TEN MINUTES

By JEFF SHYLUK

Jeff, a self described first year student in confusion, is the winner of the second annual Uyssey ghost story contest with his eerie tale entitled Ten Minutes: The Story of Murder and Murder Again.

The following is an excerpt from The Mortality Report, a series of lectures dealing with the UBC sponsored study of human deaths. Fielding questions is Dr. Patricia McGeer, who has been nominated for the Ectoplasmic Award of Outstanding Research for her studies in the field of Post-mortal Spiritual Incidences, of "P.S.I.".

"Ten minutes," Dr. Pat McGeer agreed, "is the interval of a typical P.S.I. I have yet to encounter one that exceeds this particular value."

A voice from the front row wanted Dr. McGeer to clarify her statement, "Could you explain that in terms which are less confusing?"

"Certainly. The P.S.I. is a sort of measure of activity that the body produces after death. Although we in the business of mortal studies would rather not use the analogy, the P.S.I. could be likened to one's soul. When the temporal body dies, the spiritual soul will usually continue to function for some time before it is lost to the ether. As I've said, the soul will live on for about ten minutes after the body. After that time, even I cannot guess what goes on with the P.S.I."

"What will a person's P.S.I. do during that ten minutes that it remains in the land of the living?"

"Ordinarily, it will simply do some sight-seeing as it were, just looking around for one last time. However, in isolated events, the P.S.I. will try to emulate the body and perform a tangible action. A lot of these cases can account for you various ectoplasmic phenomena."

"Ghosts, you mean."

"Yes, ghosts . . ."

Welcome to the real world, the land of the living, where things can be touched and seen as they really are.

Reality for Randy Welder was that he was slowly running out of oxygen. Held inverted by two pairs of strong hands, his head was completely submerged beneath the surface of the water. He held his last breath in his mouth, his teeth clamped shut as if to ensure that his life would not escape through his lips. Randy's eyes were as open as his mouth was closed. Upside down, he saw the bed of the fish pool as a solid ceiling against which the top of his head was pressed. He could see the dim silhouettes of the goldfish as they swam lazily past his eyes.

Randy thrashed about in a panicked attempt to convince the two frat brothers who led him submerged, that there was really nothing breathable at the bottom of the Nitobe Garden fish pool after all. He let a small bubble of air escape from his nostrils to emphasize the fact.

Roarke and Larry, Randy Welder's antagonists, had less a concept of reality than their victim did. Both frat brothers were somewhat drunk, so that they remained insensitive to the inverse Randy who could not breathe water to save his life. To the two Zeta Zeta Zeta men, the ritual half-drowning of new pledges in the pool at Nitobe was something of a pleasant game, akin to a round of golf or a rack of billiards. They would simply wait until the aquaphobic Randy Welder was out of air before pulling him out. The frat record for holding one's breath was an outstanding six minutes, set only last year. Roarke and Larry had their hopes and their wagers that Randy would shatter this milestone of non-breathing among the Zeta Cubed's.

Randy had been under for four minutes. His face was contorted with the effort of staying alive. Stray bubbles of air left his mouth and trickled upwards, forever lost. Pressure ground his ribs together, and he fancied that his lungs were on the verge of rupturing, spilling their bloody contents in a red mass that could clot in the chilly water of the pool. His eyes began to bulge with exertion, as Randy felt them slowly working their way loose from the sockets.

Only a fraction of a breath left . . . the tongue is solid, like a massive snake pushing its slimy way past his teeth . . . the throat is on fire, yet inches away is a deluge of cool, clear water that would put out the blaze of his agony forever. The impulse is too strong to resist. With something between a yawn and a silent liquid scream, Randy Welder's mouth opened for the last time, and the killing water plunged into his starved lungs. His chest kept expanding, filling with water as the air was driven out. The body coughed spasmodically and little eddies of water pooled from the mouth before the lungs were still.

When the body died, what was the soul of Randy Welder reluctantly came free, like the scab from a fresh wound. It entered the alien realm of the living, yet it did not know what to think or do in this sudden disincarnation of itself. With something akin to astonishment and anger, it regarded its dead shell of flesh.

"What a waste of life to die so young! Christ, I had so much I wanted to see and do. I've never seen Europe. Not once have I slept with a woman. I never had a chance to really LIVE! I wasn't even old enough to get into that Beer Garden sponsored by the Committee for SUB Expansion.

What would have been my future? What if I had been able to finish my education here? Who knows, my parents might have been right: I could've made the President's mansion my home address.

My parents . . . I'll never see them again. My God, what about my sweet Sophie? We were so good for each other, she and I. What will she say when she finds out that I am dead? For that matter, would she even notice that I died? I've been so damned busy with my midterms that I haven't called her in the past few weeks anyhow. She won't miss me."

The soul drifted upward so it could see the murderers of its body.

"Roarke . . . Larry . . . I know you can't hear me or see me. The two of you are probably too stupid to know that I even exist. You sure as hell don't even realize what you've done. Look at my body. Even now it is becoming limp and heavy. Pretty soon, it will be so clogged with water that when you pull it out, water will pour out of the dead mouth and onto your shoes.

You will probably panic, but then there were no witnesses, were there? Just you two, and my body, which is too dead to tell any tales. Your ecret murder will remain a secret among living men, but you will remain blatantly guilty before the immortal tribunal of the sould of the dead Randy Welder, my being as once I was.

As the prosecution, I proclaim you guilty of my murder. As the sole witness, I confirm your guilt, and as the victim, I demand justice. As the judge, I condemn you to death, and as the executioner, I must cause you to join me forever, here in the land of the dead. The catch is, I've only got about ten minutes to complete my revenge . . ."

"Would you quit being so damn serious?" Roarke said, not addressing the ghost of the body he was helping to hold underwater. Roarke was speaking to his friend Larry, "Welder is still holding his breath. Look, there's no more bubbles, so he must be holding it in again."

"But he's getting kind of limp, Roarke."

"Sure, he's just trying to conserve his energy so he can beat the six minute mark. After all, he's still get another two minutes down there before we pull him out."

"Hey, Roarke, something real strange is going on here. 'You ever see anyone hold his breath with his mouth wide open?"

"Nope."

"Christ, Welder is sure doing it right now."

"Let's get him out of there, Larry. He may be in trouble."

Roarke pulled at the dead leg of Randy Welder. With a sucking sound, the body came out of the pool. The soaked head looked like a pale, dripping cabbage in the light. Water poured out of the mouth and onto the Zeta Cubed's sneakers.

"Holy spit! Welder drowned. He's dead!" Larry recoiled from the corpse, "Come on Roarke, let's get the hell out of here while we can!"

Running footsteps pounded through the night air, accompanied by the gurgle and audible lurch the corpse made as it sank unsupported beneath the surface of the pool. In the distance, a car's ignition whined and the engine turned with a muffled roar. Tires squealed, and the vehicle with its cargo of murderers sped away.

Larry's '69 Thunderbird was a cranky old car, but as an impromptu get-away vehicle it had no rival. Roarke sighed as he let his back soak up the padding of the passenger seat.

"You know, the cops will never pin it on us. How can they? In the next ten minutes we'll be at the fraternity. The rest of the guys will cover for us, so we've got alibis, eh?"

Tight-lipped, Larry drove on.

"Hey, pal, you don't have to drive so fast. We're clear of the place."

"What? I'm not driving fast, Roarke. Look, my foot is nearly off the pedal."

"You moron, the speedometer is at sixty miles an hour! Look at it, we're accelerating."

