THE UBYSSEY

PAGE FRIDAY

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SHRUM BOWL XXIX

UBC offence ready to battle SFU clan

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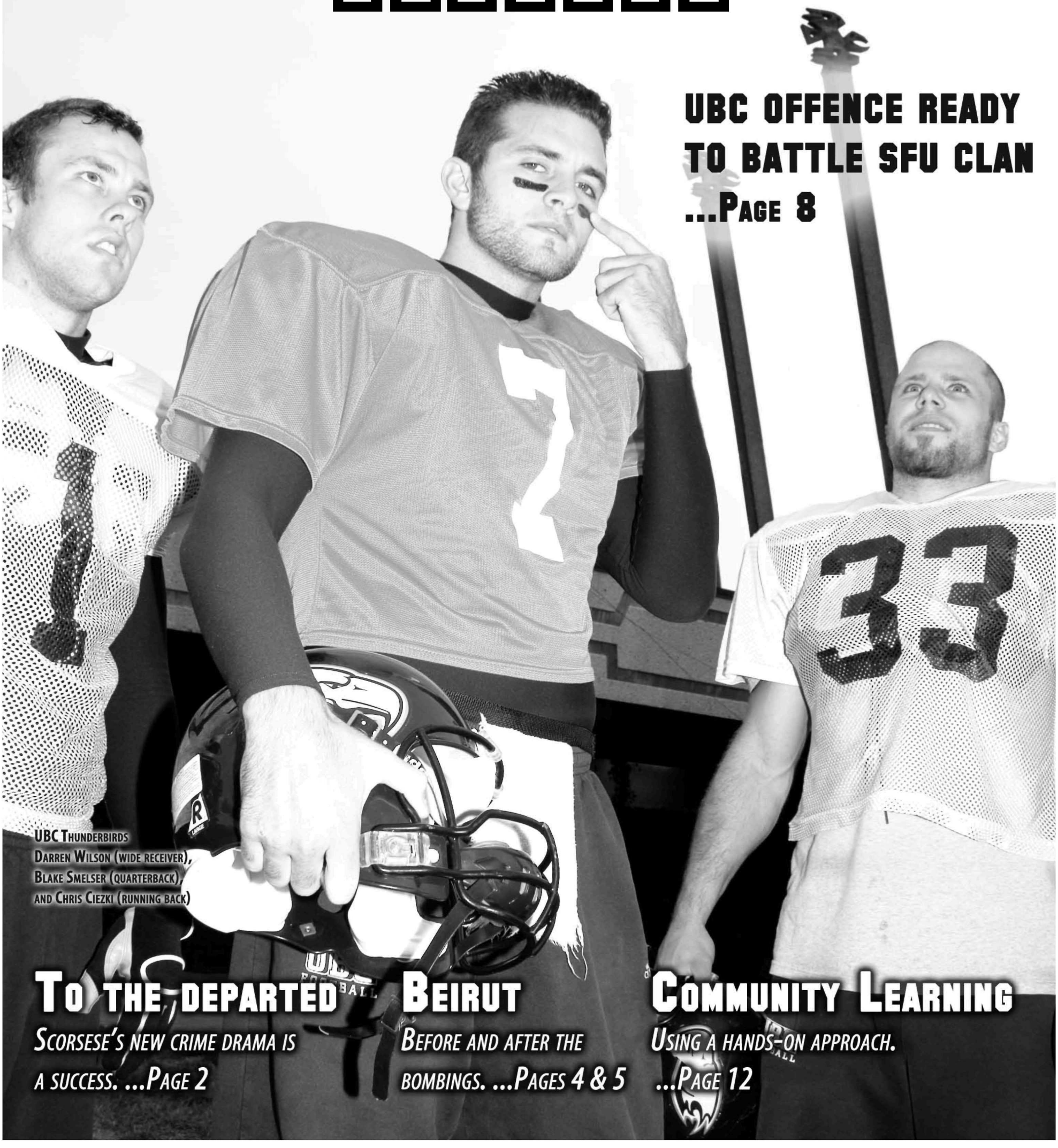

UBC Thunderbirds Darren Wilson (wide receiver), Blake Smelser (quarterback), and Chris Ciezki (running back)

To the departed

Scorsese's new crime drama is a success. ...Page 2

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Before and after the bombings. ...Pages 4 & 5

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Scorsese *Departs* futile Oscar race

THE DEPARTED
now playing

by Jesse Ferreras
CULTURE EDITOR

Since 2002, Martin Scorsese's quest for an Oscar has proven more elusive than he initially hoped. *Gangs of New York* went zero-for-ten nominations, while 2004's *The Aviator,*lost out to *Million Dollar Baby* in many of the most important categories. As Jon Stewart remarked at last year's ceremony, "Three 6 Mafia one, Martin Scorsese zero." It's refreshing, at the very least, to see the veteran filmmaker return to the genre that made his name—crime drama. From an adaptation of the Hong Kong action classic *Infernal Affairs* comes *The Departed,* a story of greed and betrayal transferred to Boston's criminal underground. The film is almost certain to upset some purists who adored the original, but for anyone looking for one of the best films of the year, they need not look much further.

Colin Sullivan (Matt Damon) has grown up with a father figure in Frank Costello (Jack Nicholson), a mafia boss who has his hand in nearly every business in town. As an adult, he rises up quickly through the ranks of the police academy and lands a lucrative job as detective in a department midway between the police and the FBI. Billy Costigan (Leonardo DiCaprio), meanwhile, is a smart but hotheaded police recruit who comes from a long line of criminals and refuses to tread the path himself. Kicked out of the academy, he is recruited by Captain Oliver Queenan (Martin Sheen) and his mouthy assistant Dignam (Mark Wahlberg) to serve a light sentence in prison and infiltrate Costello's gang as their rat. While Costigan finds himself at Costello's right hand from the inside, Sullivan plays mole for Costello in the police, tipping him off at every point that he may get caught. With two police officers playing a cat-and-mouse game on either side of him, Costello becomes the focal point of a chase in which loyalties are compromised and resolve is tested to the brink as both parties work diligently to conceal their allegiances.

The Departed is a film loaded with great talent that shows incredible chemistry on screen. A big-name cast starring Damon, DiCaprio, Nicholson, Wahlberg and Sheen would normally be a formula for clashing egos. Here, the actors find the right balance in a film with an energetic director who manages to keep a complex script compelling and intelligent to the end. One of the film's biggest highlights is its snappy, foul-mouthed dialogue, communicated through only marginally convincing, but always entertaining, Boston accents. Wahlberg has the lion's share of great lines as the trash-talking Dignam, getting a rise out of DiCaprio and Damon as often as he chooses. Jack Nicholson as a mafia boss is a huge draw as well, as he should be. Slimy, intimidating, yet strangely charming, Frank Costello is the Devil himself.

