

## Pressure

UN puts heat on Iran to stop persecution of religious minority

## Point

Men's basketball team wins two, but loses, too

## Poetic

Folk singer Dan Bern brings witty and poetic lyrics

# the UBYSSSEY

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## Scott resigns

by Alex Bustos  
Ottawa Bureau Chief

OTTAWA—After nearly two months of intense political pressure, Solicitor General Andy Scott bowed to prevailing winds in Ottawa Monday and announced his resignation as Canada's top cop.

"The disproportionate focus on allegations regarding my role has made the situation untenable for me as solicitor general," Scott wrote in a letter released to the media.

The embattled former minister, however, once again denied opposition charges that he had tainted the APEC inquiry.

"The fact is that I have never, and never would have, prejudged the outcome of the [APEC] commission's inquiry nor interfered with its process," Scott wrote.

Calls for Scott's head surfaced last month when NDP MP Dick Proctor told Parliament he overheard the then-solicitor general discuss the APEC inquiry with a seatmate on an Oct 1 Ottawa to Fredericton flight.

According to Proctor, Scott said a police officer called Hughie—assumed to be RCMP Staff Sergeant Hugh Stewart—would be found guilty of using excessive force against student protesters at last year's APEC summit in Vancouver.

The opposition insisted the alleged comments proved Scott had prejudged the inquiry; a charge the government has steadfastly denied for the last month and a half.

But the Liberal line weakened last week when Frederick Toole, Scott's seatmate on the infamous airborne chat, released a court affidavit confirming Proctor's story.

By week's end, the question buzzing around Parliament was when, not if, the solicitor general would step down.

When asked during Question Period why Scott was not fired sooner, Prime Minister Jean Chretien's reply turned the tables on his political opponents.

"I did not fire the solicitor general," responded Chretien. "Because of the constant attack from the opposition he decided that it was too difficult for him to do all his work and he decided to offer me his resignation."

Opposition members used the resignation to renew their calls for the creation of an independent body to replace the RCMP Public Complaints Commission hearings.

Conservative Justice Critic Peter MacKay told reporters outside the Commons that Scott's resignation didn't lift the cloud of suspicion hanging over the troubled hearings.

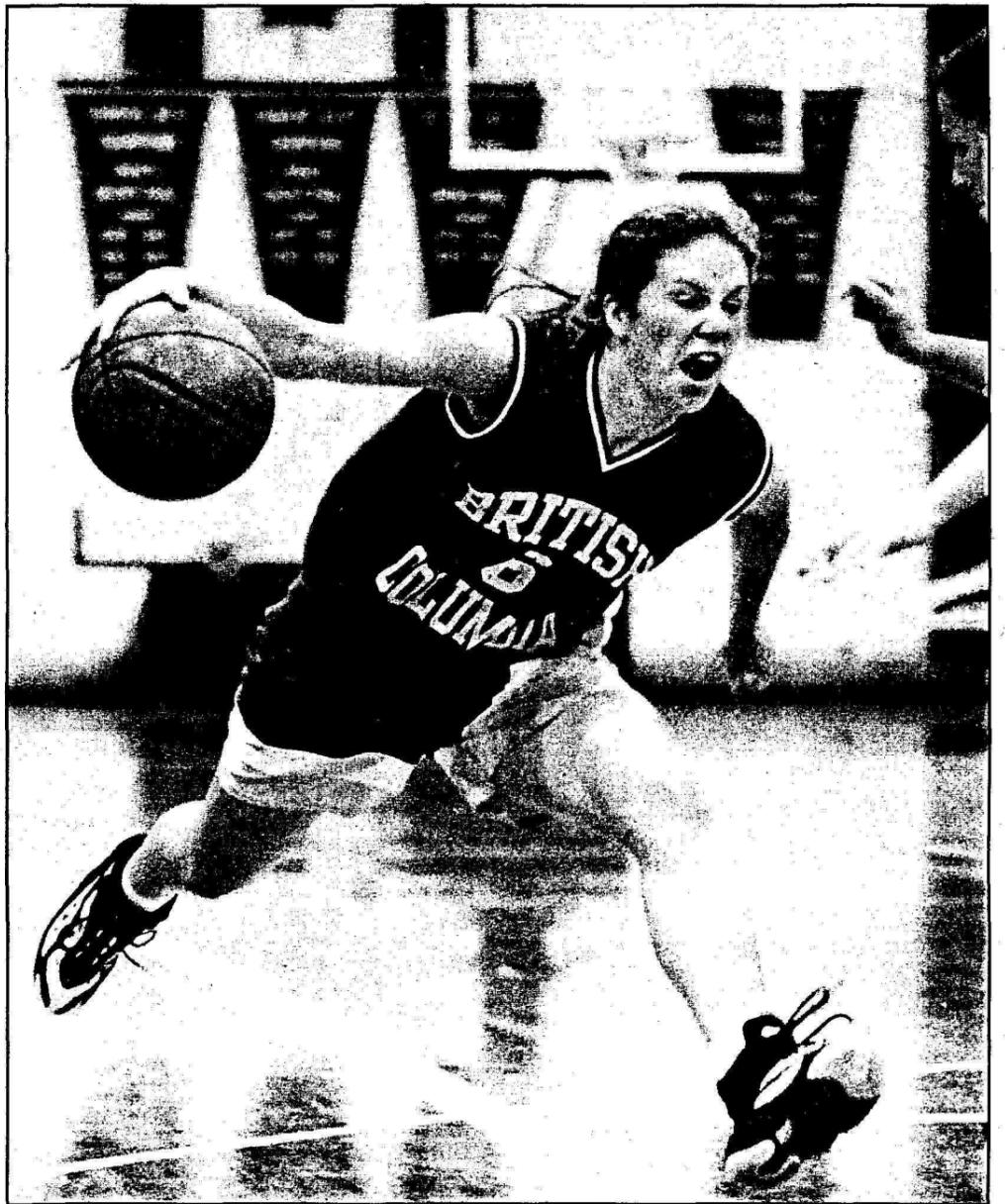
"The (APEC) commission itself is still being challenged by the RCMP," said MacKay. "They're saying they don't have confidence in the panel."

Earlier this month, allegations surfaced that Gerald Morin, the APEC inquiry chair, had prejudged the commission this past summer by telling a friend the police overreacted during the meeting of 18 Pacific Rim leaders.

But on Monday, Chris Considine, legal counsel for the Commission said the hearings will still proceed this week as scheduled. He said the Commission will address the issue of whether Scott has biased the inquiry in any way.

However, the panel is scheduled to adjourn at week's end for a two month winter recess. Whether these hearings will be cut short in light of Scott's resignation is unknown.

Said Considine, "We're not going to cross bridges until we have to." ♦



**OUTTA MY WAY:** Second-year guard Brandie Speers, brandishing the ball, lunges towards a University of Calgary Dinosaurs defender on Saturday. UBC was swept for the second consecutive weekend in Canada West action, and it doesn't get any easier for the Birds—they travel to number one-ranked Alberta next weekend with an 0-4 record. RICHARD LAM PHOTO

## Piper's vision passed unanimously—almost

by Douglas Quan

After a year's worth of discussion and revisions, the document outlining UBC's goals and strategies for the 21st century was officially endorsed by the university's board of governors last Thursday.

President Martha Piper expressed confidence in this vision document, also known as *Trek 2000*, and said UBC will be poised to overtake the University of Toronto as the leading research university in Canada.

UBC has consistently lagged behind universities in Eastern Canada—according to the *Macleans* university rankings, for example—and has seen a growing number of its faculty and researchers move to the United States.

The vision document lists several strate-

gies to stem this "brain drain," and to enhance UBC's overall learning environment. Among other things, UBC commits itself to:

- developing an academic plan to guide faculty renewal and retention;
- developing a learner-centred undergraduate curricula, increasing co-op programs, and fully integrating information technology in instruction;
- increasing funding support for researchers from the public and private sectors, and expanding links with government, industry and organised labour;
- collaborating with local and regional communities to develop education and research programs; and
- attracting more international students, and increasing research in Asia, the Americas

and Europe.

But Board approval of *Trek 2000* wasn't unanimous. However, professor Philip Resnick was alone in his opposition.

He questioned:

- how will UBC create a more interactive teaching environment when student enrollment is soaring, and funding for faculty replacements is tight?;
  - will the push for interdisciplinary programs come at the expense of core disciplinary loyalties?; and
  - are we moving towards a day-care model of university whereby students are kept happy but not intellectually challenged?
- Resnick, who will be stepping down from the board of governors in January, outlined his points in the latest edition of the Faculty Association newsletter. In that same

newsletter, Resnick, a political science professor, took the opportunity to make a few more jabs against the university's administration.

Making reference to a *Vancouver Sun* photo of Prime Minister Chretien wearing a "Think About It" cap one month before the APEC summit in Vancouver last year, Resnick warned against university presidents interacting too intimately with government leaders. "Excessive currying to those in power can rebound negatively on the university," Resnick wrote.