"Christ, I'm not doing it Roarke! The old bucket is out of control. Damn it, I don't even have the brakes!" Larry flipped off the ignition, but the engine did not quit. Instead, the old T-bird was rocketing at ninety. The tires left rubber as Larry fought to keep the car on the road.

"It never rains . . .," Roarke moaned as strident flashes of red and blue lit from the patrol cruiser now pursuing them, "pull the hell over and hope he doesn't ticket us, Larry."

"I can't. Hell, I'm not even in control of the steering! The car is driving itself. I don't believe this is happening!"

Larry let go of the steering wheel. The Thunderbird was doing a brisk hundred down the center of the road. The cruiser doggedly followed. Roarke fancied that he could hear the roar of the patrol cruiser's engine as it labored to overtake the runaway car.

See page 2: THE GHOST

THE UBYSSEY

Vol. LXVIII, No. 15 Vancouver, B.C. Tuesday, October 29, 1985 228-2301

The ghost of the Nitobe Garden fish pool

From page 1

In a blinding instant, the Thunderbird was running through an intersection, veering wildly as it spun into the turn. Larry was pressed hard against the door of his car while Roarke clung to his seat. The wild car righted itself and sped down its new heading. The patrol cruiser, having had to slow down to negotiate the turn was a mere flicker of colored light in Larry's rear-view mirror.

"This scenery looks awfully familiar . . ." Larry recognized the approach to Wreck Beach, which looked sinister and forbidding in the moonlight. The car roamed off the road and through some small bushes. The bouncing wheels spun plumes of sand as they hit the beach, shocks screaming in protest. The speedometer dipped back to sixty, and Larry thought of jumping out before the car got wrecked. The door, however, refused to open. Larry screamed.

The ribbon of black ocean grew in front of the car as it headed across the beach. Madly, the T-bird plunged into the foam, its searing hot engine shrieking as it erupted in a cloud of steam. Incredulously, the two friends watched as the water level around them rose in proportion to the car's distance from the land.

Freezing water began to pour in through cracks in the door and chassis. Roarke was kicking at the door with his feet and Larry was trying to stop the flow coming in through the air vents, yet the water continued to rise. Waves began to blot out the night sky as the sea engulfed the windows.

Roarke and Larry watched as the last bubbles of air were making their exodus back to the world of the living. The two men trapped in the car were alike: both close-mouthed, biting hard to keep the air in. Their wide open eyes were like billiard balls about to roll out of their fleshy pockets.

Finished with its mission of retaliation, the soul of Randy Welder disengaged itself from the car's engine. Swirling the water around itself, it stirred up enough underwater particles to form an image of itself: an inverted man shape. The soul peered through the ?????? of the sunken car, interested to see the men dying within.

At the point of death, Roarke and Larry saw their executioner, and suddenly, they understood. The dead took revenge on the living, to pay for a life needlessly lost.

The ghost of Randy Welder, satisfied in having driven the car and its occupants to as watery a grave as he himself had inherited, used the last seconds of its ten minutes to vanish irrevocably into the ether.

When the souls of Larry and Roarke emerged from the Thunderbird, their executioner was gone. They spent their ten minutes wondering if hell had patrol officers.

If it did, they were in for one damned nasty ticket.

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Survey objects to underfunding

By STEPHEN WISENTHAL

Almost four out of five British Columbians surveyed earlier this month opposed Social Credit government cuts to university funding.

Nearly half of those polled said they would "be willing to pay higher taxes to get more money for universities."

"One would hope that the government will re-examine spending priorities with respect to universities," said UBC faculty association president Sidney Mindess Monday, adding the poll "might minimize the amount of university bashing" by the Socreds.

The province wide poll released Friday which confirmed a late July poll of lower mainland residents, revealed:

• Two thirds of respondents who reported voting social credit in 1983 disagreed with the provincial government decision to cut B.C. university funding;

• Over 90 per cent of those polled agreed any B.C. resident qualified to attend university should be able to attend regardless of family income;

• Seventy-five per cent said universities should admit more students while 77 per cent called for an increase in the number of programs offered.

UBC interim administration president Robert Smith said Monday he hopes elected officials pay attention. "The government does read polls."

"I think it's a very compelling statement about community support for universities," he said. "I hope someone out there is listening."

The 512 person poll should be accurate within four percentage points, 19 times out of 20.

Ehor Boyahoesky, president of the Confederation of Faculty Associations of B.C., which commissioned the poll, said it contradicts provincial government claims the public is not willing to pay for more university programs to greater access to universities.

"The public, the faculty, in fact the whole province has been sold a bill of goods," he said.

Universities minister Patrick McGeer was unavailable for comment Monday and hasn't seen the poll said his executive assistant, Jane Burnes.

"The minister thinks that we have three very fine universities and it's a top government priority to continue funding them," said Burnes.

Smith said the poll result is a nice introduction for David Strangway, who replaces Smith as university president Nov. 1.

"This has got to be a boost for morale."

ABOUT 60 PEOPLE braved the rain at Thurlow and Georgia on October 26 to protest the U.S. intervention in Central America. The prostest sponsored by the Emergency Coalition on Central America hoped to raise public awareness on the problem in Nicaragua.

NDP leader blasts Socreds

By KAREN GRAM
Canadian University Press

The biggest problem facing British Columbia students is the high cost of education says Bob Skelly, NDP opposition leader.

"Tuition fees are high and the government's financial support programs are minimal," Skelly said. "Universities are restricted to those in the Lower Mainland (Vancouver) or those who are fairly well off."

Skelly was at the University of B.C. for MLA Day, an orientation tour of the campus for members of the legislature during National Universities Week.

He said when the Social Credit government wiped out provinicial grants for financially strapped students, they left a lot of students with heavy debt loads in a time of high unemployment.

Skelly said one ulitmate goal of his party is to eliminate tuition for post secondary education but he is not prepared to promise it now.

"It's not realistic to get rid of tuition fees immediately," he said.

"We'd have to examine the issue more carefully. We'd certainly take steps to reduce the burden of costs and the quickest way is through a grant program."

Skelly does however see a solution for rural students who can't afford to move for their education.

"We should equalize costs depending on where you live. The government should be involved in some sort of subsidy for people from out of town."

Skelly would also like to create more degree-granting universities in rural B.C.

He said funding for education is available now but the government has other priorities.

"Where did they get the money for Expo? Where did they get the money for North East Coal? Where did they get the money for all the other mega projects in the province? The money is there," he said.

But Skelly doubts money alone will restore the quality of education.

"The problem with a government systematically chopping programs is that the system breaks down. I don't think you can solve problems by throwing money at the issues." Careful study must be conducted to determine priorities, he said.

Explaining why the NDP hadn't determined their priorities already, Skelly said his party is committed to consultation but doesn't have the money to tour the province soliciting voter opinions.

One thing the party has determined is the need for broad representation on college and university boards of directors.

"Right now the government appoints political friends to the college boards so you get a bunch of yes people."

The NDP would have students, faculty, administrators, and the community at large elected to sit on the board.

Student aid to double

By KEN MAGOR
of Canadian University Press

TORONTO (CUP) — Student aid will increase twice as much as tuition fees next year, and grants to post-secondary education will rise eight per cent, the Ontario government announced in its first budget last week.

The province has set aside eight per cent more for the Ontario Student Assistance Programme (OSAP) while holding university tuition fee hikes to four per cent. The budget did not break down the OSAP increase into loans and grants but colleges and universities minister Greg Sorbara is expected to announce the amounts soon.