Every member of the cast shines, thanks in particular to a snappy script directed to a breakneck pace. Although at certain points the film becomes so complex that it is difficult to follow the plot (some audience members complained that Wahlberg's character was an unnecessary complication) it never lags and is always entertaining. Quite simply, this is Scorsese's best film since *GoodFellas*. He may have had to do it at the expense of originality, but it is very encouraging to see the master of American crime drama return to form.

'tweens

Lunch with Beckett
October 6-7, 12:10pm
Frederic Wood Theatre
Theatre at UBC is presenting a series of events exhibiting the work of the absurdist playwright. This Friday will show *A Piece of Monologue* and *Play*. Call (604) 822-2678 for more information.

Cirque du Soleil: Delirium
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October Movies
FRI OCT 6 – SUN OCT 8
7:00 The Break-Up
9:30 Scoop
WED OCT 11 – THU OCT 12
7:00 Gremlins
9:30 Ghost
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CLASSIFIEDS

Announcements

GOLDEN KEY INTERNATIONAL HONOUR SOCIETY. Congratulations to the new Inductees! DEADLINE TO JOIN in order to participate in the Induction Reception: November 1st 2006. *Can still join after this date. Induction Reception: Saturday November 18th 2006, 1:00 p.m. at the Chan Centre. Local: www.ubcgoldenkey.org & International: www.goldnenkey.org

ENGINEERS WITHOUT BORDERS co-founder George Roter will be speaking at UBC on Tuesda, 10 October, at 5:30pm, in the Norm Theater (SUB). Come join us for this inspiring look into the world of international development and the fight against exterme poverty.

Academic Services

EXPERIENCED TUTOR. Native English Speaker! ESL, English (speaking, writing, grammar), Sciences, Liberal Arts. Editing (Masters and PhD theses, papers, books). Elizabeth 7783222151 (SMS only), tcherina99@hotmail.com, 604-876-0965.

Callboard

CALL FOR MANUSCRIPTS. Undercurrent is the only student-run national undergraduate journal publishing scholarly essays and articles that explore the subject of international development. Submissions are currently being accepted for the fall issue of Undercurrent until October 1st. Topical papers are accepted from any academic discipline, and may include coursework past or present. Students have six months following graduation from an undergraduate program to submit work. Please consult www.undercurrentjournal.ca for further information regarding guidelines for submissions. Any questions may be directed to contact@undercurrentjournal.ca.

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BE A PART OF SOMETHING BIG! Be a Big Brother. Spend a few hours a week biking, hiking, and being a buddy to a cool kid. Call 604-876-2447 ext. 224 or www.bigbrothersvancouver.com

Employment

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THE UBYSSEY

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COORDINATING EDITOR *Eric Szeto*
coordinating@ubyssey.bc.ca

NEWS EDITORS *Colleen Tang & Carolynne Burkholder*
news@ubyssey.bc.ca

CULTURE EDITOR *Jesse Ferreras*
culture@ubyssey.bc.ca

SPORTS EDITOR *Boris Korby*
sports@ubyssey.bc.ca

FEATURES/NATIONAL EDITOR
Momoko Price
features@ubyssey.bc.ca

PHOTO EDITOR *Oker Chen*
photos@ubyssey.bc.ca

PRODUCTION MANAGER
Champagne Choquer
production@ubyssey.bc.ca

COPY EDITOR
Jesse Marchand
copy@ubyssey.bc.ca

COORDINATORS

VOLUNTEERS *Mary Leighton*
volunteers@ubyssey.bc.ca

RESEARCH/LETTERS
Andrew MacRae
feedback@ubyssey.bc.ca

WEBMASTER
Matthew Jewkes
webmaster@ubyssey.bc.ca

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EDITORIAL OFFICE
Room 24, Student Union Building
6138 Student Union Boulevard
Vancouver, BC V6T 1Z1
tel: 604-822-2301
fax: 604-822-9279
web: www.ubyssey.bc.ca
e-mail: feedback@ubyssey.bc.ca

BUSINESS OFFICE
Room 23, Student Union Building
advertising: 604-822-1654
business office: 604-822-6681
fax: 604-822-1658
e-mail: advertising@ubyssey.bc.ca

BUSINESS MANAGER *Fernie Pereira*
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"All aboard the Eric Szeto/Jennu Hu wagon!" exclaimed Brandon Adams. Mary Leighton, Michelle Vinci and Elliott Chalmers all got on. They met Momoko Price who said the Oker Chen express was faster and that their Kellan Higgins food tasted better. Her friends, Andrew MacRae, Sarah-Nelle Jackson, Peter Holmes, and Elena Banfield disagreed. "This Carolynne Burkholder food is way better than Higgins!" Jesse Marchand, Claudia Li and Cody Burdett ignored them all. Champagne Choquer and Colleen Tang were playing pin the tale on Boris Korby in the back. Jesse Ferreras and George Prior complained that the wagon was too small while Matthew Jewkes jumped out. Jessica Jiyoung Kim, Ariana Maskovitz and Patrick Bruskiewicz started a food fight and attacked Drew Gilmour, Candice Okada, Cheata Nao and Isabel Montoya. Leigh-Anne Mathison and Kian Mintz-Woo made them stop. Amanda Stutt turned out to be the director of the wagon and while Kate Webb was her assistant. Peter Holmes realised that he had missed the wagon and had ice cream instead.

EDITORIAL GRAPHIC *Michael Bround*

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Mann brings Rat Fink into history

by Jesse Ferreras
CULTURE EDITOR

Many documentaries are notable because they provide a view into grim social realities and project strong political messages—not so much the case for Ron Mann's work.

The documentarist, recognised as one of the country's best, has made his name after taking on such eclectic subjects as marijuana prohibition, free jazz and environmental activism. He is currently screening *Tales of the Rat Fink* as part of the Canadian Images program at the Vancouver International Film Festival. His latest is a film combining animation and archival footage to tell the story of Ed "Big Daddy" Roth, who helped make famous the "Hot Rod" and created the anti-Mickey Mouse character "Rat Fink."

Discussing his sophomore film *Poetry in Motion,* a film about performance poetry featuring luminaries such as Allen Ginsberg and William Burroughs, Mann describes himself as less a filmmaker than a proponent of a movement to bring alternative and counterculture into the historical record.

"I felt I had a certain responsibility," he said. "Because I don't consider myself a documentary filmmaker, I consider myself a cultural historian...It was about preserving the record of post-beat poetry. So, 100 years from now we would still have a record of these poets."

"A history of the 20th century is basically an audiovisual history, and so if it's not recorded it simply didn't happen. And of course it did," he continued, "and there is dissent and there is alternative viewpoints ... a lot happens outside the mainstream which I think actually has a great impact on the realm of art."

