

Getting the Koerner library up

Taking it back this Friday

Getting our butts kicked last Friday

# the ubyssey

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VOLUME 78 ISSUE 4 TUESDAY, SEPTEMBER 17, 1996

## Sihota gives Moe money to students

by Sarah Galashan

There will be an extra \$25 a week available for students trying to survive post-secondary education on a shoe-string budget.

Minister of Education, Skills and Training Moe Sihota announced last Thursday that the NDP government was providing weekly grants to alleviate some of the provincial loan burden.

The announcement, Sihota said, was partially a response to a disturbing trend among youths aged 12 to 14. "I just drop in unannounced to schools to talk to students because I think that's a fundamental responsibility of my job," explained Sihota, "and it disturbs me to see how many young people have given up on the prospects of a post-secondary education."

According to Sihota, changes to the provincial student financial assistance program will provide up to 22,000 students with non-repayable grants.

Students enrolled in a traditional 34 week program have a potential \$850 yearly gain; those enrolled in longer programs will receive even more.

When asked how the additional financial assistance could come in the same week as an announced \$750 million cut in provincial spending, Sihota said the money did not come from the taxpayers. Instead,

he said, the province was able to readjust the loan and grant formula.

"One of the first steps," Sihota said, "was to take a look at the fiscal pie as we had it, and to see whether or not we could tinker with that pie to increase opportunities for people, young students who are in the greatest level of need."

That tinkering means those students least in need will receive more grants than grant, compared with those considered to be the "poorest students."

"Immediately 8000 students in the greatest need will receive more grants this year to enable them to complete their education. And this," claimed Sihota, "is the first of a series of changes that we are determined to make to enhance accessibility."

Sihota also announced a standing committee, including student representatives, will be created to advise on improving student assistance programs.

Following the announcement, Canadian Federation of Students Chair Michael Gardiner said, "Mr. Sihota has identified two of the significant barriers, one being real and one being additidinal."

Also included in the NDP's planned changes to education was the two year tuition freeze announced last spring. Sihota, however, refused to make any tuition commitments beyond that two year period. ❖



EDUCATION MINISTER Moe Sihota slices the pie just a little differently. RICHARD LAM PHOTO

## Jim Green to receive Trekker Award

by Chris Nuttall-Smith

Long-time Vancouver social activist and former UBC graduate student Jim Green will be the recipient this year's Great Trekker award, the AMS announced last Wednesday.

Green is best known for his work with the Downtown Eastside Residents Association (DERA), which he headed for more than a decade.

The annual award is given to someone who excels in their field and serves their community.

Through DERA, Green lobbied for low-income housing, coordinating the construction of 500 housing units in the 1980s. He also led the fight to save low-income hotel tenants from eviction during Expo 86.

Most recently, Green's drive to establish a low-fee bank for people in the East Side led to the opening of Four Corners Community Savings bank at Main and Hastings in April 1996.

AMS Coordinator of External Affairs Allison Dunnet told *The Ubyyssey* "Jim Green embodies the spirit of the Trek of 1922, which is what this award is named after. His activities have benefited countless needy Vancouverites and the city as a whole."

A six-member AMS external committee selected Green from a shortlist of five candidates for the award.

Recent recipients of the Great Trekker award include former prime minister John Turner and Judge Alfred Scow. ❖

## Prof warns of "reverse discrimination"

by Sarah O'Donnell

The search for UBC's next president has taken an unexpected turn.

Outspoken political science professor Philip Resnick put UBC back in the national media spotlight last Thursday with a *Globe and Mail* commentary criticising the university for ads he said fostered "reverse discrimination."

Resnick, who is also a faculty representative on the university's Board of Governors, told *The Ubyyssey*, "I think it's time—and this is certainly not going to be welcomed by certain groups like NAC and LEAF and all the rest of them—that we really had a serious discussion about where certain forms of so-called affirmative action are taking this university."

At issue are ads placed by the presidential search committee which ran in the *Globe and Mail* and *University Affairs*.

The ads included a paragraph stating, "The university is concerned about the under-representation in administration of women, aboriginal people, visible minorities and persons with disabilities. The university welcomes all qualified applicants, especially members of these designated employment equity groups."

Since July 1992, UBC's equity policy has required the university to include clauses in all recruitment ads "especially" welcoming women, aboriginal people, visible minorities and persons with disabilities to apply.

Although Resnick said he would like to see the wording changed from "especially" to "including," he said it was the first sentence in the presidential ad he found particularly offensive.

"The first sentence is additional," he said, and "not part of the policy... I would like to know who added that sentence and what basis they had in the policies to make that addition. That is highlighting [equity groups] in a far-greater fashion than the usual sentence does."

But UBC's Associate Vice-President of Equity Sharon Kahn argued the only effect of the equity clause was to enlarge the candidate pool.

"I think Professor Resnick is confusing the recruiting process with the decision-making process," Kahn said. "The recruitment process at UBC is to get as wide a pool of applicants as possible, so we especially encourage those people who might not be as eager to apply because they know that women and minority people are under-represented at UBC."

"We also encourage all qualified applicants and that certainly includes men," she said.

Kahn said the university's hiring record over the last several years refutes Resnick's concerns about reverse discrimination. Since the university started tracking hiring data in 1991, 65 percent of tenure track positions have been filled by men and 35 percent by women. This is on par, Kahn said, with the number of women receiving post-doctorate degrees from Canadian universities.

However, Kahn said, if you look at the

overall faculty breakdown, there are only about 20 percent of faculty positions are held by women. "We're not inundated with women faculty," she said.

Kahn added that although some white men have questioned the hiring process, she has never heard of a white man who did not apply for a UBC position because he felt uncomfortable with the ad.

Resnick said he initiated the debate out of concern for the university's future.

**"I think it's time... that we really had a serious discussion about where certain forms of so-called affirmative action are taking this university."**

**PHILLIP RESNICK  
POLITICAL SCIENCE PROFESSOR**

"I think we're really heading down dangerous waters, where in the name of so-called affirmative action we are essentially entrenching differences," he said. "We're going to be in fact creating cleavages where cleavages needn't exist. We're going to be fracturing campuses and universities all over the place—it's already happening."

"I want a public debate," he said. "One of the problems with this place is the enormous amount of secrecy about everything."

