The perils of Kandahar-U

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THE UBYSSEY

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Yes, he did!

Hundreds gathered in the Gallery Tuesday night to celebrate the election results and the end of the George Bush era. Screams of joy could be heard whenever another state went into Obama's column. Sensing history was about to be made, the crowd counted down the seconds leading up to 8 o'clock, when polls closed in California, Oregon, Washington and Hawaii. It was then that CNN called the election for Obama, sending students into delirium, hugs and chants of "Yes, we can!" **HEREWARD LONGLEY PHOTO/THE UBYSSEY**

Prof recognized by *Popular Science*

Doctoral candidate one of ten lauded for leatherback research

BY SARAH CHUNG
News Writer

Bringing the sexy back—leatherback that is. UBC doctoral candidate in zoology Todd Jones was named to *Popular Science* magazine's prestigious "Brilliant Ten" list for his success in keeping juvenile leatherback sea turtles in captivity, providing vital comparative data for research and conservation.

Jones was selected along with other young scientists with "oft-radical ideas" who created eerie mind-reading devices, speedy body healers, and futuristic jellyfish-inspired sea vehicles. *Popular Science* had spent six months scrutinizing hundreds of nominations received from university department heads and professional associations across the US to finalize their top ten list.

What makes Jones's study unique is that it is the only one to raise more than one leatherback in captivity from hatchling to juvenile.

"[Our research is the] first to answer the basic biological questions: what are their juvenile behaviours? When will these leatherbacks reach puberty? How can these patterns affect their number [in the sea]?" Jones said.

At first glance, these sea marine reptiles seem no different than other endangered species. But these turtles aren't so juvenile as their ancestors who swam with the T-Rex and other dinosaurs. More than 100 million years old, leatherbacks are one of the largest species of sea turtles in the world. And their diet? Jellyfish.

"The largest leatherback turtle ever recorded was a male at 918 kilograms. And they solely eat jellyfish," Jones said. Three times a day, the leatherback pairs enjoy a delicious "hand-fed" meal where volunteers jiggle their laboratory-made jelly strips to attract the hungry 65-pound creatures.

But Jones says that their strict diet is only one of many obstacles that prevent them from being captivated for study.

"Leatherbacks are ocean-pelagic animals," said Jones, "which means they live in deep open sea oceans and they never stop swimming day and night."

Leatherbacks are not hard-shelled like most turtles, but rather their back resembles "skin, [that is] rubbery like a dolphin," and past researchers could not prevent the leatherback from "bumping into the tank walls...giving cuts and abrasions," he said.

To circumvent damage to the delicate turtles' skin, Jones used a soft rubber harness that kept them from hurting themselves during the crucial development times. The result is the record-breaking two healthy two-year-old leatherback turtles swimming happily in captivity.

SEE "UBC PROF" ON PAGE 3

First Nations Supplement

THE EAGLE, BY MIKE DANGELI

We at *The Ubyssey* are pleased to bring you a supplement about the British Columbia's Aboriginal Peoples.

The aboriginals in British Columbia prior to European colonization represented an array of cultures that have been described as more diverse than the entirety of the cultures in Europe. Post-contact epidemics, destruction of and restricted access to critical ecological resources, unfair land seizures, bigoted policies and the disastrous residential school system has challenged the community. But the cultures aren't dead, nor static, nor indistinguishable from mainstream Canadian culture. They remain vibrant, distinct, diverse, and, most importantly, as alive and dynamic as the people who belong to them. Although aboriginal communities and individuals in BC face challenges, we seek to identify not only these issues, but how they are being met and overcome.

Although our university rests on Musqueam land, their presence on campus is minimal—nearly invisible. To help rectify this, we would like to put Aboriginal Peoples in the spotlight for this issue. Our focus rests heavily on the local aboriginal groups and people. The majority of our articles deal with the interaction between aboriginals and UBC. We also take a close look at local aboriginal Canadians, including artist Mike Dangeli and two of the faculty members on campus.

—Trevor Record,
Supplement Coordinator

UBC votes for Obama

See the video at: www.ubyssey.ca

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Events

If you have an event, e-mail us at events@ubyssey.ca

Ongoing

Billy Bishop Goes to War • Billy Bishop Goes to War asks a new generation of theatre audiences to follow Canadian WWI fighter pilot Billy Bishop down in the trenches, up to the skies and inside the human spirit as he attempts to reconcile the ecstasy of flying with the horrors of war. • *Nov. 3 –11 @ 7:30pm, Chan Centre for the Perfoming Arts, Regular: $20, Seniors: $14, Students: $10, Monday: Theatre at UBC Alumni $5, Boxoffice: 604.822.2678* •

The Bible for Beginners • The Bible for Beginners is an informal, no pressure examination of one of the most famous books in the world. Meet over lunch (Mondays 12–1pm in the SUB @ tables near Starbucks) or coffee (Wednesdays 2–3pm @ Ike's Cafe in the Irving K. Barber Center) to learn about this strange book. • *revnathanwright@mac.com* •

The Merchant of Venice • Another one of the classics, Shakespeare's masterpiece staged by Canadian theatre veteran Antony Holland • *Nov. 6 –30, Studio 58 (Langara College, 100 W. 49th). Info 604-323-5652.* •

Vancouver Poetry Slam • Poetry slam competition with guest performers • *Every Monday, 8pm, Cafe Deux Soleils (2096 Commercial). Admission $5/3, info 604-215-9230 www.vancouverpoetryhouse.com* •

Stanley Park Halloween Ghost Train • Mortal Coil Performance Society presents a pirate-themed adventure featuring actors, dancers, performers, puppeteers, swordfighters, hat-making, painting, storytelling, and the Haunted Children's Farmyard. • *Oct. 10–Nov. 21, Stanley Park Miniature Railway (Stanley Park). Tix $9/5.50 (plus service charges and fees) at www.ticketmaster.com. More info at www.vancouverparks.ca/* •

CiTR SHiNDiG • UBC's own CiTR Radio's battle of the bands. Hosted every Tuesday at the Railway Club • *Ongoing every Tuesday until December 9, Railway Club (579 Dunsmuir). More info at 604-681-1625* •

Free Movies! Cinema Politica @ UBC • Cinema Politica at UBC is a free weekly series showcasing movies that harness the power of film to engage issues relating to the environment, globalization, gender and sexuality, indigenous rights, global health, and student power. • *Every Tuesday, 7pm, Norm Theatre, SUB More info at www.cinemapolitica.org/ubc* •

Indigenous Film Series • Indigenous film makers explore Indigenous voices through film. This is a historical and contemporary look at the impacts of the Canada/United States border on ondigenous nations for whom the border has severed ancient ties to families, ceremonies, and homelands. The political relevance of the border has never been greater as this video highlights how heightened tensions over border security in a post 9/11 world impacts the everyday lives of indigenous peoples. - Q&A with the filmmaker to follow screening. • *Nov. 4 12:30–1:30 pm, First Nations House of Learning, 1985 West Mall, Seminar Room* •

November 7

UBC Film Society presents Flight of the Red Balloon • A little boy and his baby-sitter inhabit the same imaginary world: through their adventures they are followed by a strange red balloon • *Nov. 7–9 @ 7pm, Norm Theatre, $2 members, $4 non-members* •

UBC Film Society presents Sukiyaki Western Django • A revolver-wielding stranger crosses paths with two warring clans who are both on the hunt for a hidden treasure in a remote western town • *Nov. 7–9 @ 9:30pm, Norm Theatre, $2 members, $4 non members* •

The 5th annual Downtown Eastside Heart of the City Festival • Over 400 artists at over 80 events at 25 locations: music, theatre, media arts, dance, poetry, forums, workshops, visual arts, history walks • *Nov. 7–9, various locations and times, www.heartofthecityfestival.com* •

UBC Guitar Ensemble • Fri, Nov. 7, 2008 12–1pm FREE. Music Building, Recital Hall • *concerts@interchange.ubc.ca for more information* •

Big Lebowski Beverage Garden • Show up early! This event sells out every year! Or become a member and skip the long non-member line! Norm Theatre. The SUB. • *Nov. 7, Tix $3 members, $6 non-members (members can't bring non-members). 7-11pm* •

Cuban Cultural Night • Vancouver Communities in Solidarity with Cuba (VCSC) "The Strength and Spirit of Cuban Women" Monthly Cuba Cultural-Film Night featuring the Cuban Film "Lucia" • *Nov. 7 at 7:00pm, Mt Pleasant Neighbourhood House (800 E Broadway - 1 block East of Fraser St), More info @www.vancubasolidarity.com* •