And in true Resnick style, he listed off some of his own accomplishments as a board member over the past three years. He listed altering UBC's advertising policy, defeating a proposed hotel project and lobbying for university autonomy, among others. ♦

# CLASSIFIEDS

## Employment Opportunities

**STUDENTS!** Make extra money for organizing ski trips. Call Brad 893-8500.

**TRAVEL - TEACH ENGLISH:** 5 Day/40 Hour (Nov. 25-29) TESOL teacher certification course (or by correspondence). 1000's of jobs available NOW. FREE information package, toll free 1-888-270-2941.

**YOUTH EDUCATORS NEEDED!** For a health board sexual health program. Must be between 19 and 24. No experience necessary; training provided. Honorarium for each presentation. Call Lu for info, 251-4345.

## Volunteer Opportunities

**WOMEN NEEDED FOR INTERVIEW STUDY.** We are looking for women to participate in an interview with sexual contact with someone when you didn't want to, and you would be interested in finding out more about our research. please contact Nichole at 822-7293. All of the information you provide will be strictly protected for confidentiality. This research is being carried out by the Anxiety and Fear Laboratory in the Department of Psychology at UBC. This research is being supervised by Dr. S. Rachman. Telephone: 822-9028 Study number 015-98.

**PARTICIPANTS NEEDED. YOUNG WOMEN** who are members of Hong Kong astronaut (1-2 parents in Hong Kong and children in Canada) or Hong Kong immigrant families (parents and children in Canada) are required for a study examining their personal and family decisions. Call/fax Kimi Tanaka at 254-4158 or email her at kimi@interchange.ubc.ca, or call Dr. Phyllis Johnson at 822-4300.

**\$10 FOR 30 MINUTES.** Got a stepfather you love or hate? Indifferent? 17-23 years old? You qualify! • No Interview • Anonymous, mailed questionnaire. Contact 822-4919 or gamache@interchange.ubc.ca

## Extra Curricular

**MARXIST-LENINIST STUDY GROUP** meets Wednesdays 12:30, Buchanan B220. Next meeting: "Necessity for Change - A manifesto for today". Also, Britannia Community Centre, Fridays, 7:30pm, "History Begins from the Present".

**LIFE DRAWING CLUB.** Open to anyone interested in life drawing. Every Thursday 12:30 - 2:15. Lassere 204.

## Lost

**LOST.** Silver/gold women's Seiko watch by bookstore, November 9th. Please call 221-8195 or email <mfredrik@interchange.ubc.ca>.

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# staffmeeting

## proposedagenda

1. ad boycott
2. magazine subs
3. literary supplement
4. other supplements
5. x-mas party
6. vision 2000
7. post mortem
8. nash day delegates
9. other

sub buildingroom 241k

allwelcome

## correction

In "AMS budget still on table" (the Ubyssy, November 17) we incorrectly stated that the AMS budget was turned back repeatedly by AMS council. In fact, the budget was only formally turned back once, and passed three weeks later. We regret the error. ♦

## STUDENT SOCIETY OF UBC



# AMS

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# HELP WANTED

the AMS is looking for a few enthusiastic individuals

### Director of the New Student Orientation Program

Responsibilities:

- To organize day-long orientation sessions including AMS/UBC information seminars and walking tours of campus;
- To assist with the formulation of Orientations 2000, and implement the resulting plan;
- To interview applicants for available positions;
- To promote the service to high school students;
- To prepare prospective students in the transition from high school UBC

Qualifications:

1. must be able to make a 2 year commitment
2. must be an energetic, enthusiastic individual;
3. must enjoy dealing with high school students;
4. good communication, management and marketing skills are critical;
5. excellent knowledge of the AMS and UBC

Salaried Position.

For further details please contact  
Neena Sonik, AMS Vice President at 822.3092  
or [vicepres@ams.ubc.ca](mailto:vicepres@ams.ubc.ca)

### Student Administrative Commission

Is looking for two responsible and dedicated students to fill commissioner positions.

The Student Administrative Commission:

- is responsible for managing the Student Union Building & allocating space in the building
- regulates all bookings and functions in SUB
- Provides building and function security for SUB
- manages the Art Gallery
- administers and acts as the official liaison between the AMS and the 250 clubs and constituencies.

Commissioners must be available to attend weekly Monday evening meetings and be available on occasional Friday nights to supervise functions in the SUB. Time commitment is approximately 10 hours a week.

Honoraria Position

### Elections Committee

Duties are to conduct the annual AMS Elections as well as any referendums that occur. Members must be prepared to commit a significant amount of time in January to oversee the elections process as well you must be able to remain impartial during the process.

Positions available:

*Chief Returning Officer*—responsible for training & overseeing poll clerks as well as supervising the counting of ballots.

*Deputy Returning officer*—to assist the Chief Returning officer, keep minutes of Elections Committee meetings and maintain all committee records and files.

*Members-at-Large (2)*—must attend Elections Committee meetings, participate in policy setting, & help maintain the integrity of the elections process.

Honoraria Position

# Baha'is denied education

by Julian Dowling

Local members of the Baha'i faith are pleading for Canada and other countries to put pressure on Iran to stop its persecution of Baha'is and other religious minorities in that country.

Over the past two months, Iranian security officials have raided about 500 homes belonging to Baha'is, confiscating property and arresting over 50 people, according to news reports.

"Iran is trying to come across to the West as being more open, while these crimes are being committed at home," said Darin Howe, a UBC linguistics graduate student and a Baha'i.

Those who were arrested were faculty members of the Baha'i Institute for Higher Education (BIHE), an underground university that formed in 1987 because Baha'is were not allowed to attend any of Iran's universities.

The prisoners were told to sign a document outlawing the BIHE, but they refused.

Most of the prisoners have since been released. But they have all been prevented from resuming their teaching. And their textbooks, lab equipment and other materials still remain in the hands of Iranian officials.

"It's a violation of basic human rights," Howe said, citing the 1948 UN Universal Declaration of Human Rights and the 1966 International Covenant on Economic, Social and Cultural Rights of which Iran is a signatory.

The Baha'i faith originated in Iran in the middle of the 19th century. Today, over five million people worldwide are members of the faith, including 300,000 in Iran. The Baha'is

support universal education, and their founding principle is respect for all religions.

According to Maurice Copithorne, a UBC professor of law who recently delivered a report to the UN on the plight of Baha'is in Iran, the persecution of Baha'is escalated following the 1979 revolution.

**"Iran is trying to come across to the West as being more open, while these crimes are being committed at home."**

Darin Howe

—UBC Linguistics graduate student and a Baha'i member

"Baha'is have always faced discrimination in Iran, but it has become much worse under the Islamic regime," Copithorne said. "People are stoned to death and tortured, there's a lot of these things going on."

The Iranian government associates Baha'is with Israel since the Baha'i holy land is found there. Last July, a Baha'i was hanged for allegedly being a spy for the Israeli government. It was the first execution of a Baha'i in Iran since 1992; another seven Baha'is have been sentenced to death.

Copithorne, who has lived in Iran himself, says Iranian President Mohammad Khatami's claims of promoting a more tolerant society "[have] yet to be reflected in the treat-

ment of minorities whether religious or ethnic."

Over 120,000 Iranians have emigrated to Canada since 1979, many of them Baha'is. Houshang Zargarpour of West Vancouver is one of them. He fled Iran after government officials confiscated his business.

Zargarpour says he finds it inconceivable that Baha'is in Iran now do not even have the right to study in their own homes. He suggests "it is a sign that the government position is to annihilate completely the Baha'i community without making a noise in the world."

But members of the Baha'i community around the world have begun to step up their awareness campaign, and it appears Western governments are listening.

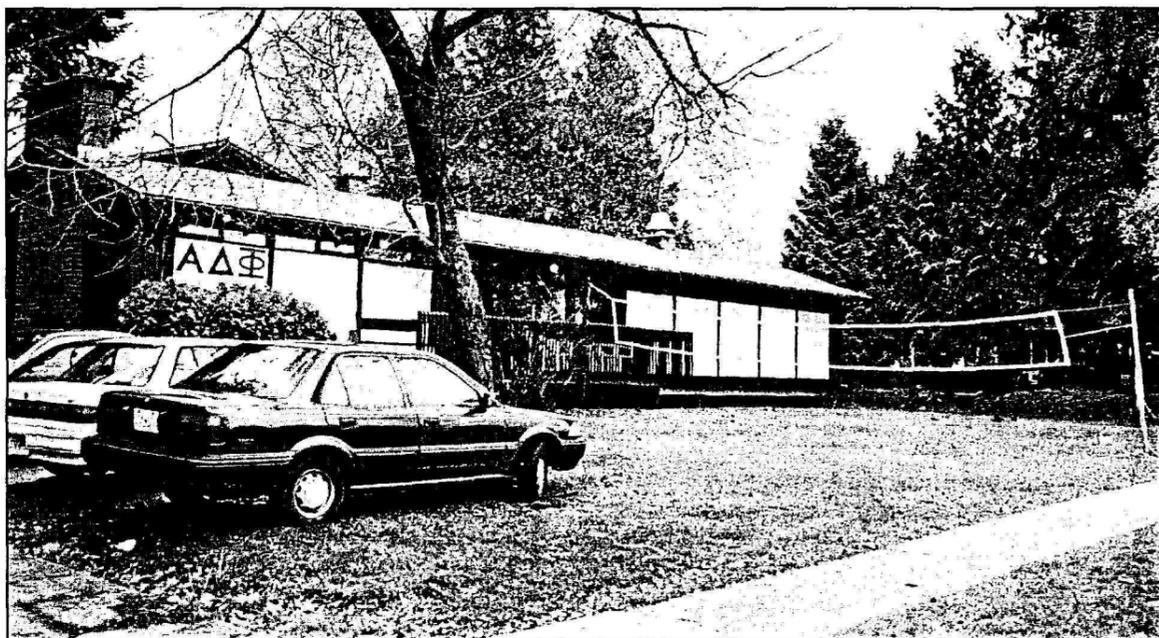
The Canadian government passed a bill last month calling on Iran to stop the persecution of Baha'is. And just last week, the United Nations General Assembly passed a resolution urging Iran to take steps that will lead to the emancipation of the Baha'is.