Resnick said he will be bringing forward a motion at the October Board of Governors meeting to rescind the policy that "permits the sort of discriminatory language" used in the recent ad. ❖

## Opportunities for Involvement in your Student Society

Your university experience shouldn't be solely made up of lectures, exams and essays. You want to leave UBC with a sense of accomplishment and participation, so why not get involved in your student society - the Alma Mater Society (AMS)! There are a number of ways to participate and you will only benefit by gaining invaluable work experience, making great contacts and meetings lots of interesting people!

### Commissions:

**Vice-Chair:** Vice Chairs assist the Executive that chairs the respective commission and handle the administrative details of the commission, including taking minutes, planning meetings, handling correspondence, and co-ordinating the activities of the commissioners. Applicants for Vice-Chair positions should have excellent leadership skills and organizational abilities. Time commitment is approximately fifteen (15) hours per week, including holding regular office hours.

**Commissioner:** Commissioners are required to hold five (5) office hours per week, attend regular commission meetings, and perform duties specific to their portfolio for a total time commitment of approximately ten (10) hours per week, though this varies significantly depending on portfolio.

**Student Administrative Commission:** chaired by the Director of Administration, this non-political body is responsible for managing the Student Union Building, including regulating all bookings and functions, providing security, managing the AMS Art Gallery, and administering the two hundred AMS Clubs and Constituencies.

### Positions available:

- Vice Chair (SAC Secretary)
- Clubs Commissioner
- Constituency Commissioner
- Special Projects Commissioner
- 1 at-large Commissioner

**Finance Commission:** chaired by the Director of Finance, the commission oversees the financial activities of the AMS Subsidiary Organizations, provides fundraising opportunities for clubs, allocates travel and conference grants, and performs other duties related to the finances of the Society.

### Position available:

- 1 at-large Commissioner

**University Commission:** chaired by the Vice President, the commission discusses and analyzes the impact of University policies on students and lobbies the University on issues such as safety, daycare, equity, academics, University policies, transportation, campus planning, and student housing, working with the Student Senators and Board of Governors Representatives and ensuring representation on various University Committees.

External Affairs, the commission c student groups and national organizations, discusses and analyzes the impact of Provincial and Federal Government educational policy, and lobbies the government on issues of interest to students such as post-secondary education funding and student loans.

Positions available  
· 3 Commissioners

### Officers of Council:

**Elections Administrator:** responsible for conducting the annual AMS Executive Elections in January and chairing the Elections Committee. Requires an intensive time commitment during January (up to 30 hours per week), but little during the rest of the year. **Note: due to the political nature of elections, the EA cannot hold any elected or appointed position in the AMS or Constituencies.**

Detailed descriptions of all above positions are posted on the main concourse of SUB and available, along with application forms, from AMS Volunteer Services and the AMS Executive Offices, SUB 238.

**The deadline for all applications is Friday, September 27th, 1996 at 4:00 p.m.**

Please direct all inquiries and applications to:

Jason Hickman  
Chair, Nominating Committee  
Room 238, Student Union Building  
Phone: 822-6342 or 221-0532  
Email: jhickman@unixg.ubc.ca

### Student Senators Also Needed!

Student Senators serve on the UBC Senate, the body within the University that administers all academic matters. Each faculty has its own senator, in addition to five senator-at-large. Duties include attending Senate and Student Senate Caucus meetings. Applicants must be registered in a minimum of 24 credits to be eligible.

Student Senate has the following positions open for September 96 - March 97:

- 1) Student representative to the Senate for the Faculty of Education
- 2) Student representative to the Senate for the Faculty of Forestry

Please send your resumes for the above senate positions to Sam Arnold, Chair, Student Senate Caucus c/o SUB Room 238, 6138 SUB Boulevard, UBC.

**All nominations for student senate positions close on Friday, September 27th, 1996 at 4:00 pm.**

## AND THIS YEAR'S AWARD GOES TO...

Jim Green has just been named by the External Commission as the recipient of the 1996 Great Trekker Award. Jim embodies all those characteristics that make for a Great Trekker. An Alumnus of UBC, he graduated with an M.A. in anthropology, and also did his PhD. work here. His work as a social activist in Vancouver is long and varied (he is known to many as the unofficial mayor of Vancouver).

His work with the Downtown Eastside Residents Association turned them into a major force for providing housing and representation for the poor in Vancouver.

He was also an instructor at UBC in the Sociology Dept. and at Vancouver community College in Anthropology. He was past director of the Triage Emergency Services and Care Society, and the Reach Medical and Dental Clinic. Presently, he is the Director of the Edgar Kaiser Substance Abuse Foundation.

He has also produced many published studies on Low Income Housing in Vancouver as well as a book on the Canadian Seaman's Union.

The list goes on. Jim is undoubtedly deserved of the Great Trekker Award and will serve as a great alumni role model to the students of UBC.

The Award presentation will be on October 16th from 5:30 till 8:30. Tickets for the event will be available through the External Commission.

**The AMS UpDate is managed and maintained by the Alma Mater Society. Should you have any questions regarding use of this space, please contact Faye Samson, AMS Communications Coordinator, at 822-1961, email at comco@ubc.ca or drop by SUB 266H.**

### Wednesday

**AMS Used Bookstore**  
9:30 am to 5:30 pm  
SUB Lower Level  
**Clubs Days**  
10:00 am to 4:00 pm  
SUB

### Thursday

**AMS Used Bookstore**  
9:30 am to 5:30 pm  
SUB Lower Level  
**Clubs Days**  
10:00 am to 4:00 pm  
SUB

### Friday

**AMS Used Bookstore**  
9:30 am to 5:30 pm  
SUB Lower Level  
**Clubs Days**  
10:00 am to 4:00 pm  
SUB

### Weekend

**AMS Used Bookstore**  
Sat: 9:30 am to 5:00 pm  
Sun: 12:00 to 5:00 pm  
SUB Lower Level

### Monday

**AMS Used Bookstore**  
9:30 am to 5:30 pm  
SUB Lower Level

### Tuesday

**AMS Used Bookstore**  
9:30 am to 5:30 pm  
SUB Lower Level  
**Wenlido - Self Defense for Women**  
4:00 pm - 6:00 pm  
SUB 207/209 (Call 822-2163 to register)

Would you like to see your event listed here? Contact Faye Samson, AMS Communications Coordinator at 822-1961, email at comco@ams.ubc or drop by SUB 266H for more information!