> "ROTH PULLED UP IN SOME CONTRAPTION AND HE HAD TOLD ME THAT HE HAD SLEPT UNDER HIS CAR THAT NIGHT DRIVING TO LOS ANGELES."
>
> *–Ron Mann*
> *Director, Tales of the Rat Fink*

A particular feature of Mann's work is his attempt to have his films' styles mirror those of his subjects. A case in point is his documentary *Grass,* about marijuana prohibition. The film, screened at VIFF 99, combined archival newsreel footage with animations that satirised the hyperbolic tone of anti-drug propaganda aimed at impressionable youth.

Tales of the Rat Fink is no different. For this film, Mann employed the services of Mike Roberts, a car fanatic and graduate of Sheridan College, to help capture the "zany" style of Roth's artwork. He describes the outcome on film as a "*Devil on Wheels* meets *Fantasia.*"

"This film is kind of a collage of many different artifacts that were left over after Ed passed away," he said. "I met him in Reno...at Hot August Nights, and we're going from air-conditioned room to air-conditioned room, and Reno was really hot. And Roth pulled up in some contraption and he had told me that he had slept under his car that night driving from Los Angeles.

"And I thought, oh my God, this is a perfect character. I mean he's like Wolfman Jack...He was a rockin' tour and he kept telling me story after story and I thought it was important to capture on film."

Already working on "Fungi Film," a project about mushrooms, Mann's attempts to bring alternative culture into the historical record have given him a fan base that has developed into a kind of cult following. He explains that the imminent disappearance of a countercultural artist is something that drives his work.

"That's why I make these movies," Mann said, "so there's a record of these artists...otherwise there's history in the air and it disappears. Especially alternative history, which doesn't get recorded."

Hyperreal camerawork is highlight of *Still Life*

STILL LIFE
Vancouver International Film Festival
October 4

by Kian Mintz-Woo
CULTURE WRITER

Still Life depicts a town that is washed away. The people on the banks of the Yangtze are being evicted as a result of the Three Gorges Dam. In this film, Jia Zhangke examines the city of Fengjie as it is demolished to make space for diverted water and its citizens try to cope with the loss of their homes.

That theme is clear in the stories of the central protagonists, both of whom are looking for their partners and, by extension, some sense of completion in their lives. A woman (Zhao Tao) comes from Shanghai to look for her husband who has left for Fengjie and whom she has not seen for two years. Meanwhile, a man (Han Sanming) comes from Shanxi to find his wife and eventually connect with his daughter.

Cinematographer Yu Likwai utilises incredible camerawork—his medium shots pull the audience in and the handheld camera heightens this effect. His color saturation also lends itself to a hyperrealistic feel as the city is destroyed. Most of the film revolves, literally or figuratively, around the destruction of the city as people are evicted and young men hammer at the shells of buildings until they burst.

Zhangke's script has a brilliance that is grounded in the minutiae of life. One of the most wonderful, truthful and hilarious moments in the movie comes as a boy in his underwear wanders into a man's room, takes a cigarette, lights it, begins to smoke and walks away. Zhangke's script is full of such vivid details that elevate it far beyond the central stories.

Kutcher believable prey in *Open Season*

OPEN SEASON
now playing

by Cody Burdett
CULTURE WRITER

Hunting season is only three days away when we meet Boog, a 900-pound performing grizzly (voiced by Martin Lawrence), who has everything a bear could wish for. Fully domesticated in the garage of the ranger who raised him from a cub (a playful Debra Messing of *Will and Grace* fame), his comfortable life of flush toilets and salmon cookies is transformed after an encounter with a wiry, one-antlered mule deer named Elliot (Ashton Kutcher).

> "WHO BETTER TO PLAY THE ENORMOUS THIEVING BEAR THAN MARTIN LAWRENCE...HE SEEMS RATHER FAMILIAR AND SENSITIVE TO THE FEAR AND PANIC INDUCED WHEN LOADED GUNS ARE WIELDED IN PUBLIC."

Strapped to the hood of a truck belonging to the crazed local hunter Shaw (Gary Sinise), Boog's claw saves the young buck from an inescapable fate to become another creature adorning the walls of the hunter's cabin. Feeling indebted to his saviour, Elliot prods Boog to join him in a late night junk food buffet that awaits the pair behind the locked doors of a convenience store. This meal is one of their last in civilisation, as the animal odd couple soon awake in the wild just days before open season. As shots echo through the forest, Boog finds himself leading a motley crew of forest dwellers determined to outwit the Heston-like intruders and survive another summer.

With the success of animated features like *Toy Story* and *Shrek,* it was only a matter of time before Dreamworks and Pixar had more competition. Friday's release of *Open Season* is the first attempt by Sony Animation Studios to deliver a feature-length animated film. A predictable storyline combined with amazing visual effects, particularly in Imax 3D, allow it fit snugly with the other CGI films, which seem to open every other weekend.

The only thing that sets *Open Season* apart is excellent casting. Who better to play the enormous thieving bear than Martin Lawrence (think *Blue Streak* meets *Big Momma's House*). He seems rather familiar with the fear and panic involved with a loaded gun being wielded in public, only this time the story doesn't take place on an LA freeway. Real life cougar-bait Ashton Kutcher, meanwhile, is perfectly believable as a fast-talking, scrawny deer, and considering that Gary Sinise signed onto *CSI: New York,* it's not much of a stretch to see him play a lunatic.

Overall the film accomplishes what it sets out to do. The audience of ten-year-olds will laugh for 90 minutes and whoever drove them there might chuckle just enough to forget how bad traffic will be on the way home.

Hey man, yo' mamma's so stupid she took the Pepsi Challenge and chose Jif.

Pissed? Bring it. feedback@ubyssey.bc.ca

UNIVERSITY OF BRITISH COLUMBIA
Campus & Community Planning

Important Notice:

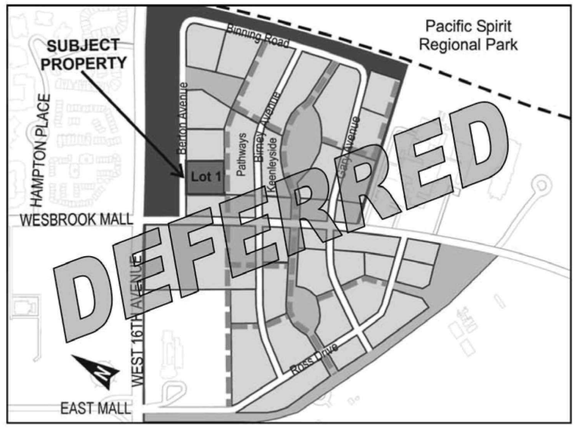
C A N C E L L E D

UBC Development Permit Board Meeting on October 11, 2006 is cancelled.

Consideration of the previously advertised DP Application DP 06023: South Campus Lot 1 Highrise (The Wesbrook) located on the map below for the October 11, 2006 meeting will be deferred to the next Development Permit Board Meeting on November 8, 2006.