Professor Copithorne recommends that the treatment of Baha'is "should be on the agenda for any bilateral agreement between Canada and Iran."

However, Zargarpour remains skeptical whether any of this international pressure will have an impact. "Iran won't heed any UN resolutions unless you go in there with airplanes and missiles, like the United States in Iraq," he said.

Thus far, at the UN level, Iran has ignored all accusations that it is violating human rights.

The Iranian embassy in Ottawa was not returning calls last week, and the ambassador was unavailable for comment. ♦



FRAT ROW: The series of buildings along Wesbrook Mall will be relocated to a area near the RCMP detachment. RICHARD LAM PHOTO

## Frat move is likely

by Ian Sonshine

A new rental housing facility for faculty, staff and student families could be in UBC's future. The proposed development, if approved, would see an extra 200 to 300 rental units built on campus, with construction beginning as early as September of next year.

The new units are a part of the university's East Campus Project, and would be built on a forested stretch of land just south of fraternity row, along the east side of Wesbrook Mall.

According to Al Poettcker, president of UBC Properties, the university's real estate division, public response to the proposal has, so far, been positive.

"We've done a lot of public consultation with as many groups as we could," Poettcker said.

"The reaction has been extremely favourable. A lot of people in the area would really like to see the land redeveloped."

Support, though, hasn't been unanimous. Some people, like Patrick Dodge, a local resident, are concerned that the development would lead to the clearcutting of the treed area.

"I'd hate to see them cut [the forest] down," Dodge said. "I go there every weekend and after work. It's really a beautiful place to walk around."

Melanie Waters, a day care worker at Huckleberry Day Care which is located just behind the stretch of timberland, says she often takes her classes for walks through the area.

"It's a really nice place for the kids to experience nature," Waters said. "It may seem like a few trees, but for the children, it's a forest."

Poettcker agrees that vegetation is important on campus but notes that a survey of the site concluded that most of the bush was young and "of very poor quality." The small stand of older trees, he suspects, would be kept as "open space."

If the rental housing project is approved it would help the universi-

ty meet some of its housing goals outlined in the Official Community Plan (OCP). The plan, published in July 1997, requires approximately 1,800 rental units to be built by 2021, half of which will be non-market units targeted at, but not necessarily limited to, staff, students and faculty.

The housing project, as part of the East Campus Project, is still largely contingent on the relocation of the fraternities. If the fraternities move to their proposed site they would free up land for market housing in which UBC would share the profits—profits which would be used to help subsidise the rental housing.

"Virtually all rental housing needs some kind of subsidy," Poettcker said. If the market housing isn't built, it's unlikely the university will find the money for the development.

A public meeting will be held sometime before February to discuss the project before it is presented to the Board of Governors for approval. ♦

## Vandals hit Pride office

by Sarah Galashan

Members of the resource group, Pride, are concerned homophobic students are becoming more active following two acts of vandalism to their office last week.

In the first instance, a death message with a swastika drawn on it was posted on the Pride office door. In the second instance, the letters D-I-E were arranged across the door, and ketchup was smeared around the office entrance.

"Lots of people are upset about it," said Stephanie Phillips, Pride's social coordinator. "Lots of people are feeling really angry 'cause it's supposed to be our space."

**"If you substituted gays with blacks or women...this would be unacceptable...It's proof that homophobia does exist."**

Brian O'Neil

—UBC social work professor

Pride provides support and resource materials to gay, lesbian and bi-sexual students.

Brian O'Neil, a UBC Social Work professor, urges Pride members to use last week's incidents as a teaching tool.

O'Neil says the vandalism clearly illustrates that society still has a problem with homosexuality.

"If you substituted gays with blacks or women...this would be unacceptable," he said. "It's proof that homophobia does exist."

Phillips said the group is discussing improving security measures around the office, but would not give any details.

The office is tucked away in the northeast corner of the Student Union Building on the ground floor.

"We'll probably be making sure there's more of a security presence there," said Scott Morishita, the AMS director of administration. "Some of those wings are kind of out of the way."

Morishita said he was shocked by the acts of vandalism and was relieved no one was in the office at the time.

He said he was not ruling out placing a hidden camera in the hallway outside the Pride office. There are already several cameras perched in ceilings elsewhere in the SUB.

Pride has been referred to the campus RCMP.

In the meantime Phillips says the club plans to raise more awareness about homophobia on campus. "We've discussed measures that we could do in coordination with the Equity Office to change the attitudes that are at the route for that kind of shit," she said. ♦

# tuesday friday the ubyssey

## UNIVERSITY OPTOMETRY CLINIC

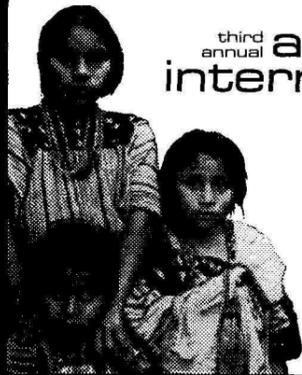


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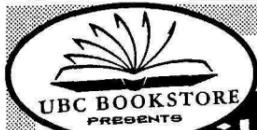
- 7 p.m. • Waiting
- Gerrie and Louise
- 9:30 p.m. • Cases of Violence
- Against Native Communities in Chiapas
- The Devil's Dream

Saturday, November 28

- 7 p.m. • The Sky: A Silent Witness
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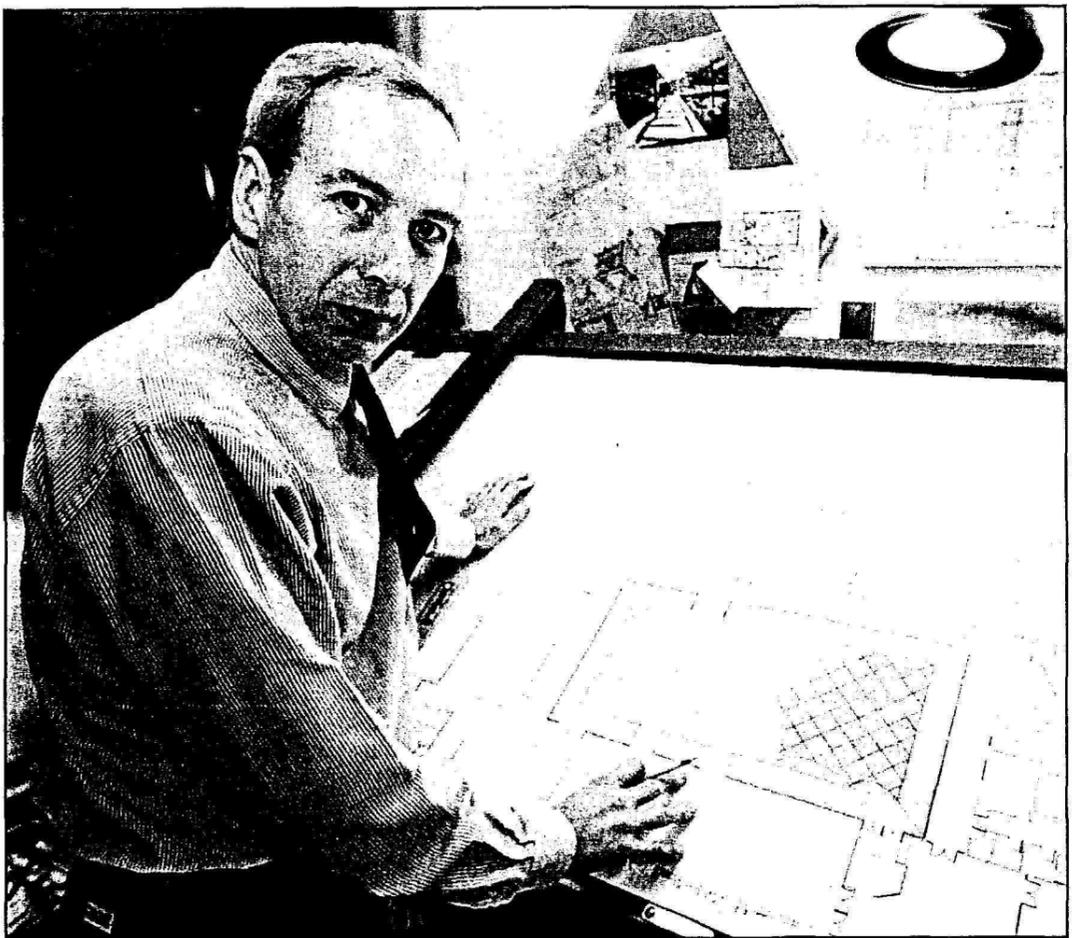
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MAN WITH A PLAN: Michael Kingsmill is confident courtyard renovations will draw students in.  
RICHARD LAM PHOTO

## SUB courtyard to undergo facelift

by Douglas Quan

Except for a handful of people wanting a quiet place to study or a spot to sit and eat lunch, the second-floor, open-roof courtyard in the Student Union Building has remained relatively unused over the years.