**Tired of looking around campus for a place to have club meetings, work on group projects, study or just hang out until your next class?**

**So are we.**

**That's why the AMS and UBC Food Services are working together to give students more study space in light of the recent UBC library renovations.**

**Starting on Monday, September 23rd, the following options will be available when you need some space on campus:**

- Most of the space (excluding the small North section) in Pacific Spirit Place in SUB will be open until 9pm, Monday-Thursday. However, the cafeteria itself will be closed.

- The space in Trekkers Restaurant will be open until 9pm, Monday to Thursday. However the restaurant will close at its usual time.

**Need some nourishment for those evening classes, study sessions or meetings? Here are available outlets in SUB:**

- UBC will operate Espresso on the Go until 9pm, Monday to Thursday.  
- The AMS will run Blue Chip Cookies, Pie-R-Squared and SUBCetera to remain open late as usual.

**The AMS is always looking for more ways to work with UBC to provide more student space on campus. For more information about available student space in the Student Union Building, please contact Jennie Chen, Director of Administration, at 822-3961, email admin@ams.ubc.ca or drop by SUB Room 254.**

## A testament to what might have been

by Andrea Spence

The dwindling dollar and design problems have taken their toll on UBC's new Walter C. Koerner Library.

Under a reduced budget, designer Arthur Erickson, campus planners and university librarians have been forced to replan library facilities and reorganise existing storage space. Only Koerner Tower, the library's first phase has been completed; it is not known when the remaining phases will be open.

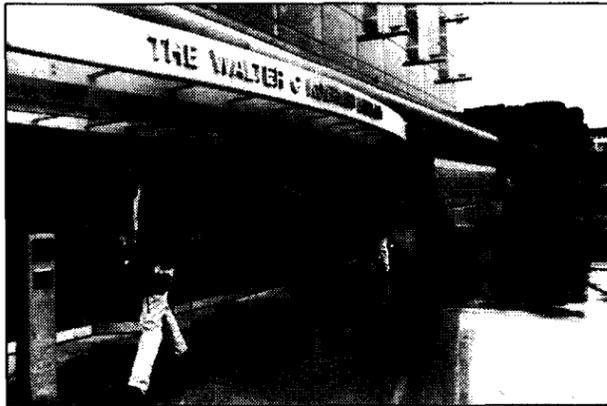
UBC originally received approval to start building the new library and renovate Main Library in 1980. According to University Librarian Dr. Ruth Patrick, the recession of the early 1980s meant the library was put on hold. Problems intensified when funding was cut from \$40 to \$26 million.

By the time construction finally began last year, inflation had eaten had eaten another chunk of the funding. The master space plans were reworked and plans to renovate Main Library were dropped. Koerner and Sedgewick libraries are being completed as money becomes available.

The delay in the Koerner library's completion leaves students with less study space until Sedgewick is renovated in early 1997.

Student reaction to the Koerner Tower varied. Ashish Mata, a third year biology major, says he was impressed by the overall design. "I like the windows so you can study right up front. I also like how they've opened it up and brought in a lot of natural light."

Most students, however, expressed concern about lack of study space. Second year Arts student Jeff



SMOKE AND MIRRORS prove to be the latest in campus architecture. SAVINAS PRASEUTH PHOTO

Myers says "Koerner seems rather cramped to me. From what I've seen it's rather inadequate."

Another second year Arts student, Kim Quan, is also frustrated. "I don't think there are enough study areas...I'm always looking for a carrel and there never are any."

The current space limitations are only temporary. Patrick reminds students that "it is not the complete library that is open right now. The building is not finished...More collections and more study space will be coming over. It's not even half the library."

Eventually, Patrick says, there will be 900 study carrels and more computer terminals.

Patrick suggests students use study space in Main Library during the interim. Food Services is also providing assistance by keeping Trekkers, Pacific Spirit Place and Yum Yum's open extended hours for students seeking evening study space.

## Union certified at three local Starbucks

by Scott Hayward

The fledgling union movement at Vancouver Starbucks stores scored a partial victory Friday in what promises to be an ongoing battle.

Of the six stores reported last week in *The Ubysey* seeking certification, three completed the process Friday afternoon. Two of the stores reversed their decision to join the Canadian Autoworkers Union (CAW), and the sixth location, joined last week by a seventh store, will go before the BC Labour Relations Board seeking certification Tuesday.

"I think it's fantastic. I think this is a great day for Starbucks employees," said fourth year UBC political science student Steve Emery, who was active in organising the union. "I think it's a great day for youth in general."

Emery expects to sign up more stores soon. "We already have some stores set up for some meetings," he said. "We've got a lot of people excited, as far out as in Surrey and a lot of local interest."

Stephanie Voldeng, who works at Robson II complained that workers in her store received too little information about the union and was pleased her store would not participate.

Although she agreed there are problems with the company, she did not think unionising was the best way to solve them. "We're all fighting for the same things... appreciation, value, we want to know what's going on with the company," she said. "I don't feel that I need a union to negotiate my grievances."

Shannon Less, 18, works at the Deep Cove Starbucks, which approached the CAW independently of the other locations. "We called [CAW organiser John Bowman] up, and that's when we found out about the downtown stores," she said. "It was just good timing."

Although a majority of employees at her location initially wanted to join CAW, "some people were really against it," said a disappointed Less. "They basically talked to people who had signed the cards, and there was a lot of sort of rumours and half-truths circulating."

Her co-worker Graham MacKenzie, a 20 year-old Capilano College student, signed a union card but is now happy with the staff's decision not to join.

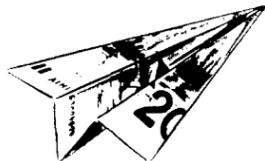
"We had a pretty slim majority to begin with, so when a few people changed their minds, as it turned out there was a majority against going union," he said. "I wasn't too overly thrilled with the way the CAW was working. It

seemed they were trying to work independently of the workers—at least in our store—and against management."

Emery defended the union, saying that any misinformation must have come from organising employees, not the union. He agreed that some people at the two stores which withdrew objected to the union. "The smartest thing to do was to let them go without any kind of fight to keep them, because it would not have made any sense," Emery said.

Starbucks management declined *The Ubysey's* request for comment, citing BC labour relations code which restricts employers' public statements during the certification process.