More information on the 18-storey, 62-unit residential tower with 7 townhouses project by ASPAC Developments Ltd is available on the C & CP website:
www.planning.ubc.ca/corebus/devapps/html

Please contact Caroline Eldridge at caroline.eldridge@ubc.ca or 604-822-9318 with questions or comments regarding this project.



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'The Beirut you came to know no longer exists.'

MONTREAL (CUP)—One week before I left for Beirut, my family had dinner with an uncle visiting from Beersheva, Israel. Halfway through the evening, he turned to look at me. He put down his fork.

"So. You're leaving in a week." I nodded. He asked if I was excited. I told him, excitedly, that I was. He exploded."You're insane and naive and you're going to get killed! The Syrian secret police are going to follow you. Hezbollah is going to kill you. I'm not e-mailing you there because your Internet usage will surely be tapped. My God, Ariana, why are you doing this?"

For months, I had heard the same argument against my decision to go to Lebanon: You are female, American and above all, Jewish. According to people like my uncle, I was gazing dreamily into the mouth of a volcano.

But I thought my belief that Lebanon would be safe was well-founded. I had read countless books and articles,talked to professors, Lebanese people and others who had lived in Lebanon to work or study. The country is far and away the most "westernised" in the Arab world, resulting from when Lebanon was considered the "Switzerland of the Middle East" and much of the country's revenue came from tourism.

By the time I left in late January, I had concluded that, while Lebanon is inherently unstable, the likelihood of conflict in the near future would be low, particularly since Syria had withdrawn from the country. The precarious security situation in Beirut was, as the president of my Lebanese university explained to me, "a nasty game being played out by politicians" far above my head.

Beirut by night

The first night I was in Beirut, I was on the verge of sleep when my new suitemate walked out of her room in sheer, black patterned stockings and a loose-fitting, deep-plunging green blouse that I immediately wished I owned.

"I'm so sorry I'm not dressed," she apologised in flawless English. "I'm Sara. It's wonderful to meet you." Sara proceeded to offer me all of the food in her refrigerator and invited me to bar-hop with her in Monot. I had no idea what Monot was, but it was clearly a posh place: Sara had put on a short skirt that flared out, huge earrings and high heels.

When we got out of the cab in Monot—a hub of Beirut's legendary nightlife—I felt like I was in a movie. Palm trees lined the sidewalks, every light seemed like it was a different colour, and music emanated from all of the open doorways around me. Hundreds of people, talking, smoking, and dressed to the nines, promenaded by. I had never been anywhere so glamorous.

A uniformed soldier passed by us with a rifle slung over his shoulder. I asked Sara why he was there. "You know, the security situation," she answered, referring to the spate of bombings and assassinations throughout 2005 that began with the death of the former Prime Minister Rafiq al-Hariri.

"Has anything happened here?" I asked nervously.

"Yeah, about 100 metres that way." She indicated the direction we had just come from. "But it was nothing big, really."

Lying in bed that night, I half-expected to hear an explosion. There was one within the week, but I did not hear it. In fact, I didn't even know it happened. There was minimal damage and no casualties, so people either didn't know it happened or ignored it if they did. It was the exact mentality a Lebanese friend of mine once described when I asked him how people respond after a bombing.

"You look around and then you keep driving to a different place. There's no bomb at the other place."

Soccer politics

A month later, I went to see Lebanon play Kuwait in a soccer match. Waiting for the gates to open, I heard a group of people to my left begin chanting. I asked someone from my school what they were saying.

"They are singing...they are talking about the suburbs of Beirut where Hezbollah is very strong."I asked him why. "They love Hezbollah. They do it everywhere, I don't know."

A moment later, a group of people to my right echoed the same melody, but with different words. They were chanting for Hezbollah's political foe, the Future Bloc, which holds a majority in Lebanon's Parliament. The two groups began going back and forth, the volume escalating with each successive round. Eventually, riot police and soldiers quelled the impromptu political standoff. I was uneasy.

In the stadium, I found myself next to roughly 500 Hezbollah supporters. At some point during the match, the man sitting closest to me took out his wallet and turned it over to reveal a photo of Hassan Nasrallah, Hezbollah's leader.

"What do you think of this man?" he asked my American friend. Not knowing whom the man in the picture was and not wanting to offend anyone, my friend said he thought that the man pictured was fantastic. The Lebanese man's face lit up.

"My brother! Welcome to Lebanon! Where are you from?"

"We're from America."

"Oh! America is a very good country!" And then, astonishingly, he began chanting, "U-S-A! U-S-A!" Picking up on the call, his friends joined in. Five hundred supporters of Hezbollah were chanting for the United States of America. A friend of mine from the US told me how relieved he was that no one taped the scene and let it fall into the hands of the Republican Party. I never would have guessed that Hezbollah would be erecting furious banners emblazoned "Made in the USA" over fresh mounds of rubble within the next six months.

Welcome

Around the time of the soccer game, I discovered Lebanese hospitality. Lebanese friends of my McGill classmate invited me for dinner and insisted I stay with them for the weekend. A girl I met in a shared taxi, Zahya, gave me her phone number in case I needed anything. The middle-aged couple with whom I shared a bench on the waterfront one night invited me to their house in the mountains, telling me from the moment we met that I was their sister. Fruit vendors regularly sent me home with more than I paid for.

For me, being a foreigner in Lebanon was an asset. The Lebanese are both very proud and acutely conscious of their country's reputation outside the Middle East. As a result, they go out of their way considerably for foreigners in hopes that their actions will counter any negative conceptions of Lebanon.

I remember watching the news with a friend. Following a segment about Iraq, she clucked her tongue in disapproval. A moment later, she turned to me anxiously.

"When you go back to America, you will tell them we're not like that, right? I think many Americans believe we are all the same."

The country's burgeoning tourism industry, which came to an abrupt halt when the war broke out on July 12, was an indicator that post-civil war reconstruction had been successful and that people were regaining their confidence in Lebanon and Beirut. The summer was projected to bring 1.5 million visitors to a country of only 3.8 million people.

The limits of wealth

Successful does not mean perfect, however, and even within Beirut there are glaring instances of inequality. After Lebanon's devastating civil war (1975-90), the downtown area was literally rebuilt from the ground up by the late Prime Minister Hariri, a multi-millionaire owner of a Saudi-based construction company.

City planning from scratch with nearly unlimited resources can yield dazzling results and downtown now looks as if it were constructed of gold. It is a city within a city, with its own generators, security, and cleaning and maintenance services.

Directly south are Beirut's southern suburbs. These areas are far more dilapidated than downtown. The buildings are close together and mostly monochromatic and the ones that sustained damage during the civil war were often just refurbished rather than rebuilt, some having been left unfinished. Driving on the overpass separating downtown from the suburbs, I occasionally saw the city centre in its golden splendor to my right, while on my left the suburbs sat shrouded in the darkness of a power outage.