In letting student aid rise above tuition fees, the Liberal government said it will "improve access to higher education."

The four per cent formula tuition fee increase means that in 1986-87 arts and sciences students will be charged $1149. This year the figure was $1105. Formula tuition fees are the amounts set by the province, although the fees set by individual institutions can vary by as much at 10 per cent.

Funding to colleges and universities was the highlight of the Liberal's first budget in Ontario in 40 years. A new budget will be drawn up in the spring.

In last week's statement, treasurer Robert Nixon announced that basic operating grants would increase by four per cent for the next two years, and would be supplemented in 86-87 by an $80 million excellence fund.

Of the $80 million, universities will get $63.5 million; $50 million for research, faculty renewal and library improvements and $13.5 million for purchasing new buildings and equipment and repairing the old.

Ontario's 22 community colleges will get the remaining 16.5 million. Of that, $10 million will be for high technology teaching equipment, and $6.5 million for repairs. Colleges will also receive a regular capital allocation of $8.5 million. Universities will get $10.5 million in normal capital funding.

The four cent basic increase in funding is lower than 4.4 per cent inflation rate cast for 1986. However, Sorbara said the excellence funds would bring next year's funding increase to more than eight per cent. Last year the Conservatives raised post secondary spending by about five per cent.

In B.C. post-secondary education funding has decreased.

Sorbara told Canadian University Press that this year's budget is merely a "first step" in redressing ten years of underfunding by the Conservatives.

Students at UBC believe God exists

God exists at UBC.

That was the conclusion of an informal poll conducted after a debate between a christian and an atheist Thursday.

The poll, which was taken after a debate between Kirk Durstan, for God, and Mark Reimers, against God, found that 55 per cent of the 300 hundred people at the debate believed in the existance of God. Only 35 per cent supported Reimer's argument that God doesn't exist.

KIRK DURSTON . . . christian

"God is a fabrication of humankind's desire to control the universe," he said.

"Christianity is based on a lack of imagination. The word "God" puts a cap on all the mysteries of life, and I don't want to do that."

Durston, a member of the Campus Crusade for Christ, and a believer, said even atheists believe in God on a sub-conscious level.

"Every atheist believes that God exists, at least subconsciously . . . he just doesn't like the way God is handling things and would do it differently himself," he said.

Audience reaction to the aural joust was mixed.

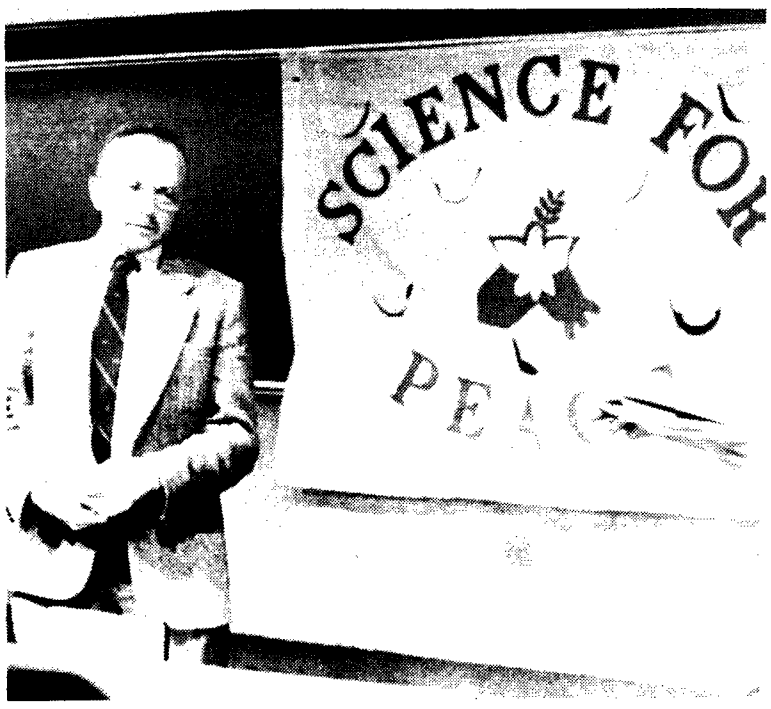
Maureen Kinahan, Arts 3, and a christian, said Durstan won the debate hands down.

MARK REIMERS . . . atheist

"Well, the atheist didn't prove that God doesn't exist," she said.

But Mary Register, from the school of nursing, disagreed saying "the onus was on (Durstan) to prove that God exists."

"There was strong sense of sermonism. Durstan used only the bible in presenting evidence."



Star Wars program unreliable and unrealistic

By MAC GINTHER

The U.S. military industrial complex cannot be trusted to give reliable opinions on the feasibility of the Star Wars initiative, a former congressional advisor on the program said Friday.

David Parnas, an expert in military software engineering and a University of Victoria computer science professor said the advertised goals of the Strategic Defense Initiative cannot be achieved and companies involved with the project only see the program as a funding source.

"I can tell you, as one who likes both money and technical challenges, that these temptations are very hard to resist. You will find it very hard to find unbiased expert opinions on this issue," he said.

Parnas made the comments to more than 400 people in his lecture: Software Constraints on Star Wars: Why Star Wars Won't Work.

The Strategic Defense Initiative Organization is looking to new software techniques for "a magic breakthrough" that will solve the problems the project faces he said adding this was a "wish dream" of military programmers.

"The SDIO reaction (to criticism) has not been to enter into a legitimate scientific debate but to try to confuse the public," said Parnas.

Software techniques which the SDIO is turning to such as Artificial Intelligence, new computing languages and module hierarchically structured programs are not sophisticated enough to overcome basic limitations needed to construct the project he said.

Parnas cited several reasons why SDIO software can never be made reliable:

• The U.S. lacks reliabe information on the target and decoy missiles characteristics.

• The distributed computing system proposed by the SDIO cannot work with unreliable computing notes and communication.

• SDIO software because of its proportions cannot be validated mathematically or in case analysis.

• SDIO software can never be tested extensively or in a realistic situation.

"We've never gotten the softwear to be right the first time before, it is very unlikely to be so here (in SDIO software), Parnas said adding SDIO can only be beneficial if we have confidence in it.

Parnas said a viable SDIO project is not impossible but, "it is impossible that we know that it would work."

The magic monarchy

If you were a monarch and nearly 80 per cent of your subjects disagreed with post secondary education funding cutbacks, would you still be slashing university budgets?

The Socreds have cut university funding by 23 per cent in real terms over the past three years but a recent survey by B.C. faculty associations shows nearly 80 per cent of the people don't like that.

King Billy used polls to develop his asshole image, smearing the weak into the ground with an arrogant claim that opinion was on his side.

Well here's a survey showing people across B.C. have some pretty positive sentiments about universities.

Half of them are even willing to pay more taxes to see universities funded properly. The overwhelming majority say family income shouldn't decide whether you attend university.

The funding cuts to universities stand for the record — faculty members and staff haven't had a salary increase since 1982; UBC faculty haven't even had a penny to recognize academic achievement. And student aid has been chopped down to a loan programme. This reduction makes a mockery of any claims university attendance has nothing to do with how much money your parents make. How many young people could possibly want to leave university with a $25,000 debt?

There are other examples of the squeeze on universities and students, such as mushrooming tuition fees, but the point about neglect of post secondary education still stands.

If the Socreds have any committment to a civilized, productive future for British Columbia, they will heed this poll which shows that their subjects support universities and easy accessibility to these universities.