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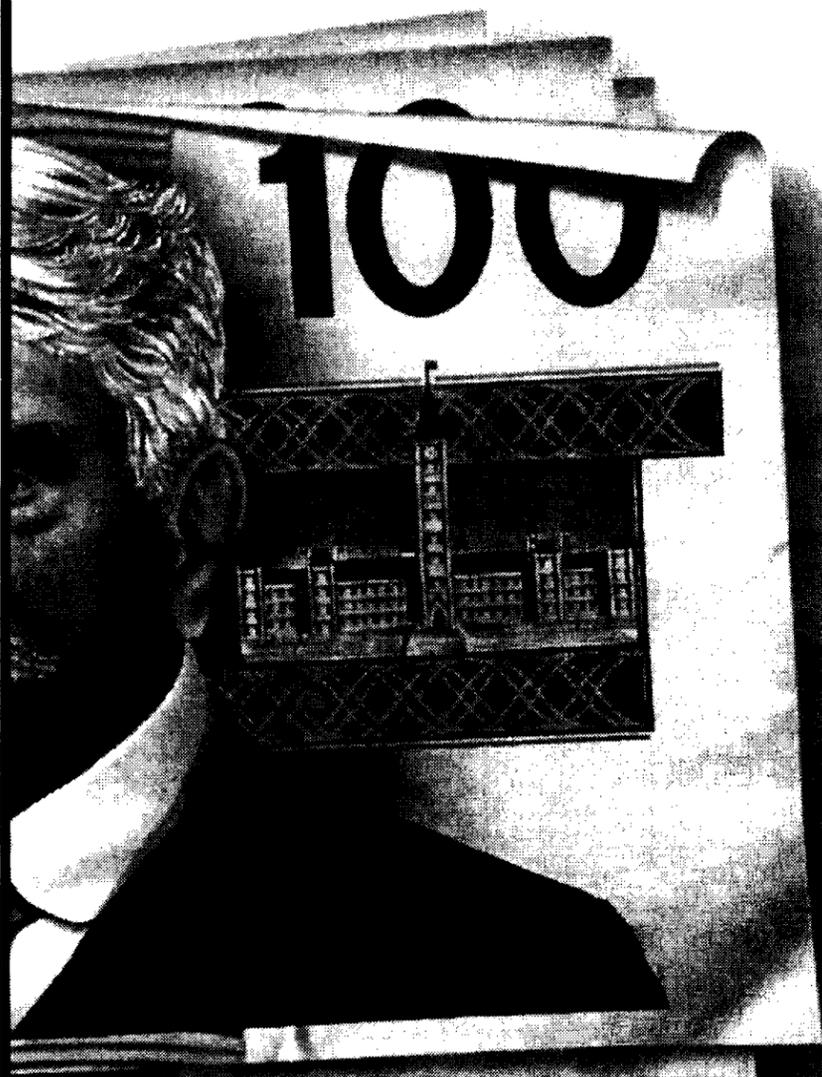
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# news

## NATIONAL ROUND-UP



### CASA director not yet charged

by Rachel Furey

OTTAWA (CUP)—Pat FitzPatrick still hasn't been charged with any crimes eight months after a national student organisation alleged he embezzled almost one third of its budget.

Last January members of the Canadian Alliance of Student Associations told the Canadian University Press they were pushing to lay charges against FitzPatrick in Ottawa and New Brunswick. They alleged he misappropriated close to \$40,000 in student funds.

The association's national director said Ottawa police agreed to investigate two charges—writing a fraudulent cheque and theft of \$2,225. But Staff Sgt. Tom

MacKay said the Ottawa police never received any complaint.

Peter Nogalo, a former student councillor at Carleton University, a CASA member at the time, said he is shocked the association hasn't pressed any charges in Ottawa.

"They had a responsibility to their members to follow up on the issue," he said.

Alex Usher, then CASA national director, recently said that no charges were laid in Ottawa because "it would have cost more to pursue them than we'd have gotten [from winning the case]."

The new national director of CASA, Matthew Hough, said he wants to drop the issue.

"We've done what we could. I'm not going to lose any sleep over it," he said. ♦

### Students ID'ed in computer labs

by Carey Frey

REGINA (CUP)—University of Regina students are being asked to carry identification into computer labs in order to prevent misuse of the equipment by the public.

Campus security has been monitoring the labs after high-school aged kids were found using university computers to download pornography from the internet.

However, the problem isn't solely with a group of mischievous teens.

"We've found business using our equipment because it's cheaper than buying their own," said Dr. Larry Saxton of the computer science department.

In order to keep the labs open for general use by the university

community, security officers are conducting random identification checks of people using the computers.

"I've seen one [officer] walk in and ask automatically. The others we just ask to leave. Cooperation has been good."

Although some students find carrying identification inconvenient, most support the new enforcement.

"The computers are there for the students, not the rest of the world," said Patrick Gooruick, a computer science major. "We help pay for them with our tuition."

According to Dimen, students only need to show a driver's license or a student identification card to keep working during a security check. ♦

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# Women prepare to take back the night

From the outside, its picket fence and large front porch make the house look like any other in its middle-class neighbourhood surroundings. But behind the carefully locked door is a household different from any other. This is the Vancouver Rape Relief and Women's Shelter.

by Sarah Galashan

Since 1981 women with nowhere else to turn who desperately need to feel safe have sought shelter at this transition house; for some it is the only place their assailants can not reach them.



"Men are not allowed in the building," says Julie Linkletter, a collective member of Vancouver Rape Relief.

It is one of the shelter's strict policies; there is little sympathy for men who feel it is a form of discrimination.

"There are many things men can do to help out," Linkletter says. "They can hold friends accountable for sexist or violent acts, stand up for women and donate money."

Women and children are welcome to stay at the house and are advised on welfare procedures, how to seek legal aid and subsidised housing. "This is a place where women have a chance to make decisions."

In addition to the transition house, the female collective runs a 24-hour crisis line that received 1300 calls last year, and organises "Take Back the Night" (TBTN), the annual women-only protest.

The protest and march is a chance for women to walk the streets without the protection of men, which organizers say "should be our right."

The positive publicity generated by the march, Linkletter says, allows women to voice their dissatisfaction with the government's response to violence against women.

Linkletter criticises "media blitzes" generated by

horrific acts of violence, like the Abbotsford killer and the Paul Bernardo trial, for scaring women.

"Women are bombarded with images and tips on what they should be doing, instead of men being held accountable," Linkletter says.