Lebanon's biggest problem, as the recent conflict clearly illuminated, is that the Lebanese government has yet to extend its sovereignty over all of Lebanon's territory. This chronic weakness is the result of a number of factors. The country suffers from an ever-changing demography due to mass migration and fluctuating birthrates. The political system has not kept up with these changes and has thus led to the disenfranchisement of major sectors of the population and the institutionalised dominance of other groups. Unable to accommodate all of this, the government is in a near-constant state of paralysis. As a result, along with the massive debt following the civil war and the cost of reconstruction, the government's reach is limited and resources do not flow to every part of the country. Exacerbating everything is the fact that other countries and groups have continually exploited Lebanon's weakness and liberalism, hijacking Lebanese territory for use as a base for their activities.

Despite all this, the Beirut I left in late June was raucous and celebratory, teeming with life and aware that it was finally regaining the status of a sophisticated metropolis. There were spontaneous fireworks shows on the beach nearly every night, two major music festivals were slated for July and August and a rowdy parade on my street in honor of a Brazilian victory in the World Cup lasted for hours. I was crushed when I left.

War

Just a few weeks later, thousands of people were hastening to leave or relocate. I saw two of my American friends interviewed on CNN as they were being evacuated. Other friends were travelling when hostilities began and found themselves stranded on holiday, with all of their belongings in Beirut. In a civil war-style move, many of my Lebanese friends retreated from Beirut to their villages of origin. Others moved elsewhere in Beirut and those with dual citizenship left the country.

Basic goods like bread, rice, and milk became scarce. The price of gas increased six-fold. A taxi from Beirut to Damascus went from $50 to well over $500.

One week into the war, I received an e-mail from the international students coordinator at my university there.

"The Beirut you came to know," she told me, "no longer exists."

The Beirut lighthouse, where I always began my walks along the beach, is now only half there. Beirut's port sustained heavy damage, as did the airport. The southern city of Tyre, where I went for a day at the beach my last weekend in Lebanon, was bombarded for weeks and the road I took to get there is now impassable. Oil has washed up on the beaches in the entire northern half of the country because of the bombing of a power plant in Jiyyeh, a bit south of Beirut.

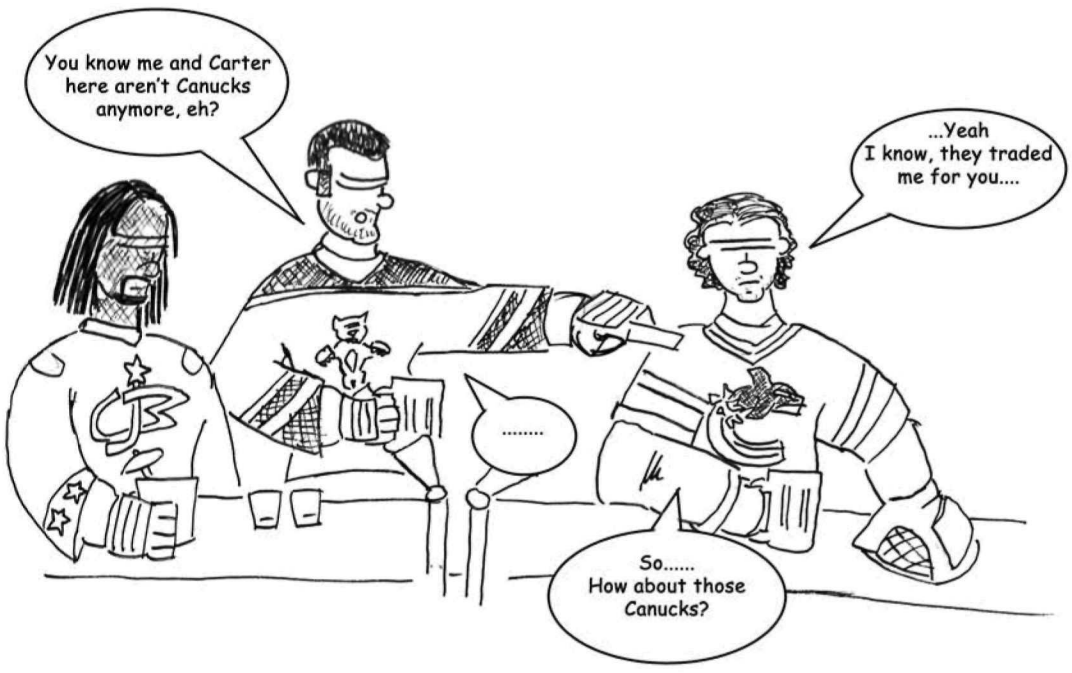
"I'm proud of being Lebanese, of being an Arab, and I love my country," said my friend Nizar. "Yet I can't help but think this every minute: Screw being born in the Middle East. You can't live one second without knowing that everything is just transient, temporary. You can't even make plans for the future because you know that nothing is guaranteed in this region of the world, not even staying alive."

Since the ceasefire on August 14, the Lebanese have attempted to steer their lives towards normality. Those in south will find the task of reconstruction far more arduous than elsewhere in the country. People in these areas tend to be poorer and the conflict has already destroyed thousands upon thousands of their residences. Some villages in the South essentially no longer exist. As for Beirut, the city I came to know is "almost back, but not quite," according to my friend, Reem. "There are no lights in the streets at night, so it's very dark. I'm almost afraid of walking back home in the evening. But apart from this, people are back to going out, you know the Lebanese."

Indeed, The New York Times reported that within hours of the ceasefire, thousands of internal Lebanese refugees began to stream back to their homes. The massive return was indicative of the national resilience. As a Lebanese blogger wrote, "Nothing has exploded in a few hours, so I plan to be in my house by dinner."

Ilham and Mazen are currently looking for a house, but "Mazen is worried, like most of the Lebanese people, that there will be another war," Ilham told me. "Hopefully things will be much better so that we can see you again in our country."

Story by Ariana Markowitz,
The McGill Daily (McGill University)
Photo by Oker Chen



This Joke Is Pretty Lame....How About Those Canucks?

The best defence is a good defence

For the past five years, the Canucks have been nothing if not electrifying. A year ago, Vancouver was coming off two consecutive 100-point seasons and four straight playoff appearances, while possessing what was widely considered the best line in the NHL. For a short time, the sky was the limit.

But with one playoff series win in four years, the city's patience was wearing thin on a team that never had more to show than regular season accolades.

So when the Canucks failed to make the playoffs last season, sweeping changes were made. Gone were the scorers that characterised the up-tempo style of play we were used to being entertained by.

As the new season begins, a new coach—known for his emphasis on defence—and new players will put on Canucks sweaters, hoping to turn around the fortunes of a franchise that only has two finals appearance to show for in 35 years of NHL hockey.

But, in a city that has been spoiled by offence for the past six years, will a defensively oriented system cause hockey fans to scoff at their home team? And while we can hear critics rattling their sabers as they denounce these changes as sacrilege, it raises an interesting question: what do hockey fans in Vancouver want more? Goals or wins?