THE UBYSSEY

October 29, 1985

The Ubyssey is published Tuesday and Friday throughout the academic year by the Alma Mater Society of the University of British Columbia. Editorial opinions are those of the staff and are not necessarily those of the administrataion or the AMS. Member Canadian University Press. The Ubyssey's editorial office is SUB 241k. Editorial department, 228-2301/2305. Advertising 228-3977/3978.

"Happy birthday!" screamed Stephen Wisenthal into Debbie Lo's ear. "Aaaaarrrgggh!!!!" shrieked Debbie. Ronald Stewart asked, "So how OLD are you?" Gordon Clarke spoke, "Yeah, I've got a five-spot riding on it." Gordana Rasic, Steve Woo and James Young were busy playing Trivial Pursuit. Sleeping on the couch was Camille Dionne. Hold it! What's Mac Gither doing on top of her? "Outta the way!" screamed Karen Gram, Nancy Lee and Nick what's-his-name as they raced around the office on their souped-up office chairs. Wait! We don't have any office chairs!

Letters

Trinity Western defends itself

It's unfortunate that Karen Gram's article about Trinity Western University (critics scoff at Bible college) has been released through your pages and Canadian University Press with many major factual errors, when accurate information was available with a simple phone call. It's not even long distance to Langley from West Point Grey.

The concept of a Christian university is not generally understood in Canada, because we have not had many of them in this country in recent years — although some, such as Acadia, McMaster, Waterloo Lutheran and several Catholic colleges have made valuable contributions to higher education in Canada.

They are an accepted and respected part of higher education in the United States: almost every major city has at least one.

It's really a continuation of tradition: the world's great universities were originally Christian institutions. Consider Heidelberg, Cambridge, Oxford, Harvard, Yale . . . all began with solidly biblical foundations.

The Association of Universities and Colleges of Canada has welcomed Trinity Western after a careful scrutiny of its academic standards, which were found to be uniformly high, meeting or exceeding every requirement of AUCC.

The growth of a new Christian university on Canadian soil, in fact, represents a broadening of educational options for Canadians — a real step forward in intellectual freedom.

Please allow me to correct some specific errors of fact in Gram's story:

*She calls Trinity Western a "Bible college," which it never was.

For 15 years TW was a junior college, supplying transfer students to the public universities (where, by the way, they constantly outperformed those universities' own lower-level students in third and fourth year studies.)

*She says TWU "became a university last June."

Not so.

Trinity Western has been chartered to grant baccalaureate degrees for six years. The name change in June only recognized this fact.

*Gram writes, "opposition still rankles."

What opposition? The bill changing Trinity Western's name was passed by the B.C. legislature without dissent.

Political opposition to any additional private universities in B.C. is a matter of party policy, and has nothing to do with Trinity Western.

Neither has the so-called "opposition" from the Universities Council of B.C., whose chair, George Morfitt, has made it clear that UCBC recognizes TWU's high academic quality.

*Lorne Nicholson may find it objectionable that TWU stresses self-discipline; that's his opinion, and he has a right to it. But our students aren't coerced. They prefer an environment free of drugs, alcohol and promiscuity — some from religious convictions, some because they're seeking an environment that's conducive to serious study. But all by free choice. Since when is that "stultifying?"

*TWU does not offer "what it calls Christian Liberal Arts."

TWU offers recognized — by UBC, among others — liberal arts and sciences programs. That they are equivalent in value to those taught at public universities is attested by the articulation agreements with the publicly-funded universities, and by the achievements of our graduates in careers and at graduate schools, into which they are readily accepted.

You may not agree with the world-view that informs teaching at TWU; but it would violate intellectual honesty to reject, without an honest examination of the primary data, its right to ensure the presentation of a biblical perspective.

Perhaps the most jejune aspect of the Ubyssey story was the headline: 'Critics scoff at Bible college.'

What makes a critic? Merely a prejudice and a penchant for scorn? Who are these so-called "critics"?

TWU has been evaluated by its pers — including UBC — and found to be of high academic standard.

Ron Gray
Director of Publications
Trinity Western University

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Oct. 29-Nov. 1
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- *IS HUMANISM A THINKABLE ALTERNATIVE?*

Open Forum Discussions at "The Fireside Room" on Saturday, November 2, 9, 16, and 23 from 7:30 to 9:30 P.M. at ***UNIVERSITY CHAPEL*** *(a non-denominational Christian Church)* ***5375 University Boulevard***

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Letters

Wrong time for union threats

I'm angry. I just read that UBC's Canadian University Employees Union voted to work to rule until they get a guarantee of job security from the administration. Is it really fair that this union threaten the administration in the midst of one of the most serious economic crises this university has had to face in its history?

The cost of going to UBC has jumped at least 70% for those students who live outside the Vancouver area. The administration is forced to operate on a budget not finalized until long after the fiscal year begins. This year, the Socreds tried to slip by what they hoped would appear to be a nominal increase (0.6%) in spending on the universities; the allocation actually resulted in a decrease of the operations budget by 4.5% — a whopping 14.9 million dollars. Couple that with four years of cutbacks and it's evident that this institution is in serious trouble.

In fact, a recent province-wide poll indicates that more than three forths of those questioned disapprove of the Social Credit policy of reducing university funding.

The desires of the voters and taxpayers have fallen on deaf ears, however, and Victoria refuses to reverse its destructive policies. It seems everyone knows that UBC is in economic dire straits — except the union in question.

Now is the time to make the necessary structural changes in the university's operations to protect what is its 'raison d'etre' — us, the students.

Students are finding this university is just not living up to its reputation as one of the most respected in the world. Professors are beginning to leave to higher salaries in other provinces or south of the border, and those lost to attrition are not being replaced. Classes are becoming too large, equipment is becoming too old, and resources are becoming more and more scarce as the squeeze tightens.

That's why, when I see three union men, a backhoe and a dump-truck "cooperating" to rake leaves, for example, I can say with conviction that there are inefficiencies in the system.

Anyone who has been here long enough has seen ample evidence of that. Superfluous and inessential jobs must be eliminated or workers reallocated if this university is to survive. The loss of essential courses in the core programs is just not acceptable.

The quality of our education is suffering here and now, and the union had better come to grips with this fact. The union should cooperate with the representatives of the firm hired to do an efficiency study — not be blatantly hostile and difficult. The study is for their own benefit as well as for those they are really working for — the children of this province who someday may want to attend their university.

Steve McJannet
science 4

Arts 20 relay huge success

Thank you to all of the people who were involved in planning the 'Arts 20 Relay' for a fabulous social sports activity.

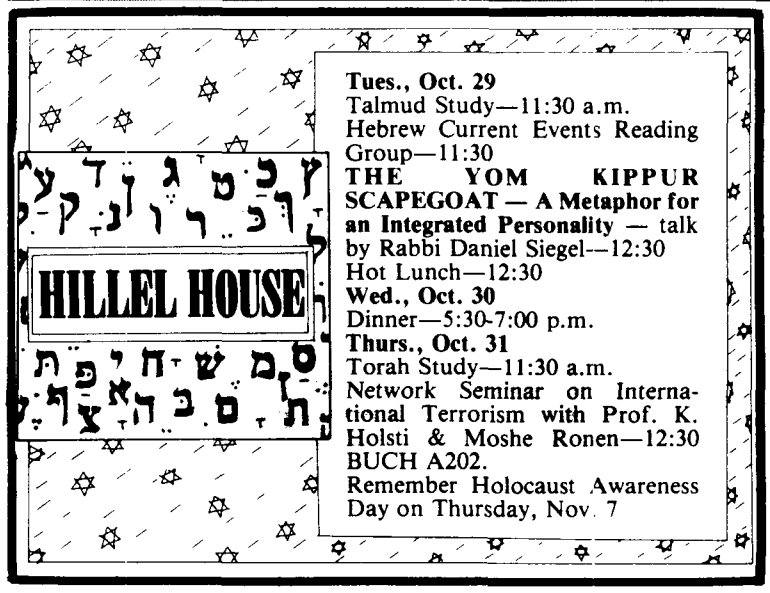
I have been very impressed with all of the intramural activities — the Arts 20 was no exception. Everything from pre-registration, to bus transportation, to the muffins and coffee (to warm our wet but not dampened enthusiasm) at the Awards Ceremony was very well organized.