"Take Back the Night gives women a taste of freedom in hopes that they will be hungry for more" explains Linkletter. "All the time when we walk alone we're in danger, feel fear or do get attacked and we are safer when we walk with our brothers, male lovers, fathers or male friends. I don't want to always have to walk with my partner. The point of TBTN is to gather so many women together that we're safe."

The march will take place Friday September 20 at 7:00 pm. Women are to meet at Trout Lake, on the corner of Victoria and 15th. Free childcare is available.

While men are not invited to march, they are encouraged to show support by volunteering their time as baby-sitters or to make donations. Women volunteers are also needed to help with organization of the event. For more information call 872-8212. ♦



## Final stats paint bleak jobs picture

By Melanie Nagy

The final figures are in: 1996 was a rough summer for student jobs.

Initial analysis in August showed the summer to have been one of mixed success for students job hunters. Complete statistics for the May to August, however, reveal it was a bad summer for working students.

Dan Charrette, an analyst for Statistics Canada, said August's unemployment rate for students in British Columbia suffered a significant increase. "In 1995 the unemployment rate for students between the ages of 15-24 was 11.6 percent, whereas this year it increased to 18.6 percent."

While students of all ages suffered in August, Charrette confirmed that those hit hardest were students between the ages of 15 and 19.

"Across Canada the unemployment rate for these students in August was 17.9 percent. The summer appeared to have a diverging pattern where the unemployment

rate for university students experienced little change, while high-school students continued to experience a decrease in job openings."

The Director of Simon Fraser University's Student Employment Centre Linda Conrad was not surprised by the StatsCan figures.

"We found it to be a tougher summer, especially when considering that most jobs were only paying minimum wage and that there were fewer positions available in the beginning of summer when students are searching for work," she said.

Conrad's employment centre, which relies solely on word of mouth advertising, attributes the slow summer to a sluggish economy.

While other universities and colleges were struggling to find job openings for students, the staff of the Alma Mater Society's Joblink reported a 30 percent increase in job postings this summer.

Chris Allison, director of the Joblink program, said he was extremely happy with the office's

success at generating 65 more jobs per month than last summer. Joblink took a more aggressive approach to promoting its services this year, he said, increasing advertising and communication with potential employers.

Allison said he does not know what to make of this year's general decline in job openings across Canada.

"Our stats speak for themselves. I don't have a clear answer as to why we were so successful, but I do know that the status of Joblink is increasing which is good for students here at UBC."

While students next summer will again be at the mercy of the prevailing job market, Allison said there are measures students can take to increase their chances for employment in the upcoming summer.

He stressed that it is essential to "start your job search early, establish contacts with potential employers and have your resume looked over by someone at an employment centre to ensure you the best chance at finding employment." ♦

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# Tuition freeze stays, says minister

by Ian Gunn

BC's tuition fee freeze will remain in place despite the provincial government's fiscal woes as part of Victoria's commitment to accessibility.

That was the message from Education Minister Moe Sihota Friday as he put in a brief appearance at UBC to meet with student leaders and NDP club members.

"The two year tuition freeze is there and we'd prefer to keep it frozen as long as we can," he told *The Ubyssy*.

"Right now I don't know how the fiscal situation is going to develop, but we'll keep tuition as low as possible—if not reduce it."

The premier said repeatedly last week that the tuition freeze would remain in place despite the government's stated need to find more than \$750 million in expenditure reductions this year.

Sihota also reiterated his ministry's impatience with the UBC administration's attempt in May to raise money by levying a new student fee separate from tuition.

Instead, he suggested, the administration needs to show some creativity in the search for greater efficiencies. But that creativity "does not mean trying to indirectly do that which the tuition freeze has done directly," he said. "If that is what a fee increase is trying to do, then it will not be approved."

In a departure in philosophy from his days in the development ministry, Sihota recommended UBC develop the woodlands adjacent to the university.

"I see that there's a value in developing adjacent lands so as to generate revenue," he said, "It's something I don't have a big problem with."

As for student and community concerns about UBC's highly-criticised development process the minister said he would speak to both the Board of Governors and university president about them.

Sihota's UBC appearance capped a week of visits to universities and colleges and two major policy announcements on post-secondary education.

He and the premier unveiled a student financial-assistance plan on Thursday and Sihota spent Friday promoting a new initiative to make BC's college and university courses more relevant and accessible.

The initiative aims to identify those areas of the province with low numbers of students attending post-secondary institutions and find ways to increase them.

The minister says he has asked universities to re-examine their curriculums to make sure that they are relevant to the skills required in today's job market. "Particularly in the liberal arts sector, there has to be a strong correlation between the skills employers expect and what students are taught," he said.

**We'll keep tuition as low as possible —if not reduce it.**

**MOE SIHOTA**

**BC MINISTER OF EDUCATION**

It is also important that students take the right courses, Sihota said. He deflected the suggestion that the government was planning to dictate

students' course selection, but said he would like to see a central service that students could telephone to ensure that they were learning skills for which there would be a future demand in BC.

Post-secondary education will continue to be a government priority in the coming months, Sihota pledged. "We've brought forth a lot of changes in going to be the operative word there, so the pro-active component of my portfolio will be in the post-secondary field," he said.

Sihota said he intends to return to UBC regularly to speak with Clark and "hopefully set up some way Glen [Clark] and I can have a dialogue with students." ♦



THE PRO-ACTIVE COMPONENT of BC education policy will be universities and colleges Education Minister Moe Sihota said Friday. The former AMS hack was on campus to meet with current AMS representatives and the UBC NDP. RICHARD LAM PHOTO

## Gage wiped out

by Theresa Chaboyer

Residents returning to Gage Towers this year counting on a year's supply of toilet paper quickly discovered they were out of luck.

Gage's Residence Life Manager Dale Coffin informed residents at every floor's September orientation meeting they would be responsible for purchasing their own toilet paper.

According to Building Services Manager Rosemary Simpson, Gage Residence used 48,000 rolls of toilet paper a year, which had to be delivered on a weekly basis. Simpson said last year's toilet paper service took up one full day of work per week for housekeeping staff.

An informal student survey conducted by *The Ubyssy* revealed almost all Gage residents were concerned about the toilet paper crunch.

"We were just talking about that," said two residents questioned about the cutbacks. Another resident said she was on her way to buy toilet paper that very minute.

Most student interviews were short and sweet; the consensus among residents was that Housing's decision "sucks."