Organic Drinks • Interested in Environmental and Sustainability issues. See it in Action! Come to Mediterra this Friday Nov. 7 . One of the most popular events will be the tasting of fresh, organic drinks. Learn about the compostable and biodegradable food packaging. As well as healthier Mediterranean food option now available on campus to students, faculty, and staff. • *Nov. 7, Free event, SUB Lower Level.* •

November 8

Men's Hockey vs. Saskatchewan Huskies • WINNING IS MORE FUN WITH YOU THERE!!! Don't forget to get your season's pass—get you into every home game for every sport. For more information, including previews, recaps, and a complete season schedule, head to *gothunderbirds.ca* $50 adult/$20 youth/$10 student (Blue Crew) • *Nov. 8 @ 7:30 –10pm, Thunderbird Winter Sports Centre, Tickets: $10 adult/$4 youth & senior/$2 UBC student.* •

UBC Improv Special Presentation - David Ives' s "All in the Timing" • UBC Improv joins forces with the Player's Club in a special presentation of David Ives's hilarious collection of one-act plays "All In The Timing," directed by Erin York. • *Nov. 8 Scarfe 100, 7:30pm. Members $6, Students $8, Others $10, More info at www.ubcimprov.com* •

November 11

UBC Community Remembrance Day Ceremony • This event will be an opportunity to honour and remember all those who served in times of war, military conflict and peace. This year, we will commemorate two significant anniversaries, the 90th anniversary of the end of the First World War and the 60th anniversary of the Universal Declaration of Human Rights. The ceremony will include music provided by the UBC School of Music, short readings and remarks. UBC Vice-President, External, Legal and Community Relations, Stephen Owen; AMS President, Michael Duncan; and Dr John Blatherwick, former Chief Medical Health Officer for the Vancouver Coastal Health Authority, Honourary Colonel with the Canadian Forces Reserves will be among this year's speakers. • *Nov. 11 @ 10:45am –11:35am, War Memorial Gym. For more information, visit: www.ceremonies.ubc.ca/ceremonies/memorial/remembrance.html.* •

November 12

Flu: Student Health Service Influenza Vaccine Clinic • Wednesday, Nov. 12, 2008: 9:00am–12:00pm, UBC Hospital, School of Nursing Classroom, MF 496-2211 Wesbrook Mall. Free. More info at http://www.students.ubc.ca/health/ •

Wednesday Noon Hours: Heather Schmidt, piano • Heather Schmidt, piano. Lunch with Heather, Fanny and Clara Schmidt, Mendelssohn and Schumann: A recital of music by women composers. • *Wed, Nov. 12, 2008 12:00 PM–1:00 PM UBC Point Grey Campus. $4 at the door (cash only)* •

UBC Film Society presents Mamma Mia! • Abba provides the soundtrack for the musical that has taken the world by storm • *Nov. 12–16 @ 7:00, 9:15 pm, Norm Theatre, $2 members, $4 non members* •

November 14

UBC Film Society presents The Dark Knight • Somebody get the Batman a lozenge • *Nov. 14–16 @ 9:30pm, Norm Theatre, $2 members, $4 non members* •

Contemporary Mongolia - Transitions, Development and Social Transformations • In the year of the 35th anniversary of diplomatic relations between Canada and Mongolia, this major international conference will take stock of the current social-scientific research on contemporary Mongolia and offer opportunities for an exchange between academics, policy-makers and business people with an interest in Mongolia. • *Nov. 14–17, Peter Wall Institute for Advanced Studies. For more details, see: www.iar.ubc.ca/programs/innerasia* •

Women's Volleyball • The Birds has been looking for a breakthrough this season and yet to show their full potential for the 2008-09 campaign. Cheer on the Thunderbirds against Regina! • *Nov. 14,15 War Memorial Gym 6pm.* •

November 17

UBC World AIDS Week • Description: World AIDS Awareness. Selling of Red Ribbons and Little Travelers to help fundraise and promote AIDS awareness. • *Nov. 17-21, SUB. ubcredcross@gmail.com* •

• If you want your event listed here, e-mail us at: events@ubyssey.ca

Classifieds

If you want to place a classified, e-mail us at advertising@ubyssey.ca

Student Events

G-Klubbing at the Cellar on November 14 at 9pm
$5/ticket until November 7!
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For tickets, email fundraising@ubcgoldenkey.org – they won't be sold at the door!

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The Ubyssey

November 7th, 2008
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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 Ubyssey; 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 Ubyssey 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 Ubyssey 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 Ubyssey staff.

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Contributors

"The following people are friends with Justin McElroy: Isabel Ferreras, Ian Turner and Kalyeena Makortoff. The following people remain acquaintances: Adam Leggett, Dan Haves, Celestian Rince, Brandon Adams, Trevor Melanson, Stephanie Findlay, Joe Rayment, Paul Bucci, Shun Endo, Kyrstin Bain, Kathy Yan Li, Tara Martellaro, Claudia Richard, Kellan Higgins, Ricardo Bortolon, Michael Goodliffe, Vivian Luk, Kerry Blackadar, Maria Cirstea, Sarah Chung, Samantha Jung, Karen Cheung, Albertina Wong, Danielle VanEvery, Josephine Mitchell, Inderpreet Dutt, Trevor Record, Lilian Lieber, Michelle Sz, Rian Harrison and Crystal Tai."

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Thousands of people like Richard Watson face a constant struggle to find the few affordable housing units in Vancouver. GOH IROMOTO PHOTO/THE UBYSSEY

Robertson and Ladner divided over how to handle Vancouver's homeless

Affordable housing to be big issue for November 15 election

BY KERRY BLACKADAR
News Writer

For an estimated 1800 people living in Vancouver, home is the church steps, the alleyways, the park benches and the sidewalks of the city. On October 22, 1000 people came to St. Andrews-Wesley Church, where Vancouver's mayoral candidates Peter Ladner, a two-term city councillor, and Gregor Robertson, former MLA for Vancouver-Fairview, debated over the issues of affordable housing, homelessness, and mental health. Printed on the evening's program was the slogan: "Everyone Needs a Place to Call Home."

Rick Matthews, the minister at First United Church Mission in the Downtown Eastside, moderated the debate. In his opening remarks he told the story of a young homeless man who was discovered in the upstairs washroom of First United after cutting both his wrists. "He was found just in time by someone who saw blood coming under the door," Matthews recalled.

In their own opening statements, Ladner, the NPA candidate, and Robertson, with Vision Vancouver, made it clear that they believe homelessness (and the lack of affordable housing in Vancouver) is "disgraceful." Since 2005, the number of homeless people in Metro Vancouver has increased by 22 per cent.

Ladner and Robertson have distinct plans to tackle the problem. The differing approach between them became evident when the possibility of another safe injection site and the hiring of a mental health advocate for the city was raised during the debate.

Asked to respond with "yes" or "no" answers, Robertson said "yes" to the creation of another safe injection site in Vancouver. Ladner said "no," but clarified that he could be convinced if health authorities thought another was needed.

When asked if they would support the hiring of a mental health advocate "when the city already faces a ten per cent tax hike," Ladner said "no"; Robertson said "yes."

Helene Browne, executive director of the Mental Health Action Research and Advocacy Association of Greater Vancouver, has worked in the field of mental health advocacy for over seven years. Browne believes that "whether Robertson is promising something that he can or can't keep, either way, we need a mental health advocate."

NPA Vancouver City Council candidate, Michael Geller, thinks that "while on the surface it might seem reasonable to hire a mental health advocate, as soon as one does you are potentially creating a whole new department."

"This is the responsibility of the province," he said.

However, Geller, a strong believer in community involvement, thinks there is opportunity to create a mayor's mental health initiative, where community groups, non-profit organizations and others concerned about mental illness could collaborate and effect change. "This would not cost the city money," he said.

During the debate, Ladner admitted that the "results [of the city's current homeless plan] aren't as obvious as we would all like them to be," but said he plans to stick with it.

A new plan likely means spending more money, which is something Ladner is keenly aware of. "Our [city] taxpayers cannot do everything," he said.

Robertson agrees that the city's resources are limited but thinks the city should provide leadership and direction on the issues of homelessness and affordable housing. "With some dedication, creativity, we can make space," Robertson said.

At the debate, Robertson came under scrutiny from one of the panelists and was asked how he planned to pay for his homelessness action plan.