"Right now, those that use it are repeat users," says AMS designer Michael Kingsmill.

But all of that could change by next fall. Kingsmill is overseeing hundreds of thousands of dollars in renovations to the courtyard that will drastically transform the area's look.

AMS councillors agreed last week to allocate over \$130,000

from the AMS Capital Projects and Acquisitions fund over the next two years to cover the first phase of renovations.

That phase will see the SUB's west staircase and courtyard doors widened. It will increase the building's occupancy, and allow the entire courtyard to be used. Until now only half of the courtyard has been accessible to students.

Kingsmill hopes to get council approval in the new year to allocate an additional \$70,000 for another phase of renovations. He wants to bring in more tables and chairs, as well as several orange trees in large terracota planters, improve lighting, and build infrastructure that would enable a tent roof to be

hoisted on rainy days.

The move to undertake these renovations coincides with a recent commitment by the university to repair and replace the SUB courtyard floor.

The thin, rubber mats that sit beneath the surface of the courtyard have deteriorated. Instead of helping to drain water, the mats are causing water to leak into rooms below, including the SUB Conversation Pit.

UBC has agreed to replace the membrane and the floor tiles above them at a cost of \$344,000.

Kingsmill says he hopes the university will also agree to pay for the cost of a small stage on one side of the courtyard. ❖

## Theft on the rise, RCMP warn

by Sarah Galashan

A recent rash of thefts has prompted RCMP to post signs around campus warning students to keep a close watch on their belongings.

"It's just a matter of trying to get people to think that they don't live in a community that is immune to theft," said RCMP staff sergeant Lloyd Plante. "There are thieves out here. There's people that aren't students out here."

Three arrests late last month illustrate Plante's point. Phone tips led campus RCMP to three men suspected of breaking into campus buildings and stealing computers and personal items of UBC staff. The suspects, who are all in their 20's, were not attending UBC.

Plante told *the Ubyyssey* the campus is being targeted by thieves more often because of the easy access to buildings and the ability for them to blend in as students.

"The most common crime, not only on the campus but for the entire community out here, is property crime," Plante said.

He urged faculty and students to keep an eye out for suspicious behaviour, and take preventive measures.

"After [a theft has] happened to them then, frankly, it's too late [to do anything]," Plante said.

At least one university employee can attest to that. In the past three weeks, she's been the victim of theft in two separate incidents. The

employee, who did not wish to have her name published, had her wallet stolen from a countertop in Trekkers restaurant, then had her

clothes stolen from a locker in the Computer Science building.

"I had to spend the rest of the day at work in my t-shirt and shorts," she said.

Bob Frampton, UBC's assistant housing director, hopes students won't have to learn from their mistakes. He says residence directors are warning students of the potential for these types of crime.

"Most of the thefts that occur in residences happen to students who have left their doors open," said Frampton. "The

best measure to protect against theft is to keep your doors locked." ❖

## Campus Property Crime in October

Theft from motor vehicles

Cases

Bikes stolen

Cases

Vehicles stolen

Cases

Break and entries

Cases

Shop lifting (under \$5000)

Cases

# Men take two, lose another

by Vincent Lam

The only way this weekend could have ended any better for the men's varsity basketball team was if Fox had offered them a multi-million dollar contract to turn their two weekend games into a made for TV movie.

The weekend events seemed to be taken straight from a Hollywood script as the Birds swept two games in dramatic fashion from the University of Calgary Dinos. With their two wins, the Birds are now 2-2 for the season. On Friday, the 71-52 win over the Dinos was an interesting plot twist. With the absence of two of their starters, coupled with two straight losses last weekend to Victoria, the outlook coming into this weekend was grim.

"I watched Calgary on videotape all week long. I thought going into Friday that they'd could beat us by twenty points without [Jason] Bristow and Nino [Sose]," said UBC head coach Bruce Enns. "This was a huge, huge weekend for us." Sose is sidelined with a bulging disc in his back that will require surgery, while Bristow is out with a stress fracture in his left leg that will keep him out until at least January.

The T-Birds lost a few feathers off their heads when new Thunderbird guard Stanleigh Mitchell suffered a nasty spill midway in second half on a spectacular dunk attempt. Mitchell still finished as top scorer in the game with 17 points.

But on Saturday, things turned for the worse. T-Bird fans discovered that Mitchell would not be playing that night due an injury to his right hand as a result of the fall he suffered last game.

"It's just a strained ligament," said Mitchell while cradling his hand, "The doctor said I should rest it for at least a week."

With the absence of the T-Birds starting backcourt, it seemed as though their wings would be clipped. But brand new Birds John Fast and Sherlan John, along with strong returning players Dominic Zimmerman and Beau Mitchell, ensured that that would not happen.

"Everybody stepped up their game. They came to play and they battled for forty minutes allowing them to pull off the win," said Mitchell of the Birds' 64-61 win.

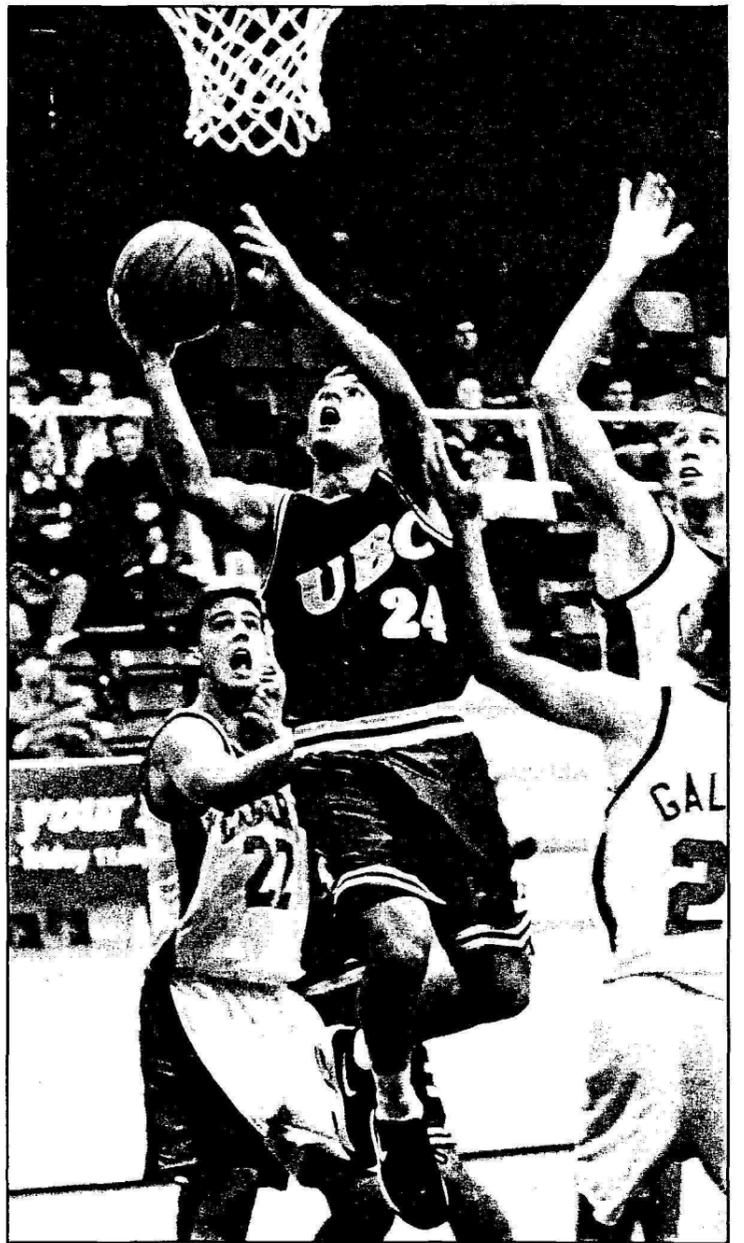
John also had nothing but praise for the team's impressive performance on Saturday.

