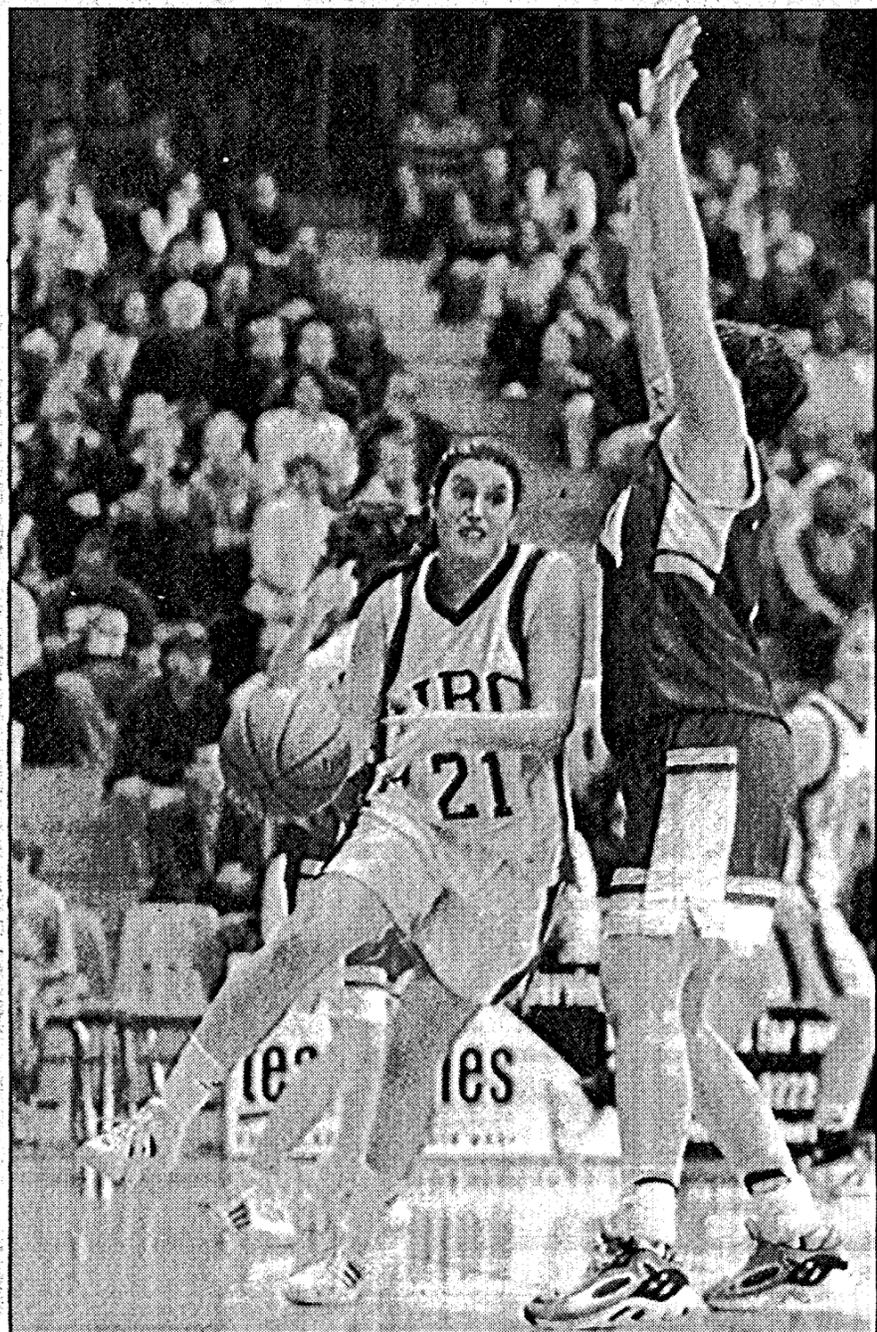


# THE UBYSSAY

VOLUME 82 ISSUE 37

TUESDAY, FEBRUARY 27, 2001

HALF-BAKED SINCE 1918



**A VALIANT EFFORT:** UBC's Stacy Reykdal deals with some human traffic in Victoria this past weekend. The Thunderbirds lost both semi-final games to the defending national champion Vikes. For the story, see page 8. TARA WESTOVER PHOTO

## Assault rumours prompt warning

by Alex Dimson

Rumours about a possible sexual assault on campus have prompted the university to issue an official notice warning students about the potential dangers of walking alone.

The notice, which was issued by the office of UBC's Personal Security Coordinator Paul Wong, cites "information...that a sexual assault occurred recently when a student was walking alone on campus at night" and informs students about the various safety services offered on campus.

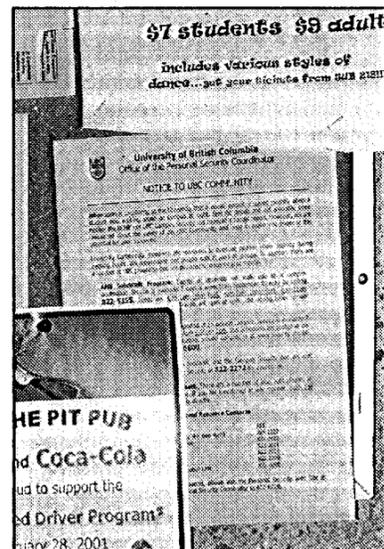
Wong said that while the details of the possible assault were not known, information he received from campus resources groups led him to believe there was a genuine threat.