Thanks, I had a great time!

Sue Caven
physical education

The truth sometimes hurts. Take my mother. Please. I used to beat her when I was a child. Or did I dream it?

Hey, Dan, my cigarettes really suck — what brand do YOU offend self-righteous Ubyssey staffers with? We're not married to it, big guy. Let's run it up the flagpole and see if anyone salutes.



Tues., Oct. 29
Talmud Study—11:30 a.m.
Hebrew Current Events Reading Group—11:30
THE YOM KIPPUR SCAPEGOAT — A Metaphor for an Integrated Personality — talk by Rabbi Daniel Siegel—12:30
Hot Lunch—12:30
Wed., Oct. 30
Dinner—5:30-7:00 p.m.
Thurs., Oct. 31
Torah Study—11:30 a.m.
Network Seminar on International Terrorism with Prof. K. Holsti & Moshe Ronen—12:30 BUCH A202.
Remember Holocaust Awareness Day on Thursday, Nov. 7

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SEMINAR NOV 5
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ROOM 213
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1ST FALL

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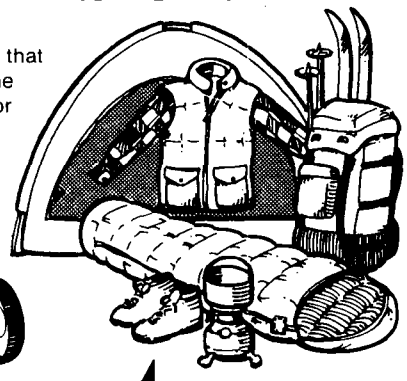
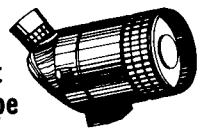
Want to sell those hiking boots that never really were your size? Buy the gear you need to try Telemarking or winter camping?

The Co-op's 1st Fall Outdoor Gear Swap is the answer. Call 872-7858 for more details. P.S. you don't have to be a Co-op member to participate.



Win a Pentax Telescope



When you come to the Gear Swap be sure to enter to win a new Pentax 15X Telescope to be given away at 3 PM the day of the Gear Swap. No purchase necessary to win. Telescope is courtesy of Pentax Canada Inc.

MOUNTAIN EQUIPMENT CO-OP
Gear Swap
Sunday, November 3, 10AM–3PM
428 W. 8th Ave., Vancouver

UBC BOOKSTORE

Author Appearance

MARGARET ATWOOD
Novelist and Poet
will be autographing copies of her new novel
THE HANDMAID'S TALE
at the UBC BOOKSTORE on Thursday, Oct 31 from **12:30 - 1:00 p.m.**

To reserve your copy call 228-4741.
Use Visa or Mastercard ($22.95)

UBC BOOKSTORE

THE UNIVERSITY OF BRITISH COLUMBIA

DAL GRAUER MEMORIAL LECTURES

MARGARET ATWOOD

Margaret Atwood, one of Canada's most well-known literary figures, has established an international visibility for Canadian literature in her role as poet, novelist, playwright, essayist, editor and critic. Ms. Atwood was best known in her early career as a poet, with the works *Double Persephone (1961), The Circle Game (1966),* which won a Governor General's Award, *The Animals in That Country (1968), The Journals of Susanna Moodie (1970), Procedures for Underground (1970)* and *Power Politics (1971).* In 1969 she published the novel *The Edible Woman,* and in 1972 both the novel *Surfacing* and *Survival,* an original critical survey of Canadian literature. Her latest works include *Bodily Harm, Second Words, Bluebeard's Egg, Interlunar* and *Murder in the Dark.* Ms. Atwood has received Canadian, American and international awards for her literary achievements.

Friday, November 1—12:30 p.m.
"After *SURVIVAL*"
—In Frederic Wood Theatre

Saturday, November 2—8:15 p.m. Vancouver Institute Lecture
"Blood and Thunder"
—Hall 2, Woodward Instructional Resources Centre

Tween Classes

TODAY

UBC DANCE CLUB
Practice, noon, SUB party room.
ISMAILI STUDENTS ASSOCIATION
Tutorial assistance, 5:30-6:30 p.m., Brock Hall.
UNDERWATER HOCKEY UBC
Drop-in practice, 7 p.m., Aquatic Centre.
GAMMA PHI BETA SOCIETY
Fashion show, 7:30 p.m., Robson Square Media Centre Theatre.
BALLET UBC JAZZ
Fall registration, noon, SUB 208.
JSA/HILLEL
Talmud Study, Hebrew Current Events Reading Group, 11:30 a.m., Hillel House.
JSA/HILLEL
Rabbi Daniel Siegel, talk, noon, Hillel House. Hot lunch, noon, Hillel House.
UBC WIND SURFING CLUB
Join the club! Office open noon, SUB 57.
UBC DANCE CLUB
Practice, noon, SUB party room.
PREMEDICAL SOCIETY
Lecture on Immunology by Dr. Tingle, noon, Woodward 2.

WEDNESDAY

PSEUDO-INTELLECTUAL STUDENT SOCIETY
General meeting, election, noon, SUB 212.
UBC WOMEN'S CENTRE
Discussion and video, noon, BUCH B212.
DEPT. OF GERMANIC STUDIES
Movie, noon, BUCH A106.
FILM SOCIETY
"Magick Lantern Cycle", 7:30 p.m. and 9:30 p.m., SUB Auditorium.
PHILOSOPHY DISCUSSION CIRCLE
Kurt Preinberg speaks, 7 p.m., Gate 4 Lounge, International House.
STUDENTS FOR A FREE SOUTHERN AFRICA
General meeting, T.A. Union office, upstairs, noon, the Armouries.
INTEGRITY INACTION CLUB
Guess speaker Stan Grindstaff, noon, BUCH B221.
BALLET UBC JAZZ
Registration for fall term of classes, noon, SUB 208.
UBC DANCE CLUB
Practice, noon, SUB party room.
CHINESE VARSITY CLUB
Aerobics: 1 hour exercise done to music, 5:30-6:30 p.m., SUB BSMT. I.
JSA/HILLEL
Dinner, 5:30-7 p.m., Hillel House.
JEWISH BELIEVERS IN CHRIST
Bible study, noon, Hut 0.21, behind Scarfe.
DEPARTMENT OF GERMANIC STUDIES
Film "Fact and Fiction: Thomas Mann's Death in Venice", noon, BUCH A106.