"We are in the process of costing the plan but it won't cost much," he responded. The day after the debate, Robertson and COPE Councillor David Cadman announced a joint homelessness strategy, which includes building more affordable housing and re-establishing a residential tenancy office in Vancouver.

For Robertson, the issue of homelessness needs to be dealt with urgently, which, judging from the debate, would take the form of more shelter beds.

While Ladner likely agrees with Robertson in theory, he maintains that long, not short term solutions are in the best interest of our city and ultimately, our homeless.

Professor's research has focused on leatherback turtles

CONT'D FROM "UBC PROF"

Jones's inspiration for marine biology started in his childhood years in sunny Florida that began with diving in the water and fishing. In college, his undergrad advisor offered two projects and Jones decided to take on the more interesting one on sea turtles.

Over a decade later, Jones is excited to work closely with leatherback turtles, "[I see them] daily, seven days a week, 52 weeks a year" says Jones, "It didn't matter if it was said birthday or Christmas, [I] had to be there for the last two and half of years."

This attitude had earned him the Dean Fisher Memorial Scholarship in marine biology in 2002 and now, got him in *Popular Science's* Seventh Annual Brilliant Ten, focusing on ten outstanding young scientists.

"It's a tremendous honour.... it's great to be recognized by fellow colleges for your research," he said. "But the most important thing is that it brings awareness to leatherbacks, to have the mainstream media know that these turtles are on their way to extinction, that we have to do more to save them."

When asked about his future, Jones said, "[I want to] continue to do this....First finish my post-doctoral fellowship, then keep working on leatherback distribution patterns. I see myself doing this until I retire and even after—as a hobby and for fun."

On a last note, Jones offered advice: "If people are inspired and they want to help, pay attention to what they are eating.... If it's seafood, check online to see if they are having an endangered species." He adds, "Pollution does end up in the ocean including plastics that can harm the ocean environment....Being aware of these everyday sustainable ways can help."

Without these conservation studies, the last 5000 leatherbacks remaining may become "extinct in our lifetime," he said.

Dean of science, Simon Peacock, agrees that conservation studies are "critical" and believes that "Todd Jones's project is a wonderful example that UBC's research is helping make our world a better place.

"Not only is his research advancing fundamental science, but he is translating this knowledge into practical ways that will benefit an endangered species."

Perspectives

It's OK to be gay, just not in Dubai

College student faces forces hormone treatment if he fails to get refugee status

BY MICHAEL GOODLIFFE
Perspectives Writer

My friend Abdullah likes to laugh. He laughs about midterms that go horribly wrong, weekend parties at his house where way too many things get broken and he laughs when he shouldn't—when his life and freedom are being threatened.

Abdullah is gay and, while he's a student here in Canada, this is a statement still to be celebrated. It won't be the case when he returns home.

Abdullah, who is from Dubai, came here to study four years ago. After a year, he came out as a gay man and revealed his sexual orientation to his Muslim parents. It didn't go well. His mother flew here to try to convince him that his homosexuality was an illness that could be cured and urged him to fly home for "treatment." If only he would return to Dubai and submit to being arrested for being a homosexual, he could then receive his testosterone injections and attempt to repair the harm he had brought upon his family and community. Gays in Dubai are sentenced to government-ordered hormone therapy, five years in jail and a lashing. While foreigners sometimes escape this draconian punishment, locals do not.

Following the harrowing interaction with his mother, Abdullah applied for political refugee status based on the danger he faces in Dubai. His hearing is set for today. This hearing has no procedure for appeal—it's a one-shot deal. Either he gets accepted as a citizen of Canada, where he can resume his student life and continue on with his goal of completing a post-secondary degree, or Abdullah goes home to certain imprisonment, lashing and forced hormone injections. He's been denied legal aid for this hearing and he's not laughing right now. He's scared to death.

As Abdullah's friend, I am writing in the hope that those with the ability and inspiration to assist him will read it. He is presently attempting to adjourn his hearing until he has secured proper legal counsel. As Abdullah relies on his family's financial support, the likelihood that they will pay for any legal bills arising from this matter is nil. He needs a *pro bono* lawyer.

If you know anyone who might be able to offer assistance, please email me at literaryguru@gmail.com.

Artist Mike Dangeli paints some of his Aboriginal artwork LILIAN LIEBER PHOTO/THE UBYSSEY

Mike Dangeli: "Goothl Ts 'imlix"

BY LILIAN LIEBER
Supplement Writer

"We are all living in contemporary times." This is not the only reason why Mike Dangeli's aboriginal artwork can endure and thrive in our modern urban world; it is the motivation he needs to create artwork he rightly calls "traditionally contemporary." Mike Dangeli is an Aboriginal artist belonging to the Beaver/Eagle Clan. His works include regalia, masks, drums, totem poles and more.

When first walking into his studio in the House of Culture to meet the artist, who is fusing traditional aboriginal art with his own, present-day inventive ideas, I was left momentarily stunned. Mike believes that aboriginal art does not necessarily have to embody the static vacuum-like 19th century style from the first European contact with the Northwest Coast system.

THE DANCE BY MIKE DANGELI

Inspiration comes to Mike when "the mood will hit him." For an example, he told me that he once converted an aboriginal story into a piece of art. The story told of two lovers who could not be together in the world they lived in. The Shaman turned the girl into the moon, the boy into the sun, and now they come together only whenever there is an eclipse. Inspired by the story, Mike created a half sun, half moon mask.

Mike picked up his people's way of living early in his childhood. As a future chief, he not only attended traditional feasts and ceremonies, but was part of them. His family members acted as mentors throughout his life. Through traditional dance and song taught by his grandmother, Mike learned his aboriginal language. Creating his own regalia made him value the effort required to design clothing. Every summer, Mike went fishing with his grandpa, who would tell him stories about his clan and the beauty of being connected to nature. His grandpa made him repeat the stories, and it wasn't until many years later Mike realized his grandpa was actually teaching him.

But there was a time when Mike turned away from his traditional life. At the age of 17 he took off to join the army. It was his way of rebelling; he didn't feel ready for the responsibilities and commitments expected of him. After eight years of duty, he could not identify with the army's perspectives and felt disillusioned. Although he was successful and held a position of leadership, Mike decided it was time to go home. Looking back, Mike says it was the wisest decision he ever made, "It just felt right."

To get back to his roots, Mike Dangeli began carving with his uncle, a marvelous carver and yet another influence paving his way to becoming the incredible multi-faceted artist he is today. Ten years ago, after working on a totem pole for the Friendship Centre along with 500 children and volunteers, he decided to convert it into what it is now: the House of Culture.

"My goal is to educate and represent, and as well to promote our people." Mike said, "And to tell the world: we are not just objects in a museum, we are alive."

Through classes and workshops, he teaches urban First Nations youth and adults about North West coastal art. Although he has been a part of the gallery scene, Mike Dangeli is a 100 per cent commission based artist. He is fully dedicated to his Art and Carving Studio, as well as the dance group he leads with his fiancée Mique'l Askresin to represent the diversity of the urban First Nations population of Vancouver.

Mike believes there's room for every artist, and everybody has to start somewhere. However, he thinks it is disrespectful when non-aboriginal artists appropriate aboriginal ideas and styles for market production. Copies are lifeless, with no connection to the spirituality that reflects the aboriginal community, twined into cosmos and nature. That is why he teaches his sons how to produce art themselves, to make them recognize the value of it. They've already become young artists.

What's in a name?

Confused as to what terminology is appropriate to use when referring to the indigenous people of Canada? Take heart, you aren't alone.

BY JOSEPHINE MITCHELL
Supplement Writer

When Columbus's ships scuffed the shores of the Caribbean in 1492, he mistakenly called the indigenous people he encountered "Indians," assuming he had reached the sub-continent of India. The term stuck around. In Canada, the term is present in most legal documentation, including 1876's Indian Act which determines who is an "Indian" through use of a registration system. This document established the legal differentiation between Status and Non-Status Indian.

Status Indians are entitled to certain rights and benefits under law, to which Non-Status are not. In Canada's last half century, "Indian" has been deemed grossly inappropriate and has been largely replaced by new terminology. First Nations is one of the most common terms used in Canada.

In the United States, the term Native American is used in a similar capacity, though "Native" is increasingly seen as outdated in Canada. "Aboriginal" is a collective title for the original peoples of Canada and includes three sub-groups: Indian (Status, Non-Status and Treaty), Inuit, and Métis (people of First Nation and European descent).