Copies of the notice have been appearing in residences and around campus since last Friday.

"There was a bunch of information going around the university that a sexual assault had occurred and we thought that although no formal report had been made that it was necessary to make the university community aware that there may be a potential concern there," Wong said.

Constable Danielle Efford of the campus RCMP detachment acknowledged hearing the rumours, but said that the RCMP has not received any formal complaints.

"We would like someone to report it so we can do something," Efford said, indicating that she hopes the posters will



**A WARNING:** One of the notices recently posted. TARA WESTOVER PHOTO

encourage any victims to come forward.

Studies indicate that the majority of sexual assault victims do not report the crimes. While in a 1995 UBC survey eight students out of 1127 reported being sexual assaulted in the last year, the campus RCMP received only three sexual assault reports—one of which was from an incident in 1992—last year and only one the year before.

Director of UBC's Women Students' Office Marsha Trew said that women are

see "Assault" on page 4

## UBC swims to CIAU title

by Ron Nurwisah

The Birds cruised to their fourth title in a row last weekend at the CIAU Championships held in Guelph, Ontario. UBC came out strong, took the lead on the first day of the competition, and never looked back. The UBC men went on to win the meet with 671 points, well ahead of Canada West rivals Calgary who had 539.5. The women had a tighter meet but still won handily, holding off the University of Calgary, 539.5 points to 485.

"We knew we had a really strong team that was going to be hard to beat...It was nice to go in there with that kind of confidence," said men's team captain Mark Versfeld.

Points and confidence aside, UBC still faced some tough competition. "I think we really needed the competition and we needed to go into the meet and race really hard. Calgary kept us pretty honest all the way through the meet. We had to swim well to win and we did," UBC swimming head coach Tom Johnson said.

Rookie Brian Johns was arguably the most successful Thunderbird at the meet, continuing what has been an amazing season. Johns finished the weekend with three individual gold medals, and

two relay golds. He also picked up a silver, narrowly losing the 200m freestyle to fellow Olympian Rick Say. It would seem that Johns has recovered from the flu that was affecting him earlier in the month.

Meanwhile, Garrett Pulle sprinted to a victory in the 50m butterfly, breaking a CIAU record in the process.

On the women's side, rookie Kelly Stefanyshyn won her favoured event, the 200m backstroke, breaking a CIAU record and coming within 0.09 seconds of breaking her own national record. Veteran Jessica Deglau was also impressive, winning the 200m butterfly in commanding fashion. Deglau touched the wall more than two seconds ahead of second-place finisher Julie Gravelle from the University of Toronto.

There were a number of close calls for UBC. Kelly Stefanyshyn wasn't able to out-touch Toronto's Jen Button in the 100m butterfly, losing by only 0.06 of a second. But Stefanyshyn wasn't upset with the result.

"I surprised myself in the 100m butterfly, coming second and taking a second and a half off my

see "Swimming" on page 8

by Kathleen Deering

Escalating maintenance and renovation expenses for buildings and facilities have led to financial troubles for the Vancouver School of Theology (VST).

Matt Gallinger, a graduate student at VST, is concerned about the financial difficulties his school is currently experiencing.

"The School in general is having finance problems and has been for several years, and figures that it will be for several more years," he said.

Tom Young, the head of operations and personnel at VST, admits that the next few years will be uncomfortable, but said that while the school's budget is not currently balanced, it will be by 2003.

"We're all in a short-term position

where we have to restrain ourselves until we get to this point," he said.

VST's funding comes from student fees and tuition, grants, donations, an annual gift income and VST housing, as well as from churches affiliated with the School.

Though the school is not bankrupt, Gallagher said that problems relating to the lack of funding have started to become more and more apparent over the last few years.

"It has an effect on the general courses offered. The first thing that's cut is extra courses and sessional professors," he said. "We've all had at least one course canceled on us because of insufficient numbers."

see "Theology" on page 4

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**Announcements**

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**Announcements, cont.**

ON FEBRUARY 16-17, THE UBC CIRCLE K VOLUNTEER CLUB will be taking part in the World Vision 30 Hr. Famine. We would like to thank all of our sponsors: Panago, Roger and Kam Subways, Canadian Springs, Quiznos on Broadway, Safeways on 4th & 10th, IGA, and AMS. Thank you!

**NOTICE TO UBC COMMUNITY** - information is circulating at the University that a sexual assault occurred recently when a student was walking alone on campus at night. Specific details are not available. University Community members are reminded to exercise caution when walking during evening hours. We recommend walking in pairs or groups or using one of the following services: Safe-Walk (822-5355), Campus Security Bus (822-8609), Campus Security (822-2222), or look for Emergency Blue Phone Stations - push button to contact Campus Security if you feel threatened. For more information please visit [www.saftey.ubc.ca](http://www.saftey.ubc.ca) or call 822-6210.

