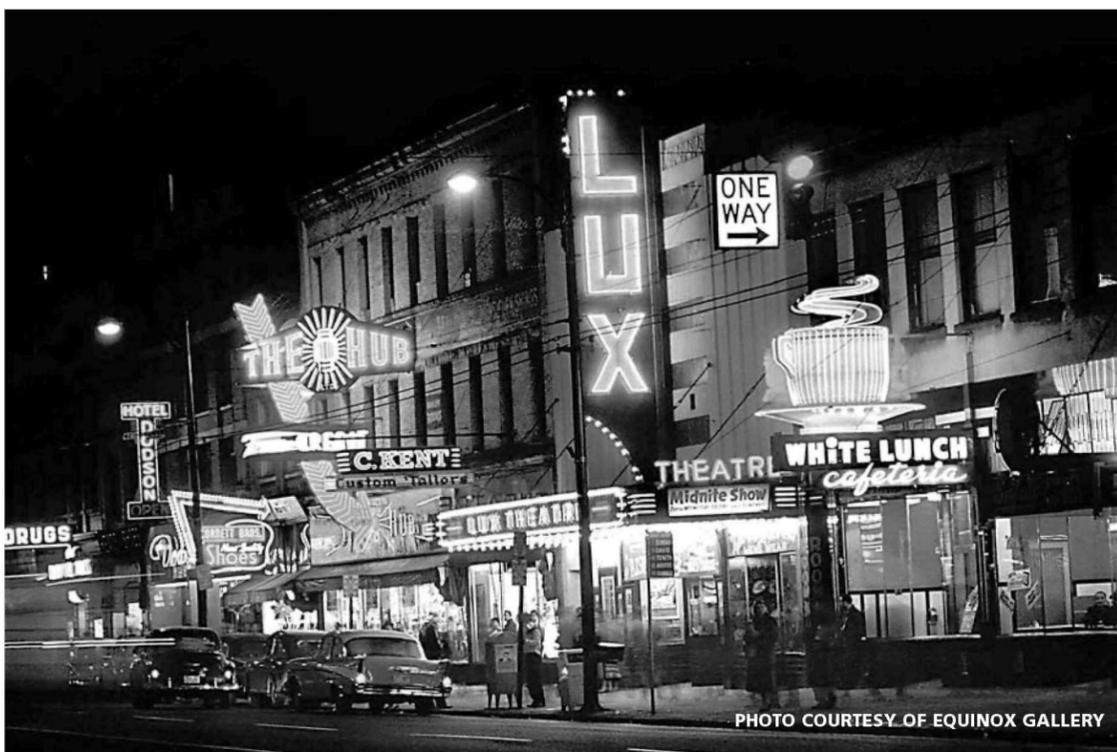


PHOTO COURTESY OF EQUINOX GALLERY

have any purpose and record his impression of the streets."

But Herzog himself put it more eloquently: "I am what they call a flaneur."

By simply walking through the city streets he was able to produce photographs that bear witness to the constant changes Vancouver has experienced over the last 50 years. One noticeable characteristic of all his *Vancouver Photographs* is the degree of realism that they project. Herzog's photographs document normal people carrying out everyday tasks. There are people walking in the streets, eating at local diners and stopping on the corner street to smoke a cigarette. Although these images may not sound exciting or interesting, Herzog's extraordinary

eye for composition, combined with his decision to employ colour slides, make his images irresistible, eye-catching and puzzling. These are the images that Herzog is famous for. Only he could take the crowded streets of 1960s Chinatown and turn them into a work of art.

Despite the utter genius of Herzog's work, his photographs remained virtually unknown to anyone outside a tight-knit group of Vancouver photography enthusiasts in the 60s and 70s. The primary reason for the poor circulation of his pictures was due, ironically, to their colourful nature. Herzog was known for producing photos on Kodachrome, a colour slide film that was difficult and expensive to use.

As Arnold explained, "Until rela-

tively recently [he] didn't make a large amount of prints...but more commonly showed his work to audiences in slide shows."

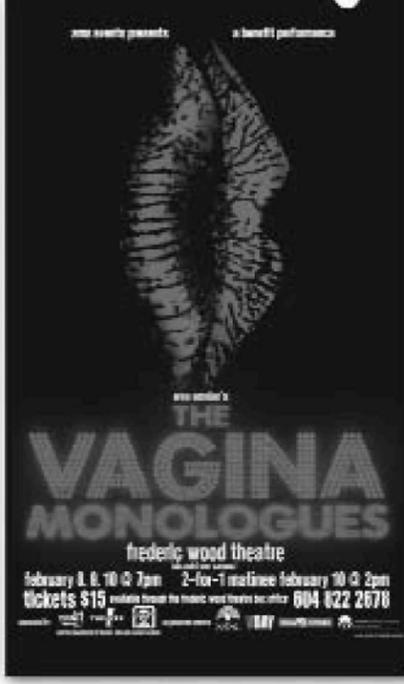
But now, as more of his work is being printed, Herzog is finally receiving the recognition that he rightfully deserves.

Herzog has produced around 80,000 slides that encompass a whole range of themes. The *Vancouver Photographs* on display at the Vancouver Art Gallery consist only of his street-themed shots. It is an "in depth look at one aspect of his work," said Arnold.

If his other photos are even half as magnificent as his portrayal of urban landscapes, then they definitely warrant the right to be on display for everyone to see. **2**

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