However, "Aboriginal" is not used in some circles because of its close associations with the word "abnormal." "Indigenous" holds a similar meaning, but often refers to present pre-contact or pre-invasion communities worldwide. Try as legal and social structures might, some First Nations people prefer to forego any such broad categorization and prefer to be called by the specific name of their clan.

Legislation still uses the word "Indian," and neither First Nation(s) nor any other terminology has a legal definition. There is no doubt that the use of the proper terminology conveys respect, but it is important to consider that what we chose to call ourselves. It is highly personal and there may be more to it than terminology can allow.

Whats Black and White and Blue all over?

The Ubyssey!

Also, help support sending poor student journalists by coming to **Blue Wash** Wednesday November 19th at the Caprice. Tickets are ten dollars and three dollar highballs, now who doesn't love that?

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VANCITY THEATRE 1181 SEYMOUR STREET

— FESTIVAL HIGHLIGHTS —

THURSDAY, NOV. 13
3:00 pm - The Doctor, the Depleted Uranium and the Dying Children
4:15 pm - My Daughter The Terrorist
7:00 pm - Stolen Sisters
8:45 pm - No End In Sight

FRIDAY, NOV. 14
3:00 pm - Crossing the Dust
4:30 pm - View from a Grain of Sand
7:00 pm - Fire Under the Snow
9:00 pm - Screamers

SATURDAY, NOV. 15
11:00 am - The Unwinking Gaze
12:15 pm - Mexiphobia
1:45 pm - The Forest for the Trees
3:15 pm - Ya Shadad with Bridge Over the Wadi
5:30 pm - USA VS Al-Arian
7:15 pm - The War on Democracy
9:15 pm - Standard Operating Procedure

SUNDAY, NOV. 16
11:00 am - Forbidden Future
12:15 pm - Los Caidos (The Fallen)
2:15 pm - KM.207, By The Road Side with Memories of a Dreamer: The Journey of a Political Prisoner
4:25 pm - A Promise To The Dead: The Exile Journey of Ariel Dorfman
6:45 pm - Triage: Dr. James Orbinski's Humanitarian Dilemma
9:00 pm - War Dance

STUDENTS ALL SEATS $7 / General admission $9
Film descriptions and advance tickets: WWW.TICKETSTONIGHT.CA

Currently under renovation, the Museum of Anthropology will re-open March 2009. LAURA MORRISON PHOTO/THE UBYSSEY

MOA gets a facelift

Work done on museum will help promote cultures

BY KAREN CHEUNG & ALBERTINA WONG

Supplement Writers

The Museum of Anthropology (MOA) recently took on a $55.5 million expansion project to increase its premises, technological capabilities and enhance its research facilities and partnerships with other internationally recognized museums. The two-part renewal project is called *A Partnership of Peoples*. Phase I consisted of an additional research wing for behind-the-scenes preparatory work, storage, offices, and laboratory space, and was completed in May. Still in progress, Phase II includes the renovation of the Great Hall, theatre gallery, shop, lobby and other spaces.

Jennifer Webb, communications manager of the Renewal Project, is optimistic about the possibilities this project presents. "The expansion will allow us to be more accommodating to delegations of First Nations from all over the world, and allow them to have their space with their collections. The new temporary exhibit will be one of the largest single exhibit spaces in Vancouver so we'll be able to take much larger exhibitions.... The idea is really to expand what we've been doing all along."

Webb said MOA intends to continue to "provide information about and access to cultural objects from around the world, with emphasis on....the First Peoples."

However, as a third year First Nations Studies student pointed out to us, "There's this idea that First Nations culture is in the past, but that's not the case." To address this, MOA is introducing the Reciprocal Research Network (RRN), which will enhance visitors' and local researchers' "access to research collections in North America and Europe" and encourage collaborative research between communities and institutions. MOA is collaborating with the Musqueam, Stó:lo, and U'mista nations. The Smithsonian Institution and the University of Oxford are among the respected museums on the network. The RRN will allow visitors and researchers to select a piece at MOA and access audio files, video clips and other relevant information. MOA hopes this will help visitors see that artifacts in the MOA collection have continuing meaning to researchers and communities worldwide.

MOA aims to be more accommodating to the First Nations community and other indigenous groups whose art work are either on display or in storage. They are adding a community research suite—a lounge area to accommodate scholars and visitors to whom pieces may belong. It will include a room with large surfaces to allow visitors to get closer to artifacts for easier study. A recording studio will be built in the suite for visitors to record memories, stories, or information the museum may not have about any of the pieces in the collection.

Many members of the UBC First Nations community are enthusiastic about the renovations. "Personally, I think, MOA needed to be expanded and in the long run, it is a good thing....it leads to the expansion of aboriginal programs here at UBC," said William Lindsay, the coordinator of the aboriginal student services.

MOA is hoping visitors gain a greater understanding of the world's cultures. While the Museum will re-open its doors March 3 of 2009, it won't be revealing the new Multiversity Galleries where the RRN is housed or the new, larger temporary exhibit gallery until 2010. By January 2010, MOA will have renovated 75 per cent of its existing space and increased in size by 50 per cent. MOA anticipates it will pave the way for the 2010 Cultural Olympiad, celebrating its ties to cultures and communities of the world.

The Museum is free to all students and members of the First Nations community provided that they have proof of identification.

The importance of lacrosse at UBC

UBC should respect aboriginal, national tradition

BY DANIELLE VANEVERY

Supplement Writer

Lacrosse is Canada's national summer sport. It is recognized at national and international levels, and yet UBC does not have a team. With the pending question of our possible involvement with NCAA Divison II, lacrosse would be a great addition to UBC athletics.

By providing facilities for our national sport, more aboriginal and Canadian students would stay in the country for their education and enroll at the university. Many of our aboriginal peoples struggle to complete high school and enter post-secondary institutions; if UBC became involved in lacrosse, it would create a goal to complete higher education for many of those struggling students, both female and male. With an increase in Canadian universities getting involved in lacrosse, there would also be an improvement at the provincial and national levels of the sport. Additionally, it would raise BC's profile in the sport.

As an aboriginal woman, it disappoints me that UBC does not appreciate Canada's national summer sport and the foremost aboriginal game of this country. Simon Fraser is able to facilitate a Men's Field Lacrosse Recreation team under the United States Intercollegiate Lacrosse Association. We can do better, become more involved with the pending involvement with the NCAA, and push for Men and Women's Varsity Field Lacrosse teams at UBC. "Our country, our game."

First Nations faculty at UBC

BY MICHELLE SZ
Supplement Writer

Charles Menzies, anthropology professor. DREW THOMPSON PHOTO/THE UBYSSEY

CHARLES MENZIES

Charles Menzies, an aboriginal from Northern BC's Kitkatla community (originally spelled Gitxaała), is a professor at UBC's anthropology department. His research focuses on natural resources management, poverty mitigation and First Nations political rights.

"The problem is that people think aboriginal issues are in the past, that its existence ended with the fur trade," said Menzies.

The history of colonialism, residential schools, abysmal conditions and major sorting are all factors that influence the traffic of First Nations students that enter UBC. "Differential access causes a filtering effect," Menzies said. Not enough First Nations students enter the undergraduate programs, and as such few make it to the PhD level.

"The system looks neutral, like it is based on merit, but inequitable structural bias exists," he said.

According to Menzies, the original goal was "a thousand by 2000," but the year 2000 has come and gone and there are currently only a few hundred aboriginals in the diverse population of UBC. Furthermore, according to Menzies UBC is one of the worst institutions when it comes to the hiring of aboriginal faculty.

"We need people to stand up and make changes; lots of sacrifices have been made to push this forward, to stand up to internal academic prejudice. It takes courage, and people have fought long and hard to create this community." He lists Joanne Archibald and Linc Kesler among many who have worked hard toward this goal.

How, then, to address the problem of a lack of First Nations representation on campus?

"We need to respect diversity and make sure that every classroom is a welcoming classroom," Menzies said. He would like to achieve good pedagogy, where both students and instructors are comfortable with taking risks and potentially being wrong.

"We also need to realize where we are, that we are on Musqueam land," he said. The Museum of Anthropology and the linguistics department have already taken proactive and respectful steps toward working with First Nations, creating connections between UBC and nearby reserves.

Another possible solution would be to bring in more local faculty. According to Menzies, his classroom ratio has reflected a positive change; there are about ten to twelve students that are local to BC for every 60 students, which compares positively to previous years when he has taught the course.