THURSDAY

UBC PERSONAL COMPUTER CLUB
General meeting, everyone welcome, noon, HEBB 12.
MARANTHA CHRISTIAN CLUB
Bible study and fellowship, 7:30 p.m., 1868 Knox Rd.
FIRST YEAR STUDENT'S COMMITTEE
General committee meeting, noon, SUB 260.
FILM SOCIETY
Film: "Return of the Jedi", $2, 7 p.m., SUB Auditorium. Film: "Gremlins", $2, 9:30 p.m., SUB Auditorium.
BALLET UBC JAZZ
Ballet Jazz de Montreal, lecture/demonstration, noon, SUB Auditorium.
CAMPUS CRUSADE FOR CHRIST
Weekly meeting: Charles Jones on "Principles of Dynamic Leadership", noon, Brock 302.
CHRISTIANS ON CAMPUS
Jubilee meeting, noon, HA 328.
AMS PROGRAMS
Les Ballet Jazz de Montreal in a lecture/demonstation, noon, SUB Auditorium.
UBC CHINESE CHRISTIAN FELLOWSHIP
Free video showing: "What's Up Josh?", everyone welcome, noon, Scarfe 209.
UBC DANCE CLUB
Bronze class, noon, SUB Ballroom.
LE CLUB FRANCAIS
Noon hour meeting, noon, International House lounge.
PRE-DENTAL SOCIETY
Dr. Johnson's lecture on prosthedontics and club origin, noon, IRC 5.
EAST INDIAN STUDENTS' ASSOCIATION
Film: "A Sense Of Family", noo, SUB 125.
STAMMTISCH
German conversation evening, 7:30 p.m., Gate 4 lounge, International House.
ANARCHIST CLUB
Bzzr garden and anti-authoritarian films, 6 p.m., SUB 212.
ENVIRONMENTAL INTEREST GROUP
Slide show and presentation on south Moresby by John Broadhead, noon, geography 212.
AMS ROCKERS
Office decorating and newsletters, noon, SUB 241B.
GRADUATE STUDENT SOCIETY
Halloween costume dance, 8 p.m. 1 a.m., Graduate Student Centre ballroom.
UBC SCIENCE FICTION SOCIETY
Halloween costume dinner (pot-luck), 5 p.m. at Trish and Ti's, see notice on club door.
UBC PERSONAL COMPUTER CLUB
General meeting, new members welcome, noon, HEBB 12.
NETWORK
International terrorism panel with prof. K. Holsti and Moshe Ronen, noon, BUCH A202.
GREAT LAW TRIALS ON THE SILVER SCREEN
"Libel" starring Dirk Bogarde, $2, noon, Law Building 101 and 102.

FRIDAY

FILM SOCIETY
Film: "Return of the Jedi", $2, 7 p.m., SUB Auditorium. Film: "Gremlins", $2, 9:30 p.m., SUB Auditorium.
BALLET UBC JAZZ
Registration for fall term of classes, noon, SUB 208.
STUDENTS FOR PEACE AND MUTUAL DISARMAMENT
New NFB film: "Speaking Our Peace", noon, SUB 205.
ANARCHIST CLUB
Bzzr garden and film showing, 6 p.m.-12 a.m., SUB 212.
LE CLUB FRANCAIS
Noon hour meeting, noon, International House lounge.
UBC DANCE CLUB
Practice, noon, SUB party room.
NATIONAL LAW PROGRAMME
Series of law lectures, noon, Curtis Law Building 101-102.

Hot Flashes

Aboriginal Peoples and the Law, sponsored by the Native Law Programme in Lecture theatre 101/102 at 12:30-1:30 p.m.; Nov. 1, Professor Michael Jackson of UBC — overview and update on hunting and fishing cases; Nov. 5, Mr. Jack Woodward, lawyer, Meares Island — taxation and its affects on indian people; Nov. 8, Mr. Wayne Christian, chief counsellor Spallumcheen — the band experience in developing and using a band by-law to deal with child welfare; Nov. 12, Tom Berger, lawyer, previous B.C. Supreme Court judge — Alaska land claims commission work.

Shades of Orwell ... The biggest dailies might have colour cartoons of Nancy and Mary Worth, but they wouldn't give you this. For free yet.

Karen Gram, B.C. bureau chief and fieldworker for Canadian University Press, will present a seminar, "The Politics of Language", on Wednesday, Nov. 6 at noon in SUB 241K.

All Ubyssey staffers and prospective journalist types welcome. We need news and feature writers, graphic artists, photographers and that rare breed willing to help put the paper to bed in the wee hours.

The University of British Columbia
MBA
Information Session
Thursday, November 7, 1985
12:30-1:30 p.m.
Henry Angus Building
Room 425
Speaker: Dr. Bernhard Schwab
There will be a brief formal presentation followed by a question and answer period

PUBLIC SEMINAR
INTERNATIONAL TERRORISM
DR. K. HOLSTI (Political Science)
MR. MOSHE RONEN
(North American President Network)
Thursday, October 31, 1985
12:30 p.m.
BUCHANAN A202
Network CANADA

CHEAP TICKETS FOR FREE TELEVISION

Join us for a live audience taping of Downtown Saturday Night starring Pat Bullard! You'll get *rock* music, *real* guests, *mega* comedy, *dumb* contests, *silly* prizes and a *talking* host. Tickets are Free!! (Tax included.) For this *good time* call 662-6603 – or visit CBC Reception at 700 Hamilton Street.

Downtown SATURDAY N·I·G·H·T is broadcast Saturdays at 9:30 pm, on CBC 2/Cable 3

THE CLASSIFIEDS

RATES: AMS Card Holders — 3 lines, 1 day $2.50; Additional lines, 60c. Commercial — 3 lines, 1 day $4.50; Additional lines 70c. Additional days, $4.00 and 65c.

Classified ads are payable in advance.

Deadline is 10:30 a.m. the day before publication.

Publications Room 266, S.U.B., UBC, Van., B.C. V6T 2A5

Charge Phone Orders Over $10.00. Call 228-3977.

5 — COMING EVENTS

LOOSEN UP!
Free Public Lecture
STAN GRINDSTAFF
producer/director/actor
Counselor in the art of creative living
on
FREEING YOUR CREATIVE NATURE
Wed., Oct. 30
Buch B 221
12:30-1:20

11 — FOR SALE — Private

HOMEMADE KING SZ. bed, Sealy mattress very comfy, $100. Framed dresser mirror, 2'x3', $20. Moving Oct. 31st, must sell. 228-2022, 738-7514 (leave message).

'72 CHEV VAN. Very good cond., insulated, radial snows, great ski van, bed. Rodger, 734-2977. $1250 obo.

25 — INSTRUCTION

PIANO LESSONS by Judy Alexander, graduate of Juilliard School of Music. Near 38th & Cambie. 321-4809.

SAXAPHONE LESSONS. Beginner to advanced. Reasonable rates. Professional musician. Ph. John, 687-3003.

30 — JOBS

WANTED: Experienced, caring, energetic babysitter, part-time, 8-4 p.m. for 18 mth. old. My home Kits. 736-0572.

THE AMS FOOD & BEVERAGE Dept. is now accepting applications & resumes for the following positions: waiters/waitresses, cashiers, doormen & cooks. Pick up applic. forms at AMS Business Office, Rm. 266. Return application AND resumes to Rm 266.

Success Breeds Success
College Pro Painters
Manager Recruiting Presentation
Nov. 5 & Nov. 19
12:30-2 p.m.
Henry Angus Bldg.
Rm. 213
Earn More Than Experience Next Year

35 — LOST

LOST: One Manila envelope (8x10). Mailed to MSP (Pharmacare). Very important. Phone: 228-9568 Please!

OPAL RING on Thurs., Oct. 17 in women's change rm. Aquatic Centre near locker No. 76. Sentimental. Please return to Aquatic Centre main desk.