And although the toilet paper will be missed by Gage residents, university officials said it is unlikely the toilet paper service will be restored.

In 1992, the full bathroom and cleaning services provided to Gage residents were also cut.

Residents of Totem Park and Place Vanier may want to keep their supplies of toilet paper under maximum security. ♦

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# culture

## A Van Damme slamme

by Noelle Gallagher

### MAXIMUM RISK at the Granville 7 theatre

Poor Ringo Lam. For a director who says drama is the most important element in his films, he certainly got an unfortunate cast for his new project *Maximum Risk*.

This new action-drama-cheesy romance-comedy stars Jean Claude Van Damme as Alain Moreau, an ex-soldier turned French police officer who discovers his twin brother's dead body on the streets of Nice. After finding out the tragic truth that he and his twin, Mikhail, were separated at birth, Alain unravels the secrets of his brother's identity by following a trail of conveniently-placed clues to New York's big and burly Russian community. Along the way, he meets Mikhail's girlfriend, a bar hostess named Alex (played by Alberta native Natasha Henstridge of *Species*) who quickly becomes the film's token love interest. Together they must thwart New York's Russian mafia, make off with the copious cash Mikhail has stashed away in a French bank vault, and uncover a conspiracy which leads all the way to (surprise, surprise) the American FBI.

To give credit where it is due, Lam has directed several talented action scenes and Van Damme demonstrates some excellent martial arts techniques. The film's opening sequence is a stunning blend of imagery, with its high-paced foot and fruit cart chase through the streets of Nice. Lam captures the chaos of the scene with style, using camera angles just

quirky enough to be clever. Besides, it's undeniably fun to watch all those apples and oranges bouncing out of Van Damme's maniacal fruit cart and onto the narrow city streets. Similarly, the bath house scene in New York's Little Odessa beautifully contrasts the boorish tough-guy mentality of the characters with their almost-naked vulnerability. (This scene is also notable for towel togas so secure that not even a high kick can deter them from protecting a fighter's modesty.)

However, despite these clever action scenes, the film's many slow, ponderous dramatic moments keep it from being a true action thriller. Van Damme may high-kick with the best of them, but he acts like a propped-up corpse. Tragically, he gets no help from Larry Ferguson's abysmal script, which has everyone in Nice speaking English, and everyone in New York using incredibly stilted colloquialisms. As the resident tough-girl bar hostess, Natasha Henstridge is given some of the film's most unnatural dialogue. Fortunately, her poor acting performance doesn't compromise the film's overall effect, as her main duties onscreen involve pouting and occasionally flashing her breasts.



**SPECIOUS:** Natasha and Jean Claude in a "dramatic" moment.

Another problem with the dramatic scenes is their tendency to demonstrate the superior acting skills of the film's supporting cast. Jean-Hugues Anglade puts in a beautifully subtle stint as Alain's best friend; his work is so good, in fact, that you can't help wishing he had been given the title role. Zach Grenier and David Hemblen are also enjoyable in their roles as Russian mafia kingpins. Even Frank Van Keeken deals admirably with his kooky, if superfluous, role as a demented cab driver.

But even these great actors can't eliminate the tedium. In future, Van Damme might want to pry himself away from all this soap opera sobriety, and stick with what he does best: martial arts. After all, when people come to a film like *Maximum Risk*, it is action, not badly-acted drama, that they want to see.

## One last Fringe Festival review makes it past the gates

by Andy Barham

### CHEESECAKE at the Vancouver East Cultural Centre

David Goodman hails from Toronto, and it shows in *Cheesecake*, his first excursion into the turgid depths of playwriting. Although the play is set in Vancouver with presumably native Vancouver characters, the protagonists in *Cheesecake* do not behave or interact the way Vancouverites generally do. Concisely put, the characters are not believable.

One can only suspect that Goodman has spent an awful lot of time watching *Seinfeld*—amusing, but overdone dialogue and florid gestures abound—but what might work in New York, or Paris for that matter, just does not work in the rather more anal culture of the Lower Mainland.

We ain't New Yorkers, or Parisiennes for that matter; Vancouver people are just too laid back (one might even say sedate) to behave in the extravagant fashion of Goodman's two main characters, Troy (Patrick Creery) and Jay (Ian Marsh). In other words, the play is overacted, overdone and over the top.

The other protagonists, waiter Peter (Lalo Espejo) and "love interest" May (Tara Janicki), are somewhat more believable, although, again, one gets the distinct impression that the play was meant to be set somewhere else. Peter, for example, would have been more at home in a French farce of some sort. Only May, who could as easily have come from California as Kitsilano, really fits into a Vancouver milieu.

The play has its moments. The use of audience members sitting at some of the tables to give us the ambience of a trendy restaurant while the rest of the audience files in is a nice touch, for example. As a slightly befuddled waiter in a posh cafe, Peter is generally convincing. But my main complaint is with Jay and Troy, who are just too damned extravagant for me to be able to believe in them.

This is not to say that *Cheesecake* couldn't actually be made to work. It has potential, and, to judge by audience response, the plot and dialogue is quite witty when not overdone.

Goodman should study the people around him more closely in this not always fair city he has, like so many of us, decided to call home. He should find out what Vancouver people are really like, and then write about us.

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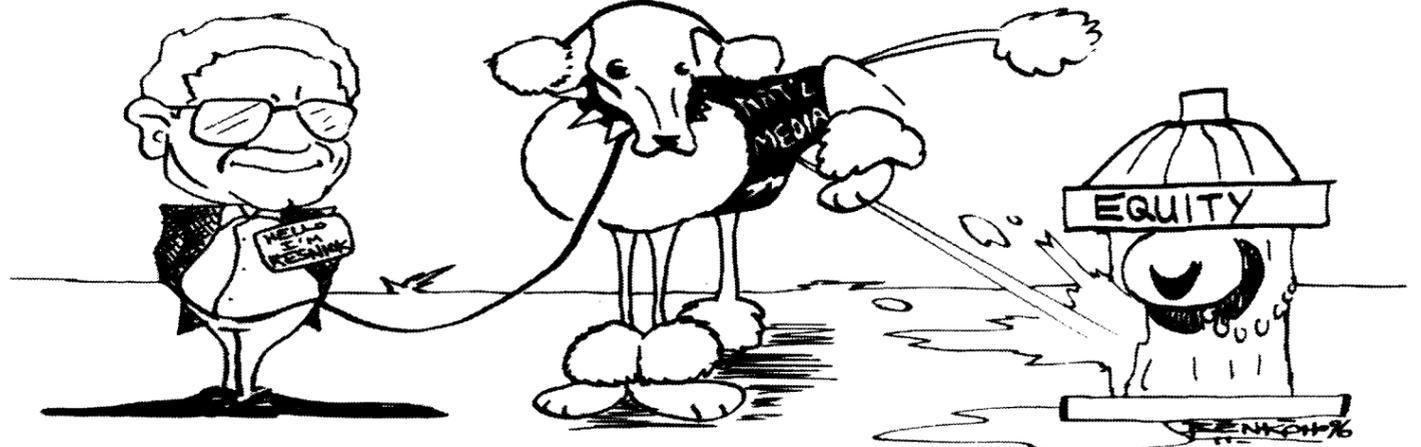
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# op/ed