RICHARD VAN CAMP

UBC's creative writing department's aboriginal author Richard Van Camp has recently won the gold award in the 2008 National Parenting Publications Awards with his *Welcome Song for Baby: A Lullaby for Newborns*. Every baby born in BC this year will receive a copy of this book.

"It was the ultimate compliment. They judge thousands of titles. It was absolutely beautiful, and I am very honoured," Van Camp said.

Van Camp has been teaching at UBC for seven years, with a focus on aboriginal writing. The program was started by the late Shirley Sterling to provide a rich learning environment for aboriginal students in undergraduate degrees.

Van Camp is involved with the aboriginal advising counsel, working with UBC president Stephen Toope to assist in welcoming more aboriginal students to the university and to think of better ways to support them and their families.

The lack of First Nations representation at UBC has maintained a constant problem.

"Too often in their careers students do not have access to aboriginal instructors or culturally relevant material which would ultimately help them into Masters' programs. Right now, we are not getting the number of aboriginal students we wanted," he said.

Van Camp states that the ability to focus on aboriginality exclusively encourages students to use their culture, teachings and language in their writing.

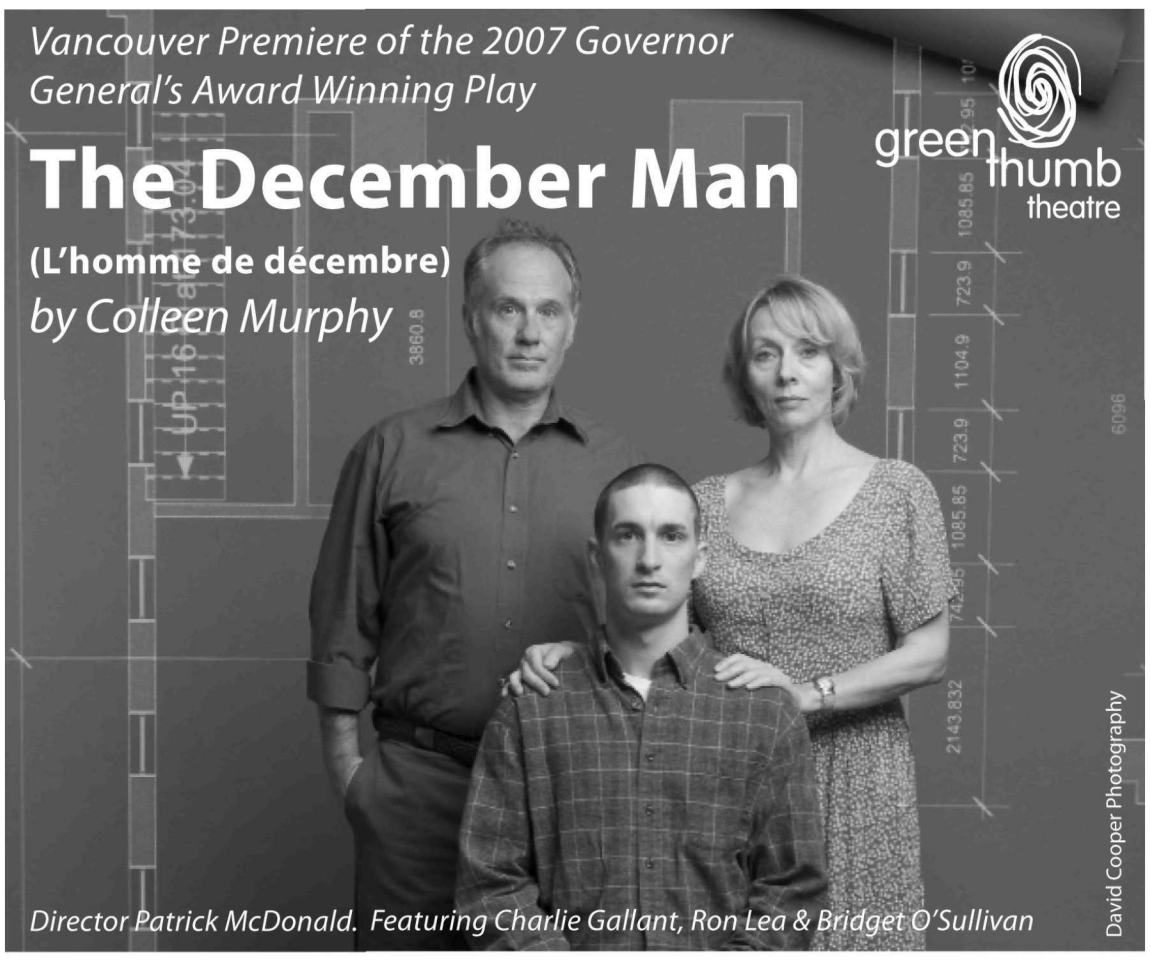
"Students are the best cheerleaders and advertising for our work, and UBC has got something very special."

Often, Van Camp visits the First Nations communities to do readings, and the responses he receives from them are very gratifying.

"People are delighted to be able to read about themselves," he said. "I write about people alive and doing well, their challenges right now, how they walk in two worlds. It's not about 200 years ago, but rather how a great inheritance of culture, history, and stories affect aboriginal people today."

On November 27, 2008, Van Camp will be facilitating the UBC Alumni Book Club's Canadian literature meeting, where Drew Taylor's native gothic novel, *The Night Wanderer*, will be discussed. The event is open to all.

"Good storytelling inspires great storytelling, and people are just starving for stories," Van Camp said. "My goal is to write unforgettably gorgeous stories, and in that end to really honour aboriginals through writing."



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CEDAR Camp provides fun for aboriginal youth

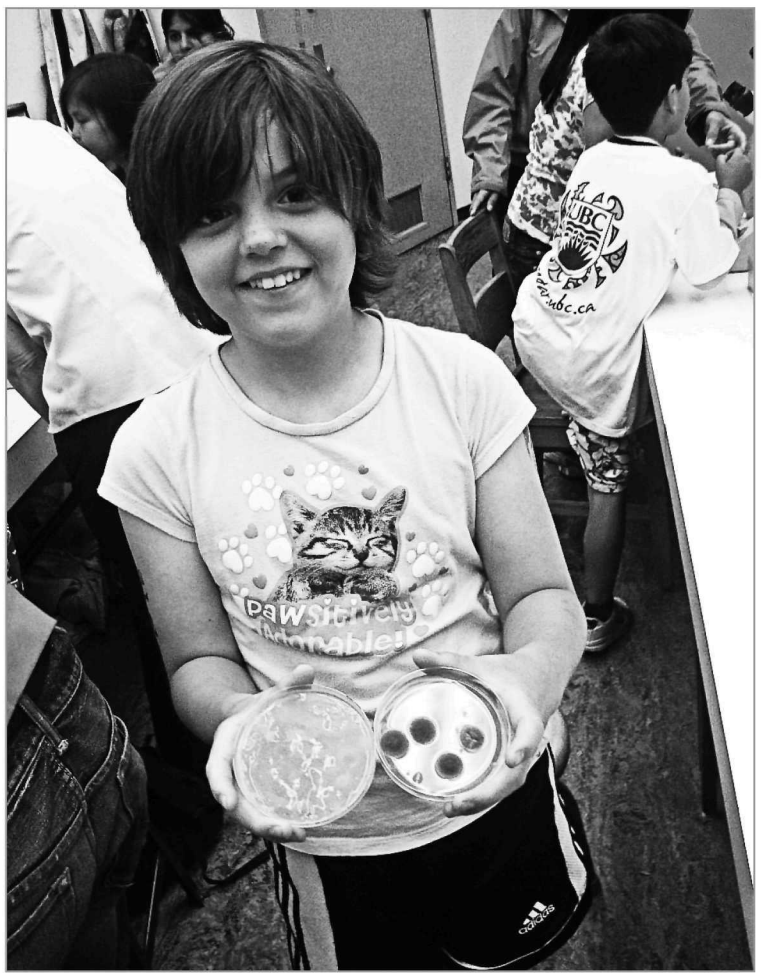
Joint initiative is an opportunity for youth to learn leadership skills, achieve greatness

BY INDERPREET DUTT
Supplement Writer

The Cross-cultural Education through Demonstration, Activity, and Recreation (CEDAR) day camp provides a fun-filled environment for aboriginal youth living in the Greater Vancouver area from grades six to eight. The camp is a two week program at the end of July designed to assist youth in developing math and language skills, which will be necessary for post-secondary education.