Some would argue that we have become our own worst enemy. After years of criticising the New Jersey Devils, Vancouver management has decided to pattern Lou Lamoriello's management philosophy, now willing to sacrifice scoring for a chance to win.

Amidst a flurry of player moves over the summer our offence was left diminished. With pickups like Willie Mitchell and Marc Chouinard, our beloved-yet-oft-criticised home team was beginning to resemble the only team Vancouver fans would not pay money to see when they came to town: the Minnesota Wild. The Wild were dreaded because they epitomised everything that was wrong with hockey and so now too might we.

Even the skeptics agree that this new team lacks the firepower of previous years. No one can dispute that the departure of Todd Bertuzzi(71 points), Ed Jovanovski(33 points in only 44 games), Anson Carter(55 points), and Nolan Baumgartner(34 points) has left a 193-point void on the Canuck's scoresheet.

To compensate, Nonis has added Taylor Pyatt (12 points), and Jan Bulis (40 points) to go along with two former Wild players Marc Chouinard (30 points) and Willie Mitchell (10 points)—not exactly household names.

But with Roberto Luongo's signing, the hope is that the off-season subtractions won't be as detrimental to the club's record as anticipated. Luongo is undoubtedly one of the best goalies in the NHL, but we have to question whether we also lost what we loved the most about the Canucks for the past five years: entertainment.

There's no doubt that the Canucks will continue to be a huge draw. But for how long if success doesn't quickly follow? Vancouver went from a marginal hockey town into a Canuck-crazed city over the past six years after their most recent transformation.

They went from an unprofitable team that was losing approximately $30 million a year to one that was pocketing millions a year. GM Place has seen 127 straight sellouts of 18,630 fans. There were huge TV numbers as well—the city's media is now centered almost completely around the Canucks.

The new approach and new system isn't as glitzy, and its success will definitely determine its future. The Minnesota Wild have managed capacity crowds for five straight seasons with a stale lifeless style. Can Vancouver do the same?

Streeters

How do you feel about the changes to the Canucks this year?

—Michael Emrick
Education

"I could care less. I'm just not that interested."

—Claude D'Souza
Education

"I think they're definitely going to be stronger in the defensive end. I'm just hoping they'll have more depth."

—Bryce Miller
Education

"I think they were needed. All in all, I think they were good. I agree with the changes."

—Robert Taddei
Education

"Even the things that are still the same are different. Naslund's still here, but who's on his line?"

—Laura Kosakoski
Science 4

"I think they lost a lot of their old boys. It's a completely different team."

—Coordinated by Mary Leighton and Kellan Higgins

PERSPECTIVES

The importance of sticking to student issues

by Patrick Bruskiewich

It is good to be back at UBC for another term, and it is equally great to read the well-written *Ubyssey* articles about UBC opting out of the *Maclean's* annual survey of universities in Canada, as well as the article about forced early retirement.

Both of these articles remind us students of how important it is that the Fourth Estate (the print media) and our student representatives at the Alma Mater Society (AMS) and Graduate Student Society (GSS) keep focused on the important student issues at our university.

On the flip side, there are some political hacks that still try to drag students into those murky realms that our members of parliament, diplomats and peacekeepers find intractable and difficult. The recent Svengali letter on Middle Eastern politics (*Ubyssey* continues to be biased, September 29), which did not bear the name of a UBC student and which was obviously scripted, in the eyes of the knowledgeable scholar calls into question the integrity of the Fourth Estate. A true scholar is never afraid to put their name to their work, nor would they stand to script or front for the thoughts and ambitions of others.

Maclean's decision prior to the last federal election to publicly comment on the misbehaviour of a former member of parliament should be understood for what it was: a call for a higher level of conduct, a greater respect for parliament and most importantly a call for greater respect for international law. This commentary was in the finest tradition of the Fourth Estate and was supported by many editors and scholars across Canada.

I will never forget the sad and bizarre sight of a renegade MP, breaking ranks with his caucus and with parliament, surfacing in Sarajevo in the spring of 1999 and criticising the actions of the international community (in particular the North Atlantic Treaty Organisation) for coming to the aid of the thousands of non-combatants who were being systematically murdered by soldiers of the Serbian army. I can never forgive this politician for his lack of respect for international law and for his actions, which served to undermine the efforts of the international community and of Justice Louise Arbour who was acting on behalf of the International Court.

A few years ago I was glad to see UBC recognise Judge Arbour with an honourary degree in law for her courage and dedication in support of international law and humanitarian relief. Such dedication to international law is a national tradition set down by such great Canadians as Lester Pearson, Pierre Trudeau and David Suzuki.

I am personally happy to see Dr Suzuki support the Green Party and the Kyoto Accord, an international undertaking that he has dedicated so much of his personal and professional life to. My estimation is that in the next provincial and federal elections there will be some Green candidates elected to the House in Ottawa and to the Legislature in Victoria. By such courageous and conscientious action, Dr Suzuki stands true to the longstanding parliamentary traditions of our nation.

Here at UBC, one area I think more should be said about is the lack of Canadian content. I encourage our new president to dedicate some of his time and effort to address the need for greater Canadian content at UBC and would invite him to start at the Faculty of Education.

I frankly think the University should appoint a Blue Ribbon external review committee to make recommendations to the Board of Governors about how best to bring that Faculty in line with the scholastic and academic standards of the rest of UBC, and how to bring more Canadian content into that Faculty.

As we go into this fall's student elections, my view is that issues like UBC opting out of the *Maclean's* annual survey of universities in Canada, as well as forced early retirement are worthy of the best efforts of our student representatives. Were I in a position to advise these bright and talented student leaders, perhaps a referendum on one or both of these issues would find favour with your constituency here at UBC.

I would like to thank *the Ubyssey* for your fine reporting on these and many issues and encourage you to keep up your excellent work in support of the Canadian traditions of the Fourth Estate.

—Patrick Bruskiewich is a PhD student in the department of physics and astronomy

Coursework becoming community based

by Amanda Stutt
NEWS WRITER

UBC was recently awarded a $1 million grant by the J.W McConnell Foundation that will enable students to expand their educational horizons out of the classroom and out into local communities.

The grant supports Community Service-Learning (CSL)—for students to participate in projects in non-profit organisations as an aspect of course work.

Professor Margo Fryer of the School of Community and Regional planning is the director of the UBC Community Learning Initiative. She explained that "Community Service-Learning is the integration of students' volunteer work in community settings with academic coursework...complementing what students are studying."

"We want students to be demonstrating learning related to their experience in the community," she said, "for example in place of a midterm, students would do their community service and then write a paper based on their reflections about what they have experienced in the community and how that connects with their coursework."

Students have participated in CSL in non-profit organisations such as the Dr Peter Centre in Vancouver's west end for people with HIV, and the YWCA's "Crabtree Corner," a facility on the Downtown Eastside for women and children.