65 — SCANDALS

GIRLS JUST WANNA HAVE FUN! Guys too! So for a good time, call VOLUNTEER CONNECTIONS at 228-3811 or come to Brock Hall 200.

70 — SERVICES

RECYCLE
All metals — jars — bottles — newspapers 7 days a week til 6 p.m. 327-2315.

PEOPLE WITH IBM main frame, TSO, Wylbur, JCL, VSAM files, IMS/DB/DC/ADF call 294-6158 for contract work starting a.s.a.p.

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ADVENTUROUS! Discover Doubledate. You & a friend, with someone else & a friend. A friendly foursome having fun. Hot Air Ballooning, Texas BBQs, Boat Cruises.
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80 — TUTORING

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BE A TUTOR
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9:30 a.m.!9:30 p.m.
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MINIMUM NOTICE REQUIRED. Essays & resumes, 222-4661 (before 1 p.m.) 732-0529 (5-7 p.m.).

Men's soccer team win west championship

By STEVE NEUFIELD

For the second year in a row, the UBC men's soccer team won the Canada West championship on the weekend. On Saturday, the Thunderbirds will play the Laurentian University Vees — the Ontario champions — at 2 p.m. on O. J. Field by the traffic and security building.

Friday's action on a snow-covered field in Calgary began with a Dinosaur goal at the 20-minute mark. 'Birds' coach Joe Johnson's substitution of Ken Moysiuk late in the half paid off when Moysiuk evened the score before half time.

Although the score remained tied throughout the second half, the icy field conditions provided plenty of scoring opportunities that neither team was able to capitalize on.

On Saturday, once again substitute players provided goals for the 'Birds, leading to a 3-0 defeat of the Lethbridge Pronghorns. Jonathan Pirie opened UBC scoring in the first half shortly after entering the game. In the second half, Sean McLaughlin, who had been ill, scored to provide the margin of victory.

The Thunderbirds had many good chances in the second half including a booming effort by Brian Muldoon off the crossbar and Kevin Reilly's rebound shot also hitting off the crossbar. Terry Klim added the final point on a penalty kick.

In the nets, Brian Kennedy turned in another sterling performance to record his sixth shutout this season. Kennedy's goaltending skills deserve credit for this excellent defensive record but the deep defender trio of Terry Klim, Gregor Young and Grant Harlow must receive some recognition for their efforts all season long.

Looking ahead to this Saturday's national semi-final game, coach Johnson expressed concern over the health of his team after some pretty rough play in Alberta.

"We still have a few people hurting and we'll have to see how to respond to treatment before we issue our starting lineup for Saturday," he said.

FINAL
CANADA WEST STANDINGS

Team	GP	G	W	L	F	A	Pts
UBC	10	6	0	4	29	4	16
Victoria	10	6	2	2	22	14	14
Alberta	10	6	2	2	19	10	14
Calgary	10	5	3	2	20	13	12
Lethbridge	10	1	9	0	9	32	2
Sask.	10	1	9	0	7	36	2

UBC socs it to U of A

This weekend the UBC women's soccer team fought to the end for their third straight Canada West Championship. Friday, against the University of Alberta, Debbie Nielsen from the 'Birds scored two quick goals putting UBC in the lead at the start. A goal from a controversial penalty kick near half-time resulted in U of A getting back in the fight. Despite strong winds in the second half, UBC held Alberta to the 2-1 final score.

Saturday's games proved to be just as gruelling. In the morning, Irene Cultum, Debbie Nielsen, and Shiela Chondon scored for UBC in a 3-1 triumph over Saskatchewan's Huskiettes. In the final game against University of Calgary Dinnies, the 'Birds drew 0-0.

UBC's record of 2-0-1 captured for them the championship while Calgary and Alberta were 1-1-1 and Saskatchewan placed last at 0-2-1.

An all-star team was chosen this year, with three of UBC's squad sharing the honors. Chosen were striker Debbie Nielsen, with three out of the Bird's five goals, hard-working midfielder Sarah James, and the UBC goalkeeper, Sandra Neill.

Free pumpkin give-away!

On Friday, Oct. 31, the Great Pumpkin Fun Run (3 km or 5.2 km) will start at 12:30 p.m. Last year's winners were: Women— Carolyn Daubeny (P.E.) (3 km) and Marian Craig (P.E.) (5.2 km); Men - John Buckley (P.E.) (3 km) and Steve McMurdo (Phi Delts) (5.2 km). Dress up in your scariest costume and get the spirit of Hallow's Eve! You just might even win a great pumpkin!

X-country team places second on weekend

By JOEL SILVERMAN

Finishing second behind former Olympic athlete Peter Butler, UBC's Ed Booth established himself as one of B.C.'s best distance runners at the B.C. cross-country championships in Victoria Saturday.

With his impressive performance, the UBC men's team claimed second place in team competition.

Booth's time for the 10-kilometre course was 31:16 seconds, well off his personal best of 30 minutes flat.

Booth's coach, Dr. Doug Clement said: "Ed's time today is a good indication that we will likely see a new PB (personal best) for Ed over this distance when we get into the road-racing season." When asked how he expects Booth to do at the Canada West meet next week, Clement said, "As Ed has shown great consistency in his racing, I look for him to do very, very well."

The men's team was brought up by Eoin Fahy with a time of 33:06, Larry Nightengale at 33:39, Joel Silverman at 34:43 and John Newlands posting 34:48 for the race.

The women's five-kilometre course was led for much of the way by UBC's Sue Kainuleinen. As Canada's seventh ranked women marathon runner Kainuleinen has some problem matching the other women's speed over the final kilometre of this relatively short course. She hung on for a seventh place finish in 18:32. By finishing third with a time of 18:52 in the women's junior event, Fredrique Schmidt of UBC qualified herself for the Canadian cross-country championships to be held in Newfoundland in two weeks. Also competing for the Birds were Cara Haffenden and Sharon Keogh.

After sipping champagne from the team trophy, Booth said: "This trophy will be a nice addition to the team's trophy case."

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HALLOWE'EN '85
BRING I.D.
TRES HOMBRES from Toronto
SUB BALLROOM
NOVEMBER 1 & 2
ZZ TOP TRIBUTE
Tres Hombres were voted best band at the COCA '85 Conference
COSTUME CONTEST
$100.00 1st Prize Each Night
Advance Tickets: $6.00 Doors: 7:30
AMS Box Office or EUS Rep.

AMS Applications are now being accepted for five (5) positions with the
STUDENT ADMINISTRATION COMMISSION (SAC)
SAC is the 10 member body of the AMS responsible for implementing policy set forth by AMS Students' Council.
Applications open until Thursday, Oct. 29, 4 p.m.
Application forms available/returned at SUB 238

VSO The Vancouver Symphony presents
the great English guitarist and lutenist
JULIAN BREAM
(by arrangement with Harold Shaw)
"Mr. Bream scarcely needs more praise at this point for he has won all the encomiums in the book and still deserves them..." --New York Times
in concert at THE ORPHEUM

Tuesday, November 12 at 8 p.m.
Tickets: $20 $16 $12
NOW! At all VTC and CBO outlets, Eaton's and Woodward's
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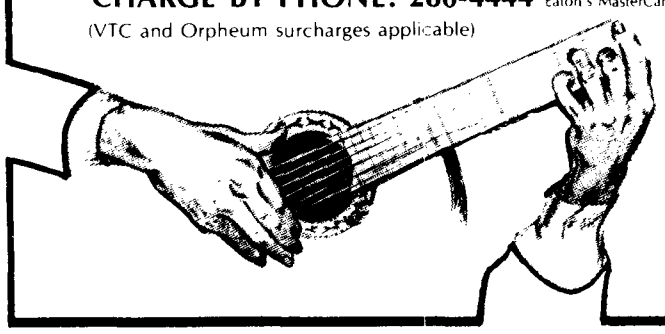

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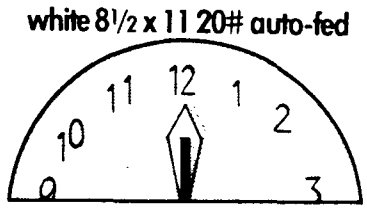
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IN THE VILLAGE

ASTROLOGY:

The Blueprint of the Soul

By GORDANA RASIC and RONALD STEWART

"So what's your sign?"