The CEDAR camp is a joint initiative between the Faculties of Science, Land and Food Systems, Forestry, Arts, the UBC First Nations House of Learning, and the "Let's Talk Science" association. Workshops and activities range from fun, like swimming at the UBC Aquatic Centre, to skill and leadership building exercises, such as Math Mania. Youth that participated in the 2008 CEDAR camp were exposed to hands-on activities, learning about topics as diverse as plants and fungi, to PowerPoint workshops.

A day at CEDAR camp began when youth arrived at the First Nations longhouse in the early morning, either dropped off by parents or by the bus from Brittania Elementary. The morning consisted of an activity to build academic or leadership skills, followed by a lunch provided by the camp. The afternoon consisted of an entertaining activity before youth left to go back home. Each child is in a group with one to two other children, supervised by a volunteer leader. The experience is a great opportunity for youth to connect with one another, and many laughs, jokes and smiles are shared.



Shona Ellis is one of the Aboriginal youth benefiting from CEDAR camp.
BRYCE SMILEY PHOTO/THE UBYSSEY

The highlight of the CEDAR camp program is the Family BBQ on Community Day. On the last day of the program, campers bring their families and friends for a community BBQ, games, and presentations. This final day brings together the important people in a child's life, and a whole community comes together to support these youth by presenting them with an opportunity to achieve greatness.

First Nation's resource and food

A brief history of First Nations nutrition

BY JOSEPHINE MITCHELL & DANIELLE VANEVERY
Supplement Writers

The ties between First Nations culture and surrounding resources, both in the ocean and on land, are so strong that they can define a First Nations spiritual identity. The Musqueam, whose traditional territory spans Vancouver and surrounding areas including, most controversially, the land on which UBC campus sits, are named after the river grass, m'qk'w'y (pronounced m-uh-th-kwi). A story that has been passed down from generation to generation explains, "It was noted that in some periods the m'qk'w'y grass flourished, and in some periods it could scarcely be found. It was also noted that in some periods our people would flourish, and in some periods the population would dwindle, perhaps by plague or war. It was in this way that we became known as Musqueam."

Deep connections to the natural environment, both for spiritual identity and subsistence, were radically altered when Europeans established themselves on the West Coast of North America at the end of the 18th century. By the time a century and a half had passed, unregulated and poorly planned resource extraction executed by Europeans decimated the area. European regulations barred First Nations peoples from traditional methods of food gathering by placing restricting quotas on resources that First Nations had always had access to, and racist hiring policies made it difficult for them to get hired in canneries, lumber outfits or fishing crews.

Dwindling knowledge of traditional resources and foods, a damaged environment and political and psychological changes placed many First Nations families on welfare. With little available money, most relied on store food, the cheapest of which were not very nutritious. As a result, traditional foods began to change. Fatty fried breads, canned foods, and even dishes like mac and cheese became known as "traditional." This dependence on unhealthy foods has led to increasing rates of heart disease, obesity and diabetes.

On his blog, "Diabetes and My Nation," hereditary chief of the Kwagiulth nation Robert Joseph writes, "Today we are facing a major challenge, which is diabetes. It is killing us and depriving us from the good quality of life that was provided to us by the Creator. There is nowhere I go without meeting people with diabetes."

Besides maintaining a website which offers help to First Nations families suffering from diabetes, Joseph is also one of many elder representatives of UBC's Institute of Aboriginal Health, a collaborative effort on the part of UBC First Nations House of Learning and UBC College of Health Disciplines. The organization seeks to assist program and school developments concerning First Nations health issues. The Urban Aboriginal Community Kitchen Garden Project (UACKGP), which works through the UBC Farm, is a program designed to reincorporate traditional foods and traditional means of cultivating and accessing them into the lives of Vancouver's First Nations population.

UBC BFA acting alumnus Ryan Beil as Billy Bishop in *Billy Bishop Goes to War*, now showing. COURTESY OF TIM MATHESON

Billy Bishop Goes to War, and UBC

BY RIAN HARRISON

Culture Writer

In 1943 George Orwell described a growing feeling of hostility between many of the English and the large numbers of American soldiers arriving in London. The hostility was largely due, he thought, to the cartoon-like image that their entertainment media had given the Americans of the English.

"The typical Englishman is represented as a chinless ass with a title, a monocle and a habit of saying 'Haw, haw.'"

John MacLachlan Gray's *Billy Bishop Goes to War* (playing until November 11 at the Telus Studio Theatre) loses much from this kind of thing. Essentially, this canonical piece of work is a play about a Canadian, alone onstage, raging at a personal magic-lantern-show of stock figures and weighted odds.

The only character in the play is the iconic Canadian WWI pilot William A. Bishop, played by Ryan Beil. Zachary Gray (also playing Bishop) plays guitar, piano, and does most of the singing.

In some sense, Bishop is not alone on stage. He addresses the audience and does impressions of what others said to him (the play's form is part flashback, part monologue). Everyone else though, is a caricature: England is populated by humourless old men and shrill old women, with stern ideas about decorum and hygiene.

Ryan Beil, playing Bishop and company in the two player show, does a very funny Sir Hugh Cecil, who interviews Bishop for the Royal Flying Corps with standard "upper-class twit" questions: "What about sports Bishop? Run, jump, throw the ball? Play the game, eh? What?"

The real Billy Bishop had little difficulty playing the game, and the play's flaw lies in its uncomplicated sympathy with its hero. There are little hints sprinkled throughout the script that the dice are loaded, that the race goes to the insiders, and so on, almost like the movie *Rocky*, if Rocky had remained a debt collector.

The idea seems to be that in a world where the odds are stacked so heavily against Canadians, the only truly pragmatic, authentic, Canadian thing to do is play the game—give the audience what you think it wants, possibly.

If this seems a departure from the theme of young adults dying for other people's bloody-minded ideals, so does the play. On one level, Billy Bishop is an innocent, very nearly corrupted by old Europe. On another, things looks suspiciously about art. "Colonials try harder," says Gray in his introduction to the script. Colonials understand irony. Somewhere under the radar, this is also a play about art made in bad faith. *Billy Bishop* failed on Broadway, says the intro, not because the play's psychological interiority was destroyed by a huge flashy set, but because that kind of thing is all that the Americans understand. That's all they got a chance to understand.

Dramatically, the play works. We watch Bishop relive, half knowingly, his conversion into a murderer. He barely escapes the nationalism and poisonous heroic ideal that kills so many of the pilots. He enacts himself becoming something of a psychopath.

Here, Beil is very effective. In the beginning of the play, he has Bishop drifting, insensibly, between garrulous yarn spinning and traumatic flashbacks. The levity can feel too winning, initially, but the actor comes into his own as Bishop deteriorates, and stomps around the stage like one of the berserk infantrymen below, pouring sweat and spraying out little puffs of spit with his dialogue.

At the same time though, he really is a hero. He lives up to the heroism that he is too clever, too fecund even, to fall for. The colonial "has a morbid enthusiasm for life," says another incarnation of Colonel Blimp. "You might call it a life wish."

Bishop is a victim, is too smart to be a victim, and is someone who has victims. The real pilot, whose autobiography is seen with more irony and less protective sympathy, might have been material for a better play.

Kevin McAllister's minimal set is well suited to Bishop's psychodrama. It looks at once vaguely military, and like no place at all. Throughout the play, a sculpture on the theatre's back wall (at first it looks like a bunch of metal spokes mounted on a huge singed postcard) is altered through lighting. When Bishop finds his calling the metal pieces, cast in a bluish light, resolve into a biplane. At the mention of a surgical team "just ready to rip," it looks, lit up in red, like a pair of stained surgical instruments. When a grisly song about extracting plane parts from a dead airman's body provides the context, the bloody instruments appear to be holding a bolt, or something mechanical. At other times, the same metal pieces look like a huge eye, which somehow seems appropriate.

The fashionable Lykke Li sings for scenesters. JORGE AMIGO PHOTO/THE UBYSSEY

Lykke Li good, scenesters bad

BY CRYSTAL TAI

Culture Writer

I got lost on my way to the venue where Lykke Li would be playing. I've been to Richards on Richards at least half a dozen times, but I got lost nonetheless, pacing my way up and down the ten or so blocks until I felt a cold wind of blasé—the smell of vintage clothing and cigarettes wafted my way. I looked ahead and beheld a trail of peacoats, opaque tights, flat booties, skinny jeans, sloppy scarves and American Apparel. I was close.

Soon enough, I was standing inside Richards on Richards's gaudy interior, tapping my foot impatiently, waiting for the show to begin.