"With the absence of Stanleigh, I thought we played really well. We picked it up, the intensity was there. We pulled through with hard work. That's our team," said John, who netted 18 points for the Thunderbirds.

Fast brought the crowd to its feet and his team to within two points when he drained a critical three-point basket with 3:17 to go in the game. He continued his stellar play down the stretch, scoring 7 of his 19 points in the last four minutes of regulation play, along with several key offensive boards. This was more than enough to earn him player of the game honours.

No one was more pleased with Fast's and the rest of the T-Birds' play than Enns.

"It was just plain heart tonight," said an emotional Enns. "This team has yet made another public statement as to the nature of our team." ♦



OH MY GOD, THE RIM! Birds captain Dominic Zimmerman (24) takes the leather to the rack with wild eyes Saturday night as Calgary Dino Chris Harris (22) looks on in horror. RICHARD LAM PHOTO

## Sinking Birds suffer second straight sweep

by Vincent Lam

If the women's basketball team's season were an Alaskan cruise, there would be pirates coming, it would be raining nonstop, and another iceberg would be on the horizon.

The Birds dropped two games to the University of Calgary Dinosaurs this weekend and are now 0-4—last in the Canada West. On Friday, the thunder seemed to be lacking in the Birds. They failed to score 50 points for the second time in their 59-48 loss against the Dinos.

"I don't think we

really competed. We sort of slept through the first half and before we knew it, the game was half over," said frustrated head coach Deb Huband.

The Birds did not get the game they needed from several of their key players, most notably leading scorer Jessica Mills. After leading UBC in scoring in every game this year, Mills was limited to a mere four points on Friday. Fellow forwards Kimberly Meilleur and Jennifer Macleod scored over half of the T-Birds' points, with 14 and 12 points respectively.

On Saturday, the Birds fared much better against the division-leading Dinos. And despite coming away with a 62-51 loss, the Birds played seemed to be revived from the dead and played with much more intensity.

"We worked really hard. We had good, tough defence—it was that their shots were falling and ours weren't," said Amy Jonker, who led the Birds with 18 points. "It just all came down to who had the heart and who didn't. They [Dinos] just finished really well."

UBC did show more signs of life Saturday, as they battled to within four points midway through the second half, but a quick change in defensive strategy by the Dinos led to a widening of the scoring margin.

"They went into a zone and we didn't handle it very well,"

said Huband. "We were having lots of success man-to-man against them, but then they went into their zone and we struggled for about five or six possessions. We didn't get a shot, we turned the ball over. This is part of our inexperience—we were still in the man-to-man mentality and that cost us a number of possessions."

All of this adds up to trouble for the young and struggling Birds. UBC opened the Canada West season by losing both games at the defending national champions Victoria Vikes last weekend, and next week travel to Edmonton to visit the 4-0 University of Alberta Golden Bears, who are ranked number one in Canada. The T-Birds need to figure out how to chalk up some points in the win column—and some points on the court: they have yet to score above 52 points in a game this season. UBC is quickly sinking to the bottom of the Canada West division—and unfortunately in basketball, there are no life jackets. ♦



UP: Amy Jonker led UBC with 18 points Saturday. RICHARD LAM PHOTO

# Bird Droppings

### MEN'S RUGBY

It was wet and it was wild, but in the end it was just too much for the UBC men's rugby team in Victoria this weekend. Playing in rain and on a soaking mudpit of a field, the Birds fought the Vikes to the last but fell short and lost by a final score of 37-13. With the loss, the Thunderbirds finished second at the Canadian university men's rugby championships. The Birds will now continue their Vancouver Rugby Union league play.

### MEN'S ICE HOCKEY

The men's ice hockey team played a superb weekend in Edmonton this weekend against the Canada West-leading University of Alberta Golden Bears. UBC fell 5-3 Friday night, as Nils Anton, Steve Howitt, and Troy Dalton tallied for the Birds. But UBC responded with a terrific effort Saturday,

coming back from a 3-1 first period-deficit to hand Alberta their first loss of the season 5-4. UBC goals came from Dalton, Rob Teleske, Chris Kerr, and David Penner with his first two as a Thunderbird. UBC moved to 5-5-2 on the year, tied for third in the tight Canada West with the University of Calgary Dinosaurs. Dalton leads the T-Birds with 17 points on the season, 10 of which have come in his current six-game points streak. UBC faces off against Calgary next Friday and Saturday night at the Thunderbird Winter Sports Centre.

### WOMEN'S HOCKEY

The women's ice hockey team also stayed at the .500 mark (6-6-2) as they creamed the Burnaby Freeze at the Winter Sports Centre Friday night before getting shut out 2-0 by the Killarney Knights at the Killarney Community Centre Saturday. ♦

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**DAN BERN**  
 at the Starfish Room  
 Nov 18

# Dan Bern



**DANDY DAN:** Bern held the crowd in the palm of his hand when he hit the Starfish Room Wednesday night. ALI THOM PHOTO



**TOSCA**  
 at the Queen Elizabeth Theatre  
 runs till Nov 30

by Megan Qu...

Marquita Lister's interpretation of Tosca is provocative and sensual. Tosca is portrayed as a complex woman, who is both independent and ambitious, yet emotionally dependent on her lover. She is a strong individual plagued with insecurity and deadly jealousy. Marquita Lister has a remarkable voice, able to express the binary nature of Tosca and evoke the audience's sympathy.

A wonderfully heart-wrenching opera with a tragic ending, *Tosca* stabs at the torments of raw human emotion. I loved every depressing minute. ❖

# Tosca triumphant

# DELIGHTS and delivers

by Monique Stevenson



His songs, ranging from folk to spoken word to storytelling, have a quality that you can't put your finger on, but that make you listen to every single word.

I knew when Bern's percussionist/guitarist started drumming on a cardboard box that I was in for an interesting experience. From the moment Bern went onstage, the audience went completely silent—as if under a spell—listening, eyes unblinking, to his musings on life, love, art and pop culture.

And if you must put me in a box  
MAKE SURE  
”

## THE MIGHTY MIGHTY BOSSTONES—LIVE FROM THE MIDDLE EAST

[Mercury Records]

For those unfamiliar with the Mighty Mighty Bosstones' roots, the title of their new album, *Live from the Middle East*, might be a bit misleading. Rather than being Live From Saudi Arabia, they're actually performing in the Middle East club in Cambridge, Massachusetts, where they started out. Each holiday season, the popular ska band hosts their "Hometown Throwdown," playing a five-night string of shows to packed Boston crowds.

The album, a 22-track compilation of their greatest hits, makes it obvious that this band is meant to play live. The Bosstones' frontman, Dicky Barrett, easily plays the crowd with his deep throaty roars, getting them clapping and chanting along to fun songs like "Where'd You Go?"

But old school tunes from their first album, *Devil's Night Out*, display the band's erratic shifts between thrashy hard rock riffs and bobbing ska rhythms which often seem awkward and startling.

Not being a fan of hard rock, I much prefer the purely ska tracks off the most recent album, *Let's Face It*. Songs like "Noise Brigade," "The Rascal King," and the smash hit "The Impression That I Get," (aka the "Knock on Wood" song) show off the funky incorporation of horns which launched their success.

With platinum sales in the US, the Bosstones have helped bring ska to the mainstream, and their unique genre of music lends them a special appeal. For mighty mighty fans, this album is a must-have, with two new tracks to complete your collection. For the adventurous, it is definitely worth a try. The band's wild energy—escalating to frenzy at times—makes you wish you were there, immersed in the crowd at the Middle East. ♦

-Janet Ip

## REM—UP

[Warner]

For most other bands a drummer is just a drummer, but REM was known for once saying that if any one member of the band left, well, that would be the end of it. Of course, that was said before they went and signed a multi-trillion dollar, five-album deal with Warner, which just proves that in the corporate music business, contracts involving money normally prevail over all others.

*Up* is a strong departure from their previous album, *New Adventures in Hi-Fi*. The songs range from heavily studio-laden tracks to their more traditional guitar and string arrangements.

The cheap synthesizers, old fuzzy-sounding bits of retro electronica and tacky drum machines all come out for this one. It works on a few tracks, like "Hope," but overall it's as if the band is just mucking about, trying to find a new sound.

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Michael Stipe's vocals are more clear than his usual murky warblings, and feature more prominently in the songs. He's his usual moody self, but on songs like "The Apologist" his vocals degenerate into an intolerable whine.

M

Perhaps REM will find their voice again in their next album; otherwise maybe they should just retire alongside their ex-drummer. ♦

Dale Lum

## PLEASANTVILLE SOUNDTRACK

[Work/Sony Music]

It's the rare soundtrack that can transcend the temptation to be a grab-bag for either a) a mix of golden oldies (therefore hoping for *Forrest Gump-ish* sales numbers) or b) a mix of catchy, radio-friendly popular tunes (therefore hoping for *Romeo and Juliet-ish* cool cachet). It's just so easy to make money. Sure, nobody's going to be listening to the *Rush Hour* soundtrack in a couple of years, but it pays the bills.