"Community Service-Learning is a really effective way to increase students' sensitivity to community issues, increase their understanding of [what] can...be done in community settings [and] what the complexities of the issues might be," explained Fryer.

"The initiative is aiming to expand the territory that we're bringing students into, not just downtown, but other parts of the Lower Mainland, and potentially over time the whole province, as well, we're looking to broaden the thematic scope to include issues of sustainability...potentially...urban agriculture and projects with First Nations communities," she added. "With this funding we're able to expand both the geographical territory that students are working in and the kinds of issues they're working in relation to."

Fryer said that one of the reasons UBC is committed to advancing CSL is because, "we see it as an effective way to develop the qualities of global citizenship, which is part of the University's strategic plan, Trek Vision 2010."

The central themes of Trek Vision are preparing students to be global citizens, promoting the values of a civil and sustainable society and conducting outstanding research to serve the people of British Columbia, Canada and the World. Trek Vision was developed when Martha Piper was UBC president, and current president Stephen Toope is committed to following her iniative, Fryer explained.

"We're committed to this because we've seen students saying...it's transformed my thinking...about my role in the world, my ability to make a difference," she said. "It's helped students to clarify their thinking about their education goals and their career goals."

UBC zoology instructor Alice Cassidy implemented CSL as part of Biology 345, a course in Human Ecology, and found that the CLS initiative, "works really well. Students are motivated...it becomes more to do with something that's real to them. They choose it, it's theirs, they own it."

Students in her class worked at the UBC farm where they "helped move greenhouses, and prepared a field for planting." Students also participated in a project at University Hill Elementary School, where they "worked with students to make the school grounds greener."

Cassidy explained that community work connects to academic work as a marriage of theory and practice.

According to Cassidy, CSL "is the right thing to do...for social justice reasons, but also to help students learn."

PHOTO COURTESY OF CHLOE LEWIS

Former UBC student Francie Hayward completed a degree in women's studies and sociology, and is now coordinator of community partnerships in the CSLI.

Hayward recounted her experiences as a student with CSL as an opportunity "to see how my degree could be used in a real setting. I felt like I could practice the theory I was using in my coursework," she said, adding that she then understood how to use those theories as well as applying it to her degree.

Hayward believes learning how to apply theory and research to a real setting is essential, and found that she was able to "apply knowledge, and contribute successfully...to serious social issues."

Hayward explained the overarching theme for her was learning. "I have a lot to give, and also a lot to learn." Hayward sees opportunities for "contributing to communities in a meaningful way. I really believe that this way of learning is beneficial to both students and community organisations."

Margo Fryer explained the aspirations for the future of the initiative. "We're looking at not only how we can integrate [CSL] into existing courses, but [also to] work with faculty to develop some new courses that integrate CSL in a potentially innovative and different way."

"We're in the process of getting the word out that we have this funding and we are able to offer some resources to faculty," she said.

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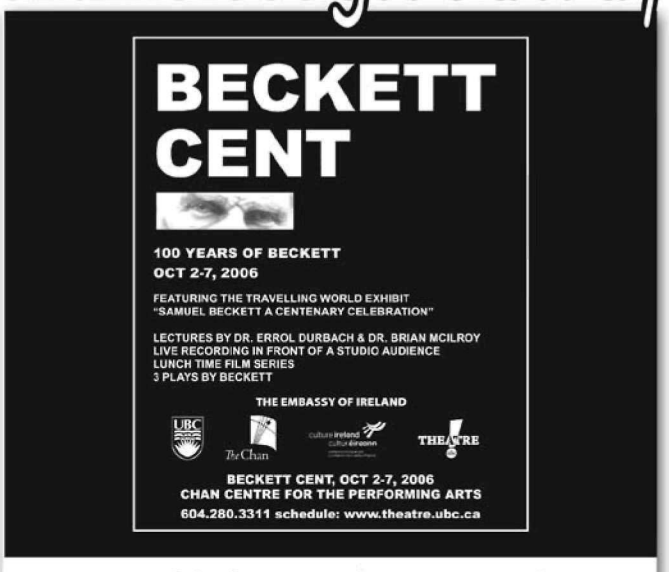

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More than pride on the line at Shrum Bowl

Birds gear up for XXIX game against SFU Clan

by Boris Korby
SPORTS EDITOR

There will be more than city bragging rights up for grabs Saturday afternoon as UBC and SFU square off in Shrum Bowl XXIX. The T-Birds' playoff dreams will be on the line as they face off against their cross-town rivals in the home and home series that finishes Wednesday night at Swangard Stadium.

"The rivalry is huge. It'd be nice to get that trophy...but it's a playoff game for us, too, because we've got to keep winning," said fifth-year quarterback Blake Smelser.

UBC has entered the halfway point of the season at 2-2, holding down the fourth and final playoff spot in Canada West. Last weekend's shootout win against Regina put UBC in control of their own playoff destiny as the second half of the season gets underway, but that will quickly change if the T-Birds can't take advantage of the struggling SFU Clan.

"We're hoping to get better and better every week, and that's what this game is about for us, to continue to improve, despite the opponent," said Thunderbirds head coach Ted Goveia.

Meanwhile, the Clan are battling through a rebuilding year under rookie head coach Frank Boehres. SFU has dropped 13 games in a row dating back to 2004, but a victory in the Shrum Bowl would erase a lot of the pain of the last two years, which includes last year's 40-33 overtime defeat in Shrum Bowl XXVIII.