The Friendly Fires played first. They started off looking and sounding like any other Michael Cera-fronted white guy band from NYC—until I realized they had British accents. Musically, the vocals reminded me of Bono (whom I've never appreciated), the guitar was dissonant and the drummer threw in some happy African rhythm. Altogether, it was unexpectedly uplifting and untrendy. It made me smile.

Lykke Li came onstage after the usual—and abhorrent—40 minute wait. She and her all-male band started off with "Dance Dance Dance," a sweet-sounding opener.

Li sounded exactly like she did in her recordings, and I was quite happy about that, until I realized that she was playing her recordings as background vocals. Also, there wasn't much of a departure stylistically from the way that she sang on her record.

In terms of fashion, Li had it down. She wore a burgundy shift dress, with burgundy-coloured tights and a pair of Doc Martens-style laceups.

The live version of "Let It Fall" was minimalist, clashy and sounded bare as it utilized only keyboard and drums. When "Little Bit" came on, the crowd was exuberant. Live, it sounded like Interpol was covering the song, with a heavy focus on bass guitar and keyboard dissonance. Vocally, Li finally deviated from her usual flat tone, and gave us a really nice jazzy rendition of the song.

Overall, I don't have a lot of complaints. Lykke Li's lack of improvisation definitely put a damper on her live performance, but it was probably the crowd that annoyed me most. As the aforementioned peacoats filtered into the dingy room, one of them forbade me from stepping any closer to the stage—"This spot is reserved for my friend." Even after his friend arrived, he insisted that the space was his. And here I thought we were all united in our common love for Lykke Li's music. The greedy scenesters killed off whatever nice sentiments I had left.

Lykke Li played on Tuesday, October 28 at Richards on Richards.

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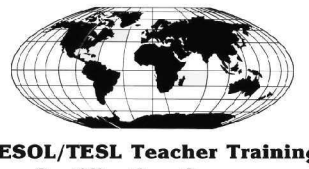

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Our view

UBC: Yes, we can!

So, what were you doing Tuesday? Chances are, you joined the cry of "Yes, we can!" There was only standing room at the Gallery by the time Obama gave his victory speech. People celebrated in their living rooms across campus, across the city, heck, across the world, glad to be rid of one of the most deceitful and destructive regimes our generation has seen, and even gladder that it is to be succeeded by a regime built on the principle of hope and inclusiveness—something most of us can't even remember. The last rallying cry our generation can remember was "Here we are now, entertain us!"

So the question on everyone's lips should be, "What now?"

What now, UBC? Do we sink back into the funk of the last eight years and feel forgotten and powerless? Do we forget that only two years ago this would have seemed impossible? And looking at our own campus, do we forget our own achievements in the past year and let things be, let things slide away and take care of themselves?

No, we don't. As Canadians, Obama's victory only has an indirect effect on us, but his two year campaign is testament to the power of bottom-up, grassroots movements. Here at UBC, we can take something from it. Let's remember what students have done in the last year:

First and foremost, there has been a revitalization of campus culture and an increase of interest in campus politics.

The Trek Park protest got in people's faces, got people to sign the petition, and most importantly, focused attention on *students* dictating what is to be done with *student space*. Though it stands in disarray now, think of it not as a failed protest, but a monument of past achievements.

SDS, it's time for you to reorganize and strike again! Where is KnollAid 3.0? Stop worrying about the fire. Students, where is your outrage over your fellow students being arrested for taking part in a protest? Screw the mindless, meaningless deliberation over the legality of the situation. The point is, they took a stand.

The RBF got themselves positioned as a viable and functional group. They organized a wildly successful flash garden that anyone would have been proud to be a part of. Where's the next one, RBF? Why can't we see you any more? Students, where is your belief in drinking? Where is your support for those who wish to facilitate it?

The AMS is building us a new SUB, thanks to the attention put on the knoll and the controversial former plans for University Boulevard. We seem to have control over our main space now—but now should come the time where people are clamouring to give input into what our new SUB will look like. Where be the clamour?

Speaking of the *Knoll*, where did you go? You never call anymore. Let it be known that *The Ubyssey* officially misses the *Knoll Weekly*.

Beyond that, the important moments of last year shed light on the issues of today. Students, we are in the process of losing our farm. Do you want that? Of those 15,000 signatures in support of saving the farm, we're willing to bet that most of them weren't students.

We are under the control of an arbitrary governing system. The university runs the campus with little or no accountability to any sort of democratic process. Are you willing to quietly let a faceless administration determine your futures?

Tuition is rising, housing is limited, accountability is lacking, forest and farm are set for development. We need to take the momentum of the last year and seize what we want. Obama did it. So can we.

No you can't, California

On Tuesday, America elected its first black president. "Yes we can" put a black man in the White House, said the nation—well, at least the 53 per cent who voted in his favour.

On Tuesday, America also said "No we can't." Proposition 8 was passed in California, which amended its constitution to add the phrase "Only marriage between a man and a woman is valid or recognized in California." Essentially, it's a same-sex marriage ban, just months after the state Supreme Court made California follow Massachusetts in recognizing the inherent right to marriage that homosexuals should have.

Despite calls by Governor Schwarzenegger and others to reject Proposition 8, Californians decided to strip their fellow citizens of a right so many were overjoyed to have been granted. For four months, gays and lesbians in California were treated as equals in the fullest sense of the word. Today, those rights have been stripped away. And so it was, that on the same night where Obama told of his nation's triumph over discrimination, that the mountaintop had been reached, and that America was truly ready to judge a person based on the content of his character, Californians showed they couldn't accept a gay married couple.

And why? Well, said 52 per cent of the state, because it's not traditional. Well, gee golly, that's neat! On the other hand, the rights of tens of thousands were stripped. A worthy trade-off? If you believe that Rob and Gary raising a child together will bring about the destruction of the American family, then yes. If you're a rational human who listens to your brain first and your preacher second, not so much.

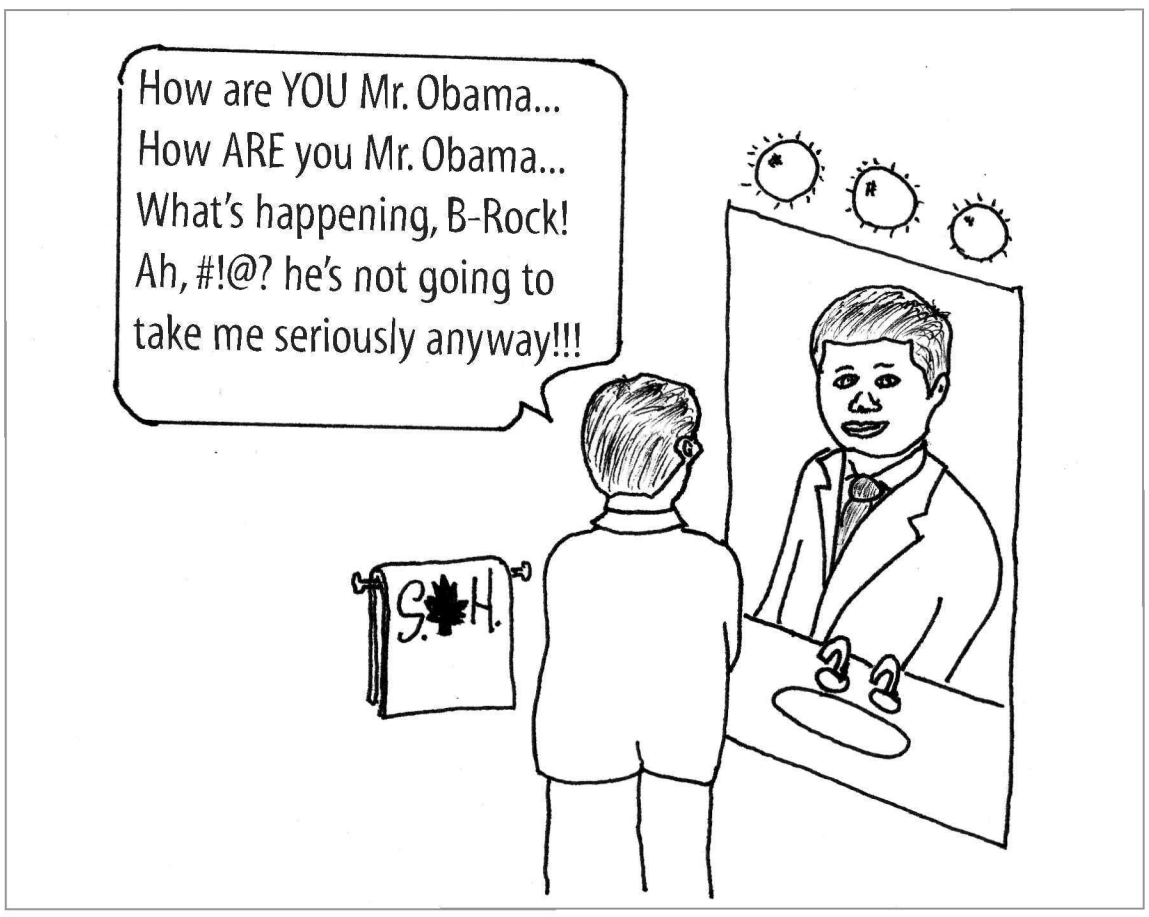
We're also wondering what's so special about being traditional. Certainly, the same argument could be made, and was made, to keep interracial marriage banned. Hell, let's add slavery and witch burning to the list: good old-fashioned American traditions.