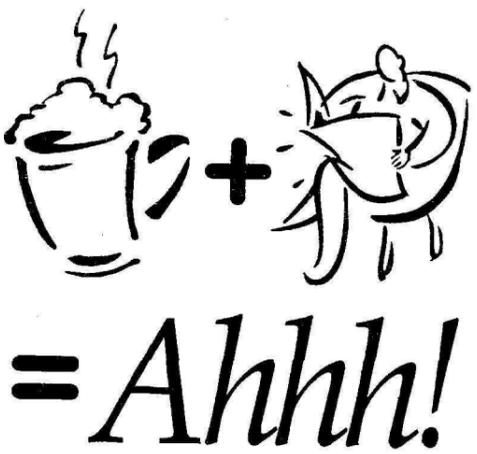
The *Pleasantville* soundtrack actually manages to straddle the line between golden oldies and popular artist, and comes off classy, which is quite the rare feat. The popular, cool-cachet value comes from Fiona Apple, who supplies two sublime covers, one a Beatles number, "Across the Universe," and the other, "Please Send Me Someone to Love," a Percy Mayfield song. Apple's version of his song makes John Lennon seem frantic, as she slowly unravels the words while drum machines crash in the background. The Mayfield cover is even more drawn-out, as Apple casually, languorously, pleads with God to do as the title indicates.

The rest of the album is a softly flowing mix of fifties charmers and rockers and jazz classics. Gene Vincent, Larry Williams, Billy Ward and the Dominoes, Buddy Holly and Elvis Presley fan the nostalgic fifties rockabilly flame, while the Dave Brubeck Quartet and Miles Davis keep it cool. And when Randy Newman's "Suite from Pleasantville" finally finishes off the album with a flourish, it keeps everything on a nice, even keel. The *Pleasantville* soundtrack may not be the most exciting or catchy of soundtracks—*Trainspotting* it ain't—but it certainly makes for a soothing, pleasing listen.

-John Zaozirny

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# The big bang theory works

ENEMY OF THE STATE  
Now Playing

by John Zaozirny

Sometimes it's nice to see a Big Movie. Big Budget, Big Stars, Big Explosions. Now, they don't necessarily have to be good, they just have to contain a lot of Big Bangs. And *Enemy of the State* is quite a good choice for a Big Movie. Both star Will Smith and director Tony Scott have made careers out of Big Bangs: Smith with films like *Bad Boys*, *Independence Day* and *Men in Black*, and Scott with, among



THE FUGITIVE(S): Will Smith is on the man on the run from the men in black this time.

take that miraculous videotape from him is never quite explained, except for the fact that the movie would then only be about 45 minutes long. Oh well.

But, still—it's quite a nice flick. Hackman, as an ex-NSAer who's gone underground, puts in a nicely unbalanced performance and it's a shame he's only onscreen for about a third of the film. Jon Voight, continuing his string of bad guys in big budget movies—who'd have thought *Mission Impossible* would start a trend?—is actually pretty boring but he's got an entire cadre of loopy, quirky underlings to keep things upbeat. Local boy Barry Pepper (*Saving Private Ryan*) and Jack Black (*Bob Roberts*) co-star

others, the proto-typical Big Movie *Top Gun*. And then there's co-star Gene Hackman, the *French Connection* man, thrown in as an appetiser for the older crowd. So guess what? *Enemy of the State* ends up being a Big Movie, but the surprise is that there aren't many Big Bangs, just lots of nicely engineered little ones.

Ostensibly a fable about the intrusion of the government into our lives (surprisingly, there aren't any Ken Starr references), *Enemy of the State* casts Will Smith as a Robert Clayton Dean who accidentally stumbles onto an incriminating video that the National Security Agency wouldn't like him to possess. So these NSA boys do a quick job of turning Dean's life into virtual swiss cheese, and pretty soon he's looking at life without a job, a credit card and—temporarily—a wife. Why the NSA doesn't just break into his house and

as young hotshot NSA boys who get a kick out of fucking up other people's lives and end up being among the most interesting parts of the movie. And Will Smith? Well, he jettisons his usual carefree humour for most of the movie, but then again he's a man on the run. Unfortunately, Smith doesn't bring anything to the role that any other "hot" young actor couldn't (Johnny Depp did about the same schtick in the really forgettable *Nick of Time*). But, hey, it's still a fun watch.

And *Enemy of the State* even teaches you a thing or two. Apparently, computer hackers have moved on since the days of *The Net*, when they used Macs to break into high-security government agencies. Nowadays, the tool of choice for cracking codes is Windows 98. Who'd have thought it? ♦

## Screening room

## Masterplan not so masterful

OASIS—THE MASTERPLAN  
[Epic]

It was a bit surprising when newspaper and radio ads started announcing that a new Oasis album would be in stores soon. Usually, this is the sort of thing fans know about weeks, month, or even years ahead. But when *The Masterplan* finally arrived, it was quite obvious why there hadn't been much buildup before its release. This was due to the fact that it'd already been released.

Well, not exactly. This particular collection of Oasis songs has never been assembled together, save for a mix tape or two. But every one of the songs on *The Masterplan* has been previously released as a b-side on one or another Oasis single. And this is all discounting the fact that Oasis already released all their singles—along with most of these b-sides—in silver and gold "cigarette" cases about two years ago. Some of these songs are now being released for the *third* time. So much for the old belief in waiting until bands broke up to cash in with b-sides, singles, greatest hits and live compilations. So far Oasis have three of those four.

But, onto the songs. Well, they're not bad. In fact, most of them are quite good and worthy of being on any Oasis album. Some of the songs, in



particular "The Swamp Song," "I am the Walrus (Live)," and "Stay Young," should have stayed b-sides, while there are couple songs that deserved to make the album but aren't here. But any Oasis fan who hasn't heard "Acquiesce" or "Talk Tonight" will find themselves a much happier fan with *The Masterplan* (There's a peculiar thrill to be had hearing the Fox announce "brand spanking new Oasis!" then play the three year-old "Acquiesce." Yeah, *new*.) Should serve to fill in some listening space until the eventual new Oasis album, and that's an album that certainly won't lack for any build-up. ♦

-John Zaozirny

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# Romancing the dope

**ROMANCING MARY JANE:  
A YEAR IN THE LIFE OF A FAILED MARIJUANA  
GROWER**  
BY MICHAEL POOLE  
[Greystone]

by Vince Yim

A mystery to some, an enigma to others, and mostly just something to get high off for most, marijuana is one of the most widely used psychoactive substances today—or so I'm told. Touted as the possibly being the definitive marijuana bible, *Romancing Mary Jane: A Year in the Life of a Failed Marijuana Grower* is exactly what the title states. Michael Poole gives an honest memoir, telling it as he sees it.

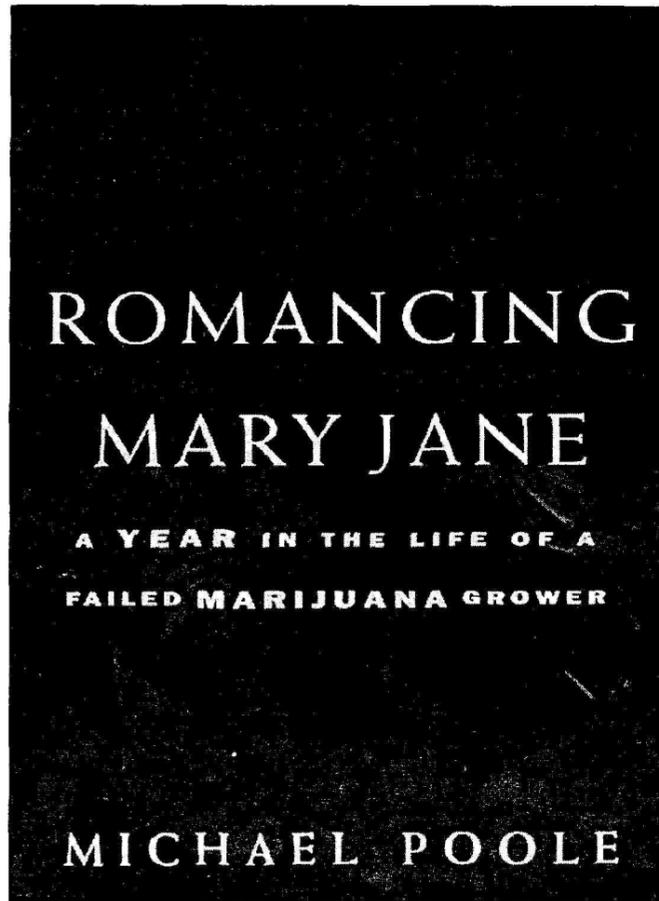
The book came out of a minor career change for the author. Fighting off near burnout after a successful career in documentary filmmaking for CBC, Michael Poole decided to do what a lot of people won't do: go off and smoke some pot.