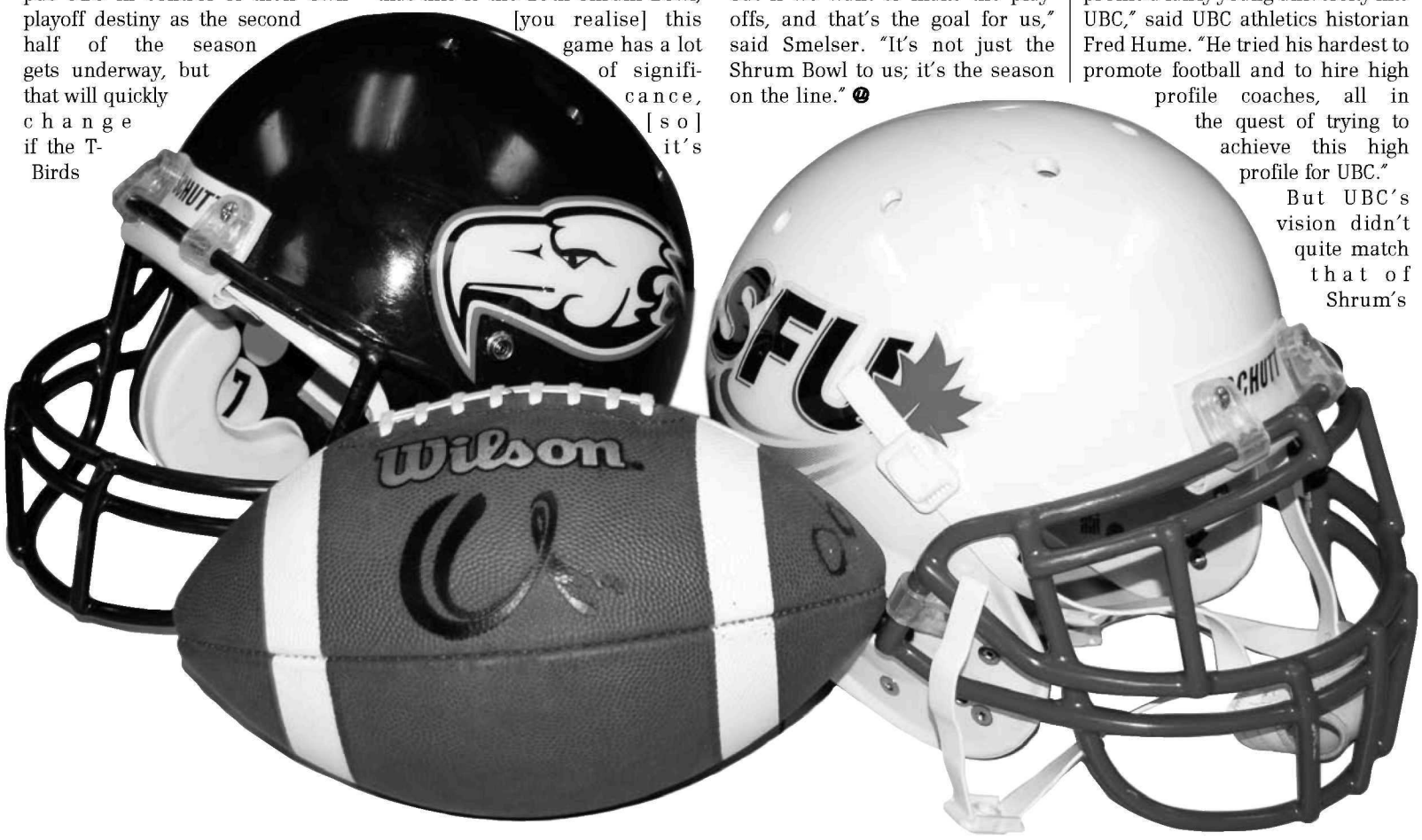
"Any game we play, it's a critical game...but because this is [against our] cross town rivals there's an added interest," said Boehres. "Then when you factor in that this is the 29th Shrum Bowl, [you realise] this game has a lot of significance, [so] it's important to show well.

"When I first came to UBC, we were 0-8, and one of the first things the alumni said to us was 'just win the Shrum Bowl,'" added Goveia, speaking on the importance of the game.

Though UBC is clearly favoured going into the weekend matchup, the Thunderbirds will not be taking their opposition for granted come Saturday, according to Goveia.

"This game is going to be a good challenge for us. And there's something about the Shrum Bowl, you never know what's going to happen," said Goveia. "Last year we were favoured to beat SFU pretty good and they gave us all we could handle, and if they hadn't missed a field goal at the end of the game, they would've won. So I expect that they'll play [a] great game."

"We've got to win all the way out if we want to make the playoffs, and that's the goal for us," said Smelser. "It's not just the Shrum Bowl to us; it's the season on the line."



by Jessica JiYoung Kim
SPORTS WRITER

In university, there are a few notable events that highlight one's undergraduate experience. At UBC, the first Pit Night, Storm the Wall and Arts County Fair are among the top.

Then there is the Shrum Bowl; the monumental event between SFU and UBC that decides who will have bragging rights for the upcoming football season.

But the Shrum Bowl isn't just about football or cross-town rivalry. It is also the celebration of Dr Gordon Shrum, the founder of the competition.

"A lot of people don't realise who Shrum was. Gordon Shrum is no longer with us, but he was a physics professor here at UBC. He wasn't an athlete but was very much an academic. But he had interests in sports, football particularly. [He was interested in] ways to profile a fairly young university like UBC," said UBC athletics historian Fred Hume. "He tried his hardest to promote football and to hire high profile coaches, all in the quest of trying to achieve this high profile for UBC."

But UBC's vision didn't quite match that of Shrum's and eventually he moved on. After retiring from teaching, he spent a few years as the CEO of BC Hydro before becoming the first chancellor of SFU at the request of the BC Premier.

"He was the catalyst of beginning of Simon Fraser University. [There] he created a football program that featured athletic scholarships, the only one in Canada. And they had to play in the American league because the Canadian league did not allow this."

And in the midst of SFU and Shrum's quest to build a high profile university, Shrum created a competition between the two local universities.

The first match between SFU and UBC was celebrated in 1967, with SFU taking the first win by 32-13. And since the first game, SFU and UBC took turns taking home the win; SFU triumphed while playing under the American rules, and UBC dominated under the Canadian rules. The rules in which they played under alternated every year until SFU joined the CIS in 2002.

Going into the 29th Shrum Bowl, Simon Fraser leads the all-time series by one game, 14-13-1.

"It's nice to meet your cross-town rival. Everyone knows there are two universities in BC playing football, one of them SFU and the other UBC. Meeting a cross-town rival means a lot in terms of it helps with our recruiting, it helps establish what team is on top in community, and gives sense of pride to those who played in the past," said Thunderbirds head coach Ted Goveia.

This Saturday, the Thunderbirds will host the Clansmen on their home turf to not only defend their title, but also to honour Shrum's vision to bring the school communities together through athletics.

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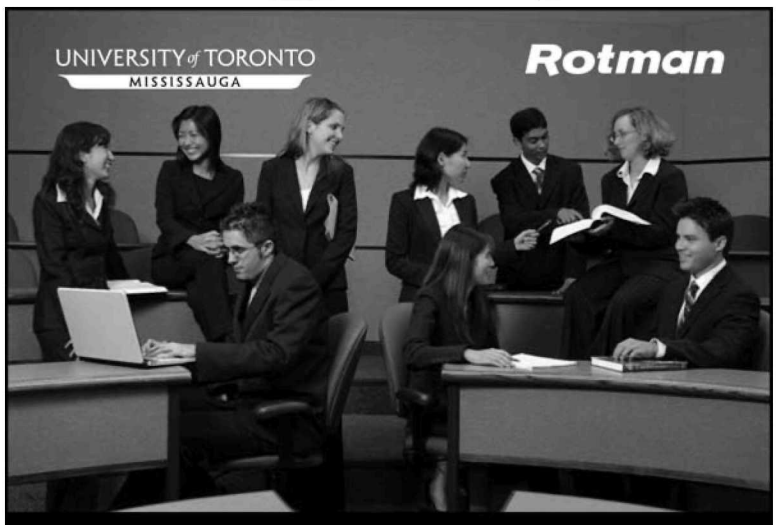

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