Discrimination itself appears to be an American tradition too, and what better a foundation for marriage than discrimination? After all, marriage is all about love, union, friends, family, god, guns—and stickin' it to those homosexuals!

But in all seriousness, how did this happen in liberal, trend-setting California of all places? How did this happen in 2008?

There are theories, but there aren't excuses.

In his speech, Obama wondered what sort of world his grandchildren would grow up in. He said that there was still a lot to be done. He was right.



by Dan Haves

Letters

Keep fucking hipsters

IN REPLY TO "YOU SAY HIPSTER WE SAY DIE"

As far Vancouver hipsters go, the "fuck hipsters" writer was pretty accurate. Let me just shed some light on what these confused wannabe hipsters think the term actually means. The self-proclaimed hipsters in our city actually defy the idea of being a hipster in the first place, because true hipsters don't need to claim they are; they simply exude such an identity. If you read quintessential hipster mags like *Vice*, you don't see them praising the androgynous American Apparel douchebags like the ones here that cover themselves in the ubiquitous V-Necks that are about as cool as a damp cardboard box.

While real hipsters seek to avoid any actual trend by throwing random clothing genres together, and accessorize themselves in unique ways that punctuate individuality, these so-called hipsters here dress in a lame-ass uniform. For girls, black tights, a skirt (probably denim) that's pulled up to the navel, and a striped sweater with probably a white tank top/t-shirt over top, and a boring hairstyle, possibly accessorized by a headband you'd insult your six year-old sister for wearing. With guys, super metrosexual with hairstyles that look like they took all day to create. Metrosexuality wasn't the foundation of hipster, yet it certainly has become so now. Go to one of the clubs in Vancouver that carries a hipster reputation (Pub 340, the Sweatshop), and you'll be reminded of those schools of indiscernible fish that swim together in the thousands on the nature channel or a gay bar with a curious amount of women.

Unfortunately, while the original hipsters rocked originality, wearing flair of their own choice and becoming connoisseurs of indie rock and subculture, this appealing idea of being "hipster" has spawned some ugly new mash-up of supposed originality and has become a matter of pathetic self-entitlement. While I agree that genuine hipsters dress great, they are so few and far between that this other culture has adopted the name of it with greater prominence, to whom you should refer to as faux hipsters, and your ability to recognize them makes you more hipster than they ever will be.

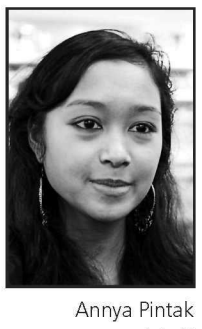
—Dan Berube
English 3

Streeters

What do you think about the AMS cutting first day classes in favour of orientation?

Zack Grimmer
Arts 4

"What would really be important is that the orientations be appealing to the student population. If they were, I don't think there'd be a problem with people skipping."



Annya Pintak
Arts 2

"As long as you make the orientation more appealing to university students. I think that would make students less inclined to skip the first day."

Stephanie Shardlow
Fine Arts 3

"I wouldn't cancel classes because...I think that students coming here as a part of Imagine need to see other students... and not just an empty campus."

Victor Lamb
Arts 1

"No second, third, or fourth year would come to orientation...you're wasting tuition fees."

Charlotte Watson
Arts 3

"It would be a good idea to get rid of the first day...you learn things at the orientation that you wouldn't have learned otherwise. It's better to learn about them earlier than later."

—Coordinated by Tara Martellaro, Katerina Grgic & Kyrstin Bain, with photos by Shun Endo

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UBC Rugby successfully clobbers Vancouver Ravens

BY IAN TURNER
Sports Staff

UBC Rugby this year sits comfortably in third place in the Spray League. Last week they beat first-place Capilano. They recently lost a closely fought game to second-place Meraloma.

The cohesive group as grown in physical strength and skill over the years. Many of the key players—the Jones trio and Sam Penhall—played together out at Rockridge High School, West Vancouver. Now many of them and others have played on Canada's U19 and U21 national teams and are looking to capture the league's title that has eluded them over their UBC years.

The game was back and forth initially with lots of kicks and good runs. UBC's John Hill scored the first try of the game. UBC led here 7-3. Near the end of the first-half Jem Arnold was taken off after getting injured and replaced by "stud first-year" Shawn Ferguson. Ferguson had played in the previous game at 1pm and scored three tries. Yet, he quickly caught the ball subsequently kicking and leading a 40-yard drive up the field. The approximately 150-pound Ferguson was described by fellow teammates as having "good vision" as a fullback. They were also impressed by him successfully completing "the pretty big jump into varsity men's." UBC led at the end of the first 10-3.

The Ravens, after scoring a try early in the second, missed a difficult kick that left them trailing 10-8.

The Ravens knocked the ball on and emerging national-calibre player, Harry Jones, quickly twice kicked the ball up field with a diving Ferguson flying into the end zone to touch the ball down, earning him his fourth try.

The second half had some old friendships "rekindled." Pleasantries, one could say, were exchanged with an old UBC alumnus playing for the Ravens. As a result of that brief encounter, the Ravens played a man short.

Minutes later a few more "hugs" were exchanged. A few spectators got involved. Most of the players on both sides were either throwing punches or trying to seperate others. Well, that took a while.

Afterward, the game was played relatively cleanly, though one flagrant late hit was dished to an exposed UBC's Will Philippson, who had just kicked the ball. The Ravens played the final minutes two men short. UBC won the game 15-8.

Looking ahead head coach Spencer McTavish appeared relaxed after a successful season. "Sam Penhall did a good job captaining the team today." Though he was disappointed in his squad's performance saying: "We won the game today but we did not play very well. I didn't get the work rate and energy I thought I would get out of them." He noted they were short a few key players. He hopes injured co-captain Ben Jones, two centres—Jim Anthony and Jim Arnold—and Nick Daniels will be ready to play in two weeks time when the playoffs start noting that "those guys will help us considerably."

> We won the game today but we did not play very well. I didn't get the work rate and energy I thought I would get.
>
> *Spencer McTavish, Head Coach*

Athletes of the Week

BY CLAUDIA RICHARD
Thunderbird Athletic Council

TOP: KELLAN HIGGINS PHOTO/THE UBYSSEY
BOTTOM: SHUN ENDO PHOTO/THE UBYSSEY

ELISE MILOSEVIC, WOMEN'S FIELD HOCKEY

Elise, a sophomore from Duncan, BC, had an outstanding weekend in Victoria at the CIS Field Hockey National Championship tournament. Just one week after breaking her hand, Elise was on the pitch for the Birds who battled with injuries and had no subs for the tournament. Elise led the tournament with four goals—two were in the key bronze medal match against the Guelph Gryphons to bring the Birds their sixth medal in the past seven years at the National Championship Tournament. UBC lost a few key veterans this season, and the team will look to players like Elise with skill and grit to lead the next generation of Women's Field Hockey at UBC.

MELISSA CORY AND JACQUELINE THYGESEN, WOMEN'S PAIR ROWING TEAM

UBC hosted the Canadian University Rowing Championships this past weekend in Fort Langley, and the women's side finished an impressive third overall. The UBC Women's Pair team, Melissa and Jacqueline, won a convincing victory almost seven seconds ahead of the next contenders, Brock and Victoria. It was a big win for the small team and especially for Melissa, who came second in the event last year. Melissa and Jacqueline's accomplishments don't stop inside the boat, as both athletes also achieved Academic All-Canadian status this season.

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