In an industry striving for acceptance by politicians and lawmakers, books like *Romancing Mary Jane* are welcome. It tells an honest account of the paranoia that an average Joe goes through while planting his crop, hiding it, and avoiding arrest. Within the span of a year, author Michael Poole sees it all as a marijuana grower—thieves, uncooperative weather, the law breathing down his neck, and hard work. His account is honest, realistic and open. Poole tells the story from all sides, from initial excitement to eventual disillusionment and, eventually, to abandonment; hence, a "failed" marijuana grower.

In his honesty, Michael Poole attempts to dispel the myths surrounding the plant. He lists some of the more common ones and then counters them with his own facts. There's also a handy guide for what people should do if they are arrested for possessing or using marijuana, eloquently titled, "What to do if you are BUSTED".

While it may not be for everyone —its painful attention to detail will be a turnoff for many— *Romancing Mary Jane* is a well-written account of a year in the life of something most people won't ever dream of becoming—a marijuana grower. ♦

## What's in print



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We are an autonomous, democratically run student organisation, and all students are encouraged to participate.

Editorials are chosen and written by the Ubyyssey staff. They are the expressed opinion of the staff, and do not necessarily reflect the views of The Ubyyssey Publications Society or the University of British Columbia.

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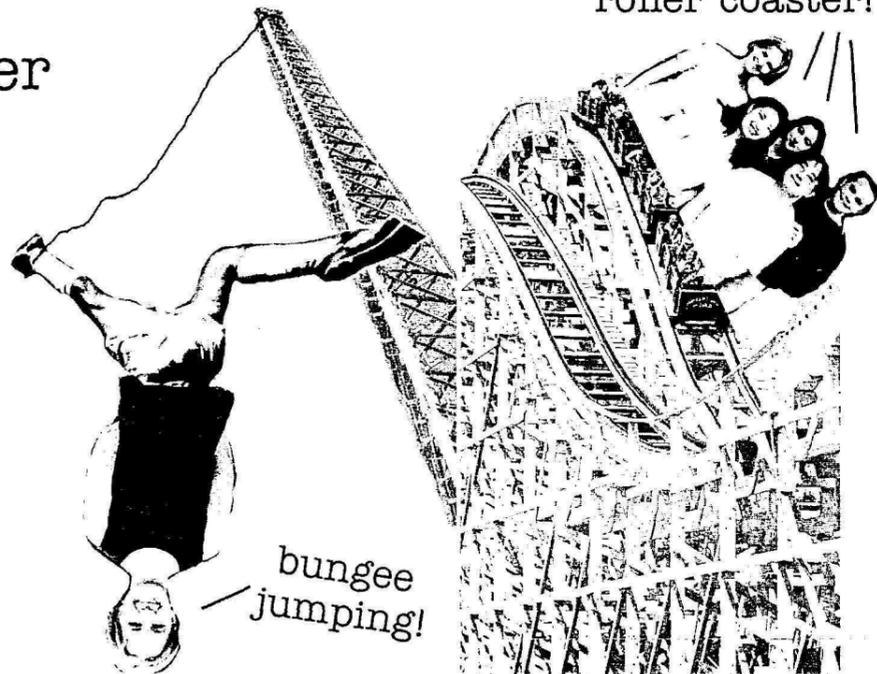
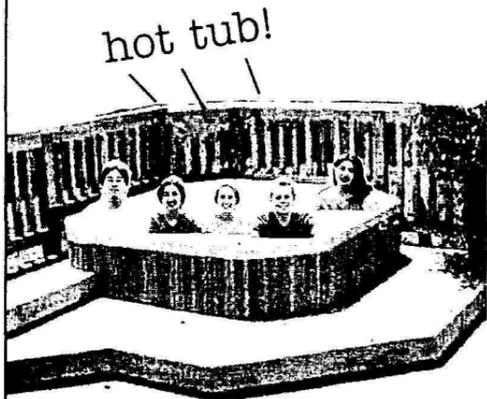
### BUSINESS MANAGER

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Civil War broke out in the Ubyyssey office as Ian Sonshine had decapitated Douglas Quan which forced the army of Sarah Galashan into action. Julian Dowling was the first to go, a victim of Dale Lum's secret weapon—an ax. Alex Bustos and Ann Augustine fell to the guns of Vince Lam while Megan Quek looked on. Todd Silver hid in his tank when he saw Ali Thom show up with Richard Lam and Monique Stevenson—better known as the death squad. Lisa Denton killed Federico Barahona, just because, and John Zaozirny allied himself with Vince Yim to avoid the fury of the Janet Ip clan. In the end only John Alexander was left, staring intently at a computer screen.



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# 'A-courting a courtyard

Hold on to your hats! Better sit down!  
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Well, since nobody really uses the open-air space—in Vancouver? In winter? Funny thing, that—your beloved AMS has decided to renovate the space to better serve you. The plans are pretty grandiose, too—among other things, the rock collection will be moved to the corner, more tables and chairs, better lighting, a tent roof, and orange trees, all for about \$200,000. You're planning to study there already, aren't you?

Of course you're not.

If the AMS wants to renovate the courtyard to better serve students, there are far, far better ways. It's a lot of space, that courtyard of ours, and there's a lot that could be done with it. We've got some ideas.

### A HOT TUB

Not just any hot tub. A *big* hot tub. It's stressful being a student, and a 500-person jacuzzi would help. Sure, some inebriated patrons would drown, but the rest of us would be really relaxed about it.

### FIRST WORD: BUNGEE. SECOND WORD: JUMP

A 600-foot tower of terror, a spire of spiralling student spirit—that would really relieve tension. Watching your classmates plummet screaming to the ground would be a nice complement to the scramble for their

tumbling pocket change.

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Now we're cooking with gas. Let's get us a 24-hour nonstop supercoaster, traveling from the SUB to the clock tower and back again. Patrons of the Pit and the Gallery could stumble up, pay their dollar, and cover the campus in varying degrees of vomit. There could even be prizes involved!

That's just a few of the ideas that could make the courtyard great. Think About It, AMS: for just a few dollars more, the SUB could become a Disneyland of student satisfaction. Besides, all those relaxed, dizzy, weaving, and vomiting students would be easy to hit up for a couple more dollars—Lord knows the AMS could find a way spend that money. We could even keep the orange trees.❖

## Letters

### Acadia cares about UBC governance

Who Knows? Who Cares? [Re: Ubyyssey, Nov 13 "Students Disinterested in Governance Study"]

The students and residents of Acadia park made a stronger showing than zero. We actually had more than 10 people come to the governance study forum on Wednesday the November 11 (scheduled on a holiday no less.)

UBC Housing, which controls the "official community (some-what oxymoronic, no?) newsletter" for Acadia Park/University Apartments, has been not only lax in communicating this important issue to us, but downright negligent. In the past three months of biweekly publication of *the Resident* there has been no mention of governance whatsoever.

How then did we get the attendance we did? Through a totally unsupported publication by the

elected volunteers of the Acadia Park residence association (a.k.a. the Acadia Tenants Association or ATA). This true community newsletter, which prints opinion pieces (unlike *the Resident*), is produced monthly by volunteers and is so despised by UBC Housing that submissions for it are not even accepted through the Acadia Commonsblock.

This is only one reality which highlights the importance of a governance change. UBC (which might as well stand for Ubiquitous Bullying Cadre) is involved in absolutely every facet of our lives and effectively controls what we think about when we "Think About It." How? It is well known that human beings have only so much attention that they must dole out over all the information that they are bombarded with daily. This is why marketers have focused on a thing called mindshare. The more you can get your company's logo in peoples' faces the more likely they will look to you at a pinch and select your product for consumption. Guess whose logo is plastered from here to the horizon? So when

people have to make a choice of which newsletter to read or which newspaper to pick up, often they are drawn into the more familiar and in our case "official" channels.

Enough, already, of the neofascist chilling effect caused by UBC being both landlord, community service provider, lawmaker and media baron. There are many student families that are afraid to stand up against the poor treatment they receive from UBC Housing because of the initials UBC. They fear for their academic safety if they should rattle the powers that be. We have community service needs that go unfulfilled because UBC Housing is unable to deal with real world neighborhood issues—and nowhere to go to effect change.

Obviously democracy and free speech are fast becoming dirty words in our society but a last effort is warranted to try to turn things around, to have a truly people-based community, to create a sense of belonging and love (not simply appreciation) for the place we call home and will call our Alma Mater.

(The residents in faculty and staff housing have even less democratic recourse and input. They actually must sign away the right to dissent with the University and don't have any residence association or community communications vehicle.)

In your article and letter on the subject of governance, you paint a picture of apathy and give some possible reasons for it. We would echo your sentiments that few care because few really know what is going on. All of the official channels are closed and opaque until they spring forth a date for a public forum/rubber-stamping party (most likely during the summer or during holidays or midterms or finals or on very short notice.) There is no input from the community even on this small issue of when to discuss things.

This is a call to all people of conscience from faculty to students, from administration to maintenance. Stand and be counted.