## When 15 minutes are 14 too many

Who gave Philip Resnick authorship rights to the national agenda?

Or more precisely, who conceded them?

The UBC political science professor took an overdraught on his 15 minutes of fame late last week on radios, televisions and newspapers from sea to sea decrying UBC's presidential recruitment policies.

Not that we begrudge him the chance to air his views publicly. That's not the issue here.

The question is why his alarmist and overblown concern for the highly-educated, middle-class white male garnered such a response from the nation's editors and producers.

What, for instance, piqued the journalistic interest of the *Globe and Mail's* editors to such a degree that they took the unusual step of running a prominent news story about the fact that Resnick had written a commentary in the same issue as the commentary itself?

By doing so, the *Globe* wasn't simply reporting on the news, they helped create it. Overnight, a single UBC professor, albeit a Board of Governors faculty representative, had a portion of UBC's equity policy turned into an issue. Not that we're against revisiting policy; universities are supposed to be places where people can debate difficult questions.

But the only serious applicants for this job are highly educated, highly motivated, highly experienced.

Surely, like no other job you can name, the winning candidate will have to be well-qualified, regardless of gender, colour or ethnicity.

What Resnick may have done, in fact, is everything he says he is trying to avoid. By thrusting UBC's presidential search onto the public's agenda, the university is in a no-win situation. Now if it hires a woman, an aboriginal person, a member of a minority or a person with a disability, their selection will inevitably, and subtly, have been tainted by Resnick's debate.

It could be compared to the election of the National Action Committee's new president Joan Grant-Cummings which was portrayed simplistically by the national media as a battle between a black woman and a white woman. For NAC delegates it was simply a question of choosing the best candidate; the fact that the result was overwhelming had little to do with colour and everything to do with the fact that one was far better qualified for the job. Not that it played that way in much of the nation's press.

There's just so much attention being given to discrimination against white-males, we don't understand it. Statistics clearly

undermine Resnick's basic thesis. Men are still being hired for 65 percent of UBC's tenure track positions; no greater percentage of women are being hired than there are qualified applicants in Canada. A 15-month study out of Simon Fraser University discovered visible minority men born in Canada still earn an average of 8.5 percent less than white men with the same job, age and education.

It is unlikely that any white-male who was fully qualified for the position would have decided against submitting an application based on the equity clause contained in the ad. And if the ad convinces just one more aboriginal person to submit an application as well, all the better. Both the university and the presidential search process are better off for it.

So why the collective editorial wisdom of the nation chose to jump on this bandwagon remains something of a mystery.

Could it be that the words 'UBC political science' were enough to justify the ink and airtime? Would Resnick have had the same degree of attention for, say, an entry to the *Good Housekeeping* national cook-off if he'd had the savvy to call his recipe *The UBC Political Science Gumbo*?

Not that we'll ever know. In cookery competitions you don't appear on the evening news when your entry is half-baked. ♦

## letters

### Transit moves the wrong way

"For anyone here who's a UBC student, this is a questionnaire on BC transit service. If you can just fill it out and give it back to me before we get to campus that'd be great!"

This was the phrase that many UBC students heard at 8:00 in the morning while jammed like sardines into the back of a BC transit bus heading to campus. The AMS is distributing this questionnaire for one reason.

UBC has a BIG transportation problem. Students who take the bus are faced with severe overcrowding and being penalized for living close to campus by being continuously passed by full buses—try waiting for the #41 at Dunbar at 8:30 in the morning! The 50% (according to an environment center survey) of cyclists who ride along university boulevard are faced with a poorly maintained cycle path that detours far from most classes just before it reaches the center of campus. And those who opt for the costly yet comfy option of the private automobile are faced with huge lineups for decreasing

parking spaces. As you can see it is clear that all three of the main methods of getting to and from classes are currently being squeezed and are becoming less and less viable. With major development plans imminent for UBC, B-lot and the lands surrounding it, it is a certainty that parking will become more scarce and probably more expensive, forcing even car-lovers to search for alternatives. Cycling is an option for a fair number of people but most displaced and converted motorists will be looking at taking transit. But precisely at the time that a great improvement is required in transit service to UBC to pick up the slack, BC transit is proposing to cut the frequency of service on the #4 and #9 bus routes! On the AMS transit questionnaires that have been returned so far the majority of the respondents said that they had been left behind by a full bus on the way to school and almost all had seen it happen to others! It is an unacceptable situation, especially considering that the routes to UBC are among the few in the transit system that actually make money! Please tell transit that we need more buses to UBC not less by calling their "commendation and complaint" line

at 540-3040. If you would like to help the AMS in its lobbying efforts for better transit, including the questionnaire, contact the coordinator of external

affairs, Allison Dunnet. Her office number is 822-2050.

Jeremy Forst  
Secretary

Student Environment Centre

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All letters are printed as received; *The Ubyyssey* does not edit letters.



UVIC MIDFIELDER Tricia Warrender carries the ball while being pursued by T-Bird Sarah Cunningham. ERIC MORTEN PHOTO

## WOMENS SOCCER

# Birds kick off season with win

by Terry Clement  
The Martlet

UBC's women's soccer team kicked off the Canada West season with a hard-earned 1-0 away victory over arch-rival Victoria.

The golden goal came with 20 minutes left when Zoe Adrian, left unchecked, lofted an 18-yard volley over UVic rookie keeper Carmen Turner following Liz Conner's cross from the left side.