This astrological phrase, one of the most cliched come-ons commonly used in local bars unfortunately denegrates a field based on thousands of years of scientific observation to a frivolous conversation starter.

If you are like most people you probably know what astrological sign you were born under. You might also know a bit about what that means and even what your rising sign is. But like most people you have probably also felt rather skeptical about the whole topic.

One Vancouver astrologer, Dennis MacMillan, has been practicing astrology professionally for 10 years. He says he began "out of curiosity." What started as the simple glancing at an astrology book while standing in line for a movie became a life-long obsession for him.

MacMillan's clients come from Asia, Europe and North America. He says he does not advertise his service but his clients "come to him." He also prefers his clients to be skeptical rather than fanatical about astrology.

"Otherwise they tend to be gullible and it shows they are not thinking," he says.

Why then should one accept astrology? "Basically because it works," says MacMillan. "Astrology is a fact and it will work whether you believe in it or not." He strongly emphasizes astrology is not a belief system: "A great number of people do not believe in income tax, but they make a point to learn about it because it can be very useful to them."

Sandy Hughes, a Surrey astrologer and past president for three years of the Surrey astrological group Universal Search, agrees with MacMillan that astrology can be very useful.

"Astrology is not a belief system, it's a tool — a symbol system for understanding our reality," she says.

Astrology involves much more than simply looking up your daily horoscope in the newspaper. To construct an accurate, individual horoscope, an astrologer needs your time, date, and place of birth. Your date of birth indicates your sun sign, that is whether your a Pisces, Taurus, etc. The time and place of one's birth show the position of the horizon (what sign and planet are rising; this may affect one's personality as much as the sun sign.

Hughes says sun sign astrology is only one small part of astrology. The sun sign defines the core of one's personality; it may indicate one's purpose, needs, and individual energy. Its importance in a horoscope can vary from person to person.

For example, if a person was born Feb. 26, 1968, in Vancouver, at 11:05 p.m., their sun sign would be Pisces with a rising sun of Scorpio. In addition, moon and planets (Venus and Mercury), would all be in Aquarius. All these elements together show strong humanitarian characteristics, kindenss, sensitivity and artist abilities. These characteristics could all not be found in the simple knowledge of Pisces sun-sign and Scorpio rising. When doing a birth-chart one also looks for recurring themes of characteristics.

Other elements, such as the rising sign, the planetary positions, and their relations to each other, must be included in the make-up of a horoscope or natal chart. These individualize and separate one from other members of one's sun sign; they can make the difference between a conservative Capricorn and a flamboyant one. They are also what can make individual natal charts frighteningly accurate.

Astrologers can also use the movement of the planets, and their relations to their original positions, to predict the life cycles and trends of an individual. However, astologers are not fortune-tellers; their predictions can mean different things to different people. For example, a knowledgeable astrologer will never predict a person's death, because it can mean any number of things: a period of inactivity, a radical change of lifestyle, a time of bad health, the death of someone close.

One's free-will and upbringing must be taken into account as well. Dennis MacMillan says, "the chart indicates possibilities; the chart is a lot like DNA — it determines what you are, but your environment and the conditioning you receive can affect or even disguise your true personality."

People often use astrology to reveal their true personality, which Hughes and MacMillan both say has many practical applications. "Not many people who come to me are just curious," said Hughes, "they have specific problems and decisions to make, usually about relationships or money."

Astrological analysis of love relationships is called synastry. It involves comparison of the couple's birth charts; the astrologer looks for elements indicating compatibility or possible problems.

MacMillan says, "couples can consult me at the beginning of their relationship to find out about possible future conflicts and how to get around them."

Astrologers can also help when problems arise. They can do this by making suggestions according to cycles and trends. These suggestions might include visiting a marriage counsellor. Astrologers can also help with financial problems using the process of synastry in business partnerships.

One's natal chart can indicate business opportunities, such as appropriate times for opening one's own business.

MacMillan's clientele include many business executives and even large corporations. A corporation can be an astrological entity as well as a legal one, having a birth time, natal chart, and life cycles and trends.

Astrology may also be applied to more individual financial matters such as money problems, and career decisions. The horoscope can indicate times for opportunity or for caution. It can show appropriate careers or career moves for individuals as well.

Astrology has an endless list of additional uses: it may indicate the necessity of a different educational environment for those who have difficulties with conventional systems; it may assist parent/child relationships; it may predict times when a drug addict is most open to therapy; it may even show the political cycles of a country.

Most of MacMillan's and Hughes' clients are 25 to 55 years of age. MacMillan says they are "people who reach a point in their life when the normal roads to success are not enough and they are searching for a blending of financial success and spiritual fulfillment."

If one is interested in having their natal chart done, prices vary from 20 dollars to 150 dollars. There are also other things one should be aware of when consulting an astrologer. Sandy Hughes says "if you are looking for a good astologer, get a recommendation from someone who has consulted a helpful one — astrology has its share of quacks."

One should also be wary of astrologers who give limited advice. "If an astrologer gives you a black and white definition, either get a second opinion or don't take it literally," said Hughes. "Astrology is a tool which can be used constructively or destructively."

Even astrology has been affected by computerization. Natal charts can now be completely constructed by a computer. This is fine so long as the actual interpretation is done by a human, knowledgeable, in astrology, says Hughes.

If one is interested in learning the process astrology, it's not a simple matter. "I spent three years, 10 hours a day, studying astrology before I began doing professional charts — it's not something one can learn quickly," says Dennis MacMillan.

MacMillan also says there is no substitute for reading. However, he warns against astrological 'cookbooks', which attempt to teach astrology in the course of a single text. "More than one book should be sued — avoid dogma."

MacMillan recommends Noel Tyl's series of books, The Process and Practice of Astrology. You can also join astrological groups which often offer classes in the subject.

Scientists, in the past, have repeatedly tried to discredit astrology. However, computers are now being used to vindicate this ancient practice. MacMillan gave the example of a Parisian science team which fed the birth-dates, times, and places of thousands of actors into a computer.

According to common astrological theory, all those with theatrical talent should have a strong Jupiter influence. The computer results, said MacMillan, showed these people did have this common denominator in their birth charts. The scientists tried the experiment again with different groups who were supposed to have similar astrological influences. They found astrology could not be disproved using computers this way.

Experiments like this could not have been done as easily before the computer age, and for that reason computers are actually helping vindicate astrology. Astrologers like Dennis MacMillan and Sandy Hughes realize that there are still myths to be found in astrology but they welcome their elimination.

When colleagues asked scientist Sir Isaac Newton why he bothered with astrology, he answered: "Gentlemen, I have studied the matter; you have not."