Allison Wells  
Fourth Year Anthropology

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# Washington's policy of untruth

by Robert Faulkner

If faces were books, you could read both of these in the can: *Dick and Jane, Chretien and Gore*—cheap, easy, and insulting to any informed observer of world affairs. Large and in colour, Friday's front-page photo in *The National Post* showed the two leaders leaving this year's APEC summit. The two had played rebels abroad. They called for freedom, democracy, and the American way while in Malaysia. No surprise that Kuala Lumpur now hosts an Anti-Gore Hotline.

Sequels have a notorious habit of being flops. After last year's APEC "embarrassment" on the UBC campus where economic targets were set to cut \$1.5 trillion in tariffs, the Malaysian summit had much to live up to.

Perhaps Al Gore felt sorry for Anwar Ibrahim. Malaysia's affable Deputy Prime Minister sincerely believed that IMF-imposed austerity and neo-liberal economics would cure his nation's economic turmoil. He wanted to atone for his sins by shouldering the blame for the Asian flu—an affliction of the worst kind. He would admit responsibility for the plummeting ringgit and mimic the aid-generating dogma of South Korea's Kim Dae Jung.

"We now know why and how the crisis came," Kim said. "It was because of the collusive ties between politics and businesses, government-controlled financing and widespread corruption." Oh, the injustice when a friend of free trade is imprisoned on false charges of sodomy and corruption. Didn't anyone notice the greater injustice underlying the economic degradation of unrestrained capitalism and American coercion to maintain this status quo?

They're serving bark for breakfast in

Sumatra! When Gore (and Chretien) spoke out against the travesty in Malaysian politics, they followed a well-worn path. A salient feature of the American mission abroad, a near truism, is that the ends justify the means when installing pro-American leaders abroad. In what George Bush termed the "New World Order" this includes the inculcation of free-market values aiding in the creation of American wealth.

Secondly, Gore's blatant support for the

ive human rights accusations can provide a convenient pretext for trade liberalisation. Looking back on the Malaysian Prime Minister's history reveals his attempts to avoid American imperialism, create a buffer between his people and the global market, and foster Asian unity through organisations like ASEAN. While I'm wary of painting him as a saint—he's not—I do want to put the human rights question into perspective.

Hypocrisy exists everywhere, but

ually coming under attack as Japan, once the bedrock of Asian prosperity, kisses its yen goodbye and the Asian Tigers—South Korea, Malaysia and Indonesia—tremble under the weight of globalisation and social change. In this light, the band wagoning of China, Indonesia, Thailand and Malaysia on the Asian side of Japan-US trade disputes should not be surprising. In Asia and in Europe, many nations are realising that America's elite have no right to control an under-regulated world economy, force austerity measures on suffering nations through the IMF, and prohibit common sense policies in nations bearing the brunt of global crisis. As far as meddling in the internal affairs of sovereign nations—displeasure abroad need hardly be mentioned. It is a given.

We all remember the scene at last year's APEC. In Malaysia, nothing has changed but the batik T-shirts. Two leaders defending the free world from the forces of national self-determination, while fostering a media image to placate believers in the American myth. Anwar Ibrahim was unjustly imprisoned, but he has the world to speak for him. Malaysia's three million unprotected migrant workers are subject to repressive legislation that keeps their wages low and trade unionism undeveloped. This is done in order to foster foreign investment, the gift we give to friendly regimes. Small comfort when they wake up to realise that the "Washington Consensus" never made room for charity—it was always about numbers, not people. If there is any truth in the depiction of trade as war, be assured that in war, the first casualty is truth. ♦

Robert Faulkner is a student at the Sing Tao School of Journalism

## PERSPECTIVE OPINION

anti-government "Reformasi" movement in Malaysia falls into line with Clinton's commitment to American leadership "in a way that is consistent with our values." Yes, these are the warm and fuzzy "Global Village" values that give leverage to American multinationals skilled in labour exploitation, equipped with unequalled technological advantage, and schooled in ruthless economic efficiency. This is the much lauded "Washington Consensus," which upholds the mission civilatrice—the White Man's Burden—to tame the world through the rule of the market, free trade, open borders, capital mobility, and instantaneous communications. As long as numbers matter more than human dignity, we will be sold the images of a homogeneous world sharing Coca-Cola smiles and "American blue jeans" from Moscow to Mozambique. A hard sell in nations where the sweatshops hover around \$2 a day.

Finally, what we can glean from Gore's attack on Mahathir Mohammed is that selec-

nowhere greater than in America's selective commitment to human rights. For this reason, condemnations like Gore's (and Chretien's) must be seen for what they are: political rhetoric. The United States is among the world's worst human rights violators and Canada a party to this crime. Domestically and internationally, both countries have a lot to account for. This "justice selectivity applied" has seen the support for Pol Pot in Cambodia and Suharto in Indonesia; unscrupulous arms trades worldwide; and a litany of "little wars" when they served a purpose of anti-Communism. The result, no doubt, has been the creation of the world according to Uncle Sam.

What we have witnessed in the past year and a half has been a global financial crisis that has thrown 20 million Asians into abject poverty, made Russians drool when they see boot leather, and expanded the income gap between rich and poor worldwide. The "Washington Consensus" is grad-

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## Come Run for AMS Office!

NOMINATIONS FOR AMS EXECUTIVE POSITIONS, UBC SENATE AND UBC BOARD OF GOVERNORS WILL BE OPENING DEC 1<sup>ST</sup> & CLOSING JAN 9<sup>TH</sup>, 1999 AT 4:30 PM.

**General Duties of the AMS Executive:** Executives are elected by the student body and are responsible for ensuring that the goals and obligations of the AMS are carried out. Each Executive officer has specific duties and roles, that fall under their specific portfolio.

**The President:** is responsible for overseeing the AMS and its activities. Consequently the President has a broad mandate to deal with any issues or business.

**Vice President:** formally responsible for Student Council. The VP looks after all matters concerning academic and campus issues.

**Director of Administration:** is responsible for looking after matters, which deal with the Student Union Building (SUB), and with AMS sub-groups.

**Director of Finance:** is responsible for all monetary and budgetary matters of the AMS.

**Coordinator of External Affairs:** This is a very broad portfolio; the coord. is responsible for affairs with organizations outside the AMS.

*Senate & Board of Governors Nominations are also open*

Nomination forms and further information regarding **only UBC Board of Governors and Senate Elections** are available from the Registrar's Office in Brock Hall.

The AMS Executive Elections will be held in conjunction with the UBC Board of Governors, UBC Senate, and Ubyyssey Publications Society Board of Directors Elections.

Nomination forms & candidate information are available in SUB room 238. All candidates are required to meet with the Elections Administrator, Chris Gawronski once nominations have closed. It is only after the close of nominations that campaigning may begin. For more information, please contact, the Elections Administrator, c/o AMS SUB Room 238,

## news

tuesday @ 12:30

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# Top Girls bottoms Centre stage out

TOP GIRLS  
At BC Tel Studio Theatre  
Runs till November 28

by Lisa Denton

For a play with a name like *Top Girls*, this UBC Theatre offering is more of a bottom feeder. With its confusing dialogue, flashbacks and vast amount of characters, UBC's production of Caryl Churchill's *Top Girls* left me feeling more than a little bewildered and confused by the time the actors took their bows.

*Top Girls* opens with a dinner hosted by Marlene (Trina McClure), a successful business woman who runs Top Girls employment agency. Five independent women from the past join Marlene as they sit at a long table facing the audience, creating a modern version of Da Vinci's *The Last Supper*. The characters babble continuously about their hardships and triumphs as women, constantly overlapping each others' dialogue and making it nearly impossible to understand what is being said. Most the characters are completely self-absorbed, with the exception of the masculine Dull Gret (taken from Bruegel's painting) who prefers to grunt and eat. These characters soon become quite obnoxious, particularly Lady Nijo (Emily Holmes) whose high pitched laugh is humorous at first, but is soon simply annoying. And when the prolonged first act came to an end, I wondered to myself "What the hell is this play about?"



Acts 2 and 3 thankfully provide a complete change of pace, saving *Top Girls* from complete disaster. In them, Marlene's life in the early 1980's becomes the focus, as her personality is revealed through her relationships with her co-workers and family. As the play continues, Marlene's inner psyche becomes more deeply exposed as the things that she had to give up in order to become a successful woman in a male-dominated business world are unveiled.

Though Churchill's script lacks wit and is completely disorganized at times, the actors do the best they can with what they have. Trina McClure gives a strong performances as Marlene, but the standout actress here is Melanie Walden—as the teenager Angie, she creates an often aggressive and tough-edged persona.

But in the end, *Top Girls* plummets due to an incredibly erratic script and some very prolonged scenes. It's unfortunate that UBC Theatre couldn't have found a script to live up to their actresses' talent. ♦

FROM LEFT:  
Samantha Donabie,  
Melanie Walden,  
Trina Noelle McClure,  
Christine Berg, Emily  
Holmes,  
An Kosurko, and  
Kathleen Corbet do  
thei best to liven up  
*Top Girls*, but its  
disappointing script  
can't carry the load.

**TUESDAY**

*the ubyssey*

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