With regulars Tammy Crawford, Veronica Lee and Leanne McHardy out with injury, UBC started off slowly and looked nervous in the back.

The Vikes played a spirited first half, but couldn't put the onion past veteran goalie Lisa Archer who

made three outstanding saves in the first half and shared the shutout with rookie Sarah Collings.

As the half progressed, the Lady Birds got more into the game and Jen Walker had a glorious scoring chance on a breakaway late first half, but was stopped by rookie Vikes keeper Carmen Turner who made her first Canada West start.

On the whole, Head Coach Dick Mosher was satisfied with the game. "Considering that we were a little bit injury-ridden, I thought it was a reasonable result."

"We were pleased with the win," said veteran goalie Lisa Archer. "But we need to play better when we face our tougher competition."

UVic coach Ian Bridge, mean-

while, was disappointed with the result. "There was a real belief at halftime that we could win," he said. "But we made one little mistake and it cost us the game." ♦

## Bird Droppings

### Volleyball

The women's volleyball team finished second in the University of Portland Invitational tournament this past weekend, losing 0-3 (9-15, 8-15, 9-15) to the Oregon State Beavers in the final. The Birds advanced to the final by beating the host team Portland Ducks 3-0 (15-5, 15-10, 18-16). ♦

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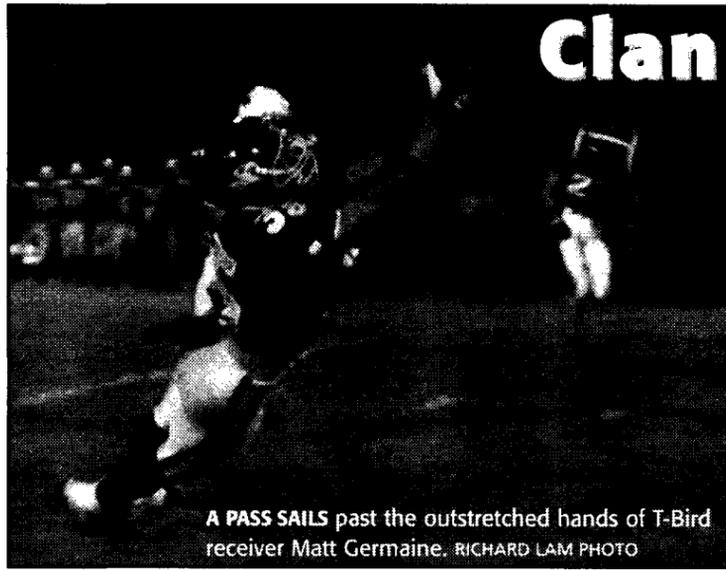
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A PASS SAILS past the outstretched hands of T-Bird receiver Matt Germaine. RICHARD LAM PHOTO

## Clan plucks Birds 25-15

Playing behind an outstanding offensive line, Clansman QB Cam Weber completed 14 of 24 passes for 224 yards. His favorite target Steve Hamer-Jackson caught seven balls for 144 yards despite strong coverage.

Running backs Shawn Lee and Dave Mattiazzo combined for 129 yards on 23 carries. Kicker Bret Anderson was also dead-on, nailing field goals from 34, 22, 39 and 38 yards.

While the Clan had all the answers on offence, the Birds' struggled in the first half and fumbled four times.

Starter Jason Day was ineffective in the first half, completing seven of 17 passes for just 56 yards. He was replaced late in the half by back-up Shawn Olson.

Day's numbers would have been much better had it not been for a butter-fingered receiver corps. Tight end John Little had a particularly tough night.

On the bright side, Olson played well in the second half. He completed 16 of 26 passes for 221 yards and one TD to Simon Beckow, who led UBC with 124 yards on nine receptions.

Coach Smith hasn't decided yet who will start at quarterback when the Birds travel to Calgary to face the defending Vanier Cup Champions Friday.

"I'm going to look at the tape and we'll have a week of practice to get ready," he said.

SFU drew first blood when Shawn Lee scored untouched on a two-yard run midway through the opening quarter. Lee's score was set up by a Mark Nohra fumble deep in UBC territory.

It was sign of things to come.

A 38-yard Bret Anderson field goal gave the Clansmen a ten-point lead early second. Dave Mattiazzo increased SFU's lead when he busted up the middle for a 42-yard TD run late in the half.

UBC's Dino Camparmo returned the ensuing kick-off 44 yards, giving the Birds' excellent field position.

But UBC couldn't move the ball and missed a chance to score on a 42-yard field goal attempt when Jason Day couldn't handle a bad snap.

The two teams traded turnovers late in the first half before a Bret Anderson field goal gave the Clansmen a 19-0 halftime lead.

Anderson kicked two field goals early in the second half to give SFU a 25-0 lead. UBC put a good drive together midway third quarter and Mark Nohra's 25-yard touchdown run fueled comeback hopes, but a holding penalty negated the score and UBC was forced to settle for a single point as Jamie Boreham's 38-yard field goal attempt sailed wide.

Nohra's four yard scoring run and Beckow's 30-yard touchdown reception in the final quarter concluded the scoring. ♦

by Wolf Depner

Bad penalties. Dropped balls. Six turnovers. Mistakes everywhere.

The UBC Thunderbirds stumbled, bumbled and fumbled their way into an ugly 25-15 loss to the SFU Clansmen in Shrum Bowl XIX in front of 5,000 fans Friday night.

With the win, SFU tied the series at 9-9-1.

The Birds dug themselves into a hole early on and trailed 25-1 after three quarters before back-up quarterback Shawn Olson engineered two late scoring drives to pull the Birds within ten points.

But it was too little too late against a stalwart SFU defence that shut down UBC's running game and sacked UBC quarterbacks twice.

Drunken UBC fans amused themselves by throwing turf on

SFU players in the first half. SFU fans retaliated by defeathering the Birds' mascot late in the game.

"They came out and deserved all the credit for the win. They execute really well," said UBC Head Coach Casey Smith. "Our guys didn't play to their potential and I think that was pretty obvious." His Shrum Bowl coaching record now stands at 1-1.

"You couldn't do any worse than [tonight]," lamented a visibly dejected veteran halfback Mark Nohra.

"It was a really crappy game," he added. "We could have beaten this team."

SFU Head Coach Chris Beaton was elated by the victory, his third as head coach and first since 1990. "It's about time. It was our turn. This is a real positive sign for the rest of our season."

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