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# Conference discusses impact of NMD

by Sarah Morrison

Looking at ways that Canada and other American allies can change the direction of US arms policy was a major goal of a recent conference at UBC's Liu Centre for the Study of Global Issues.

The conference, entitled The Impact of National Missile Defense Program on Global Nuclear Policy, was held to investigate how the proposed program would affect Canada.

Since George W. Bush became US president in January, his interest in developing a National Missile Defense (NMD) program has generated international concern. NMD would see the construction of a series of anti-nuclear missile defences around the US.

The US military has repeatedly indicated that the NMD is necessary to protect the country from attacks by so-called 'rogue' states like Iraq and North Korea, which are suspected of possessing nuclear weapons.

Many countries worry, however, that the American plan could destabilise the current arms balance and lead to the end of treaties currently in place.

Recently-appointed Director of the Liu Centre, and former Canadian Foreign Affairs Minister Lloyd Axworthy said that while Canada has been a very close security partner with the US over several decades, it has also taken a very strong role in arms control disarmament issues.

"We were the first voluntary non-nuclear state, we had the capacity to build nuclear weapons but decided not to do it," he said. "I think it would be very difficult to maintain those two roles if in fact national missile defense...helps to ignite a new arms race."

Axworthy hopes that the conference will provide solutions for nations concerned about the NMD program.

But Gloria Duffy, a member of Stanford University's Center for International Security and Cooperation, pointed out that while the US wants to investigate the program, it is far from reaching a firm commitment on a missile defense system.

"There seems to be a strong presumption of commitment by the Bush administration...but I don't think that's a final or conclusive situation," she said. "I still think there's somewhat of a possibility for the position to go in a variety of different directions."

Participants in the conference expressed concern that if the US begins work on the NMD program it could cause irreparable damage to fragile international relations.

Director-General of the Chinese Department of Arms Control and Disarmament Sha Zukang said that China is very concerned about American plans, and that he hopes the conference would open up discussions on NMD.

"We don't like the idea, to put it



**MISSILE DEFENSE NECESSARY?** Former Foreign Affairs Minister Lloyd Axworthy was one of the speakers at a recent conference discussing National Missile Defense. SARAH MORRISON PHOTO

mildly, and we are fully aware of the fact that the US administration is in the process of reviewing its policies. We wish to take advantage of this...to have a say to them to have a second thought on the national defense program."

John Polanyi, a chemistry professor at the University of Toronto and a Nobel prize-winner who has been

involved in discussions on missile defense since the 1960s, said that given that most NATO members are opposed to the plan, Canada is in a good position to oppose NMD.

He pointed out that Canada objected to US President Ronald Reagan's similar "Star Wars" missile defense proposal in the early 1980s, when many European

nations supported it.

"Canada, in effect, said no to [Star Wars]. Britain said yes, Germany said yes, France said yes. Now...all of these countries I just mentioned have great reservations about it as well. This time we should say 'no' but we don't have to say it in as lonely a way as last time," Polanyi said. ♦

## Two observers sent to Tunisia for student's trial

by Jean-François Cliche  
Impact Campus

QUÉBEC CITY (PUIQ-CUP)—The Canadian government and a coalition of non-governmental organisations are sending two observers to Tunisia to witness the trial of a former Laval University student.

Laval law student Haroun M'Barek was trying to gain refugee status in Canada, but was deported last month by Immigration Canada, despite the possibility that his life could be threatened if he went back.

When he was deported, M'Barek was taken directly to prison, where he may have been tortured, according to his Tunisian lawyer. The Tunisian government has accused M'Barek of "organising thieves" and "participating in a collective project that aims to attack people and goods."

These accusations are linked to his association with two groups—the An-Nahdha Party and the General Union of

Tunisian Students—that have been declared illegal by the Ben Ali government. Both organisations are said to be non-violent. M'Barek faces a 12-year prison sentence. His trial started last week.

"Mr. M'Barek was not granted any legal recognition by Canada," said Marie-Christine Likoff, an aide at the Department of Foreign Affairs. "Our observer will not have 'consular access,' which would permit him to speak directly to Mr. M'Barek. But the Canadian Embassy in Tunis has approached local authorities in order to inquire about Mr. M'Barek's state, as well as to assure that he will have a fair and equitable trial."

Meanwhile, the International Centre for the Person, the Haroun M'Barek Support Committee, and Amnesty International have all delegated Nathalie Blais to observe the trial.

However, the Tunisian consul to Canada, Abdelaziz Ghodbane, said that he wasn't aware that observers had

been sent. He also called the An-Nahdha party an extremist organisation.

Lise Garon, of the Haroun M'Barek Support Committee, said that she has doubts about the impact observers will have on the trial.

"Tunisian justice does and continues to do the same work, year after year, with or without observers."

Canadian Immigration Minister Eleanor Caplan has not commented publicly on the M'Barek affair, despite the pleas of human rights organisations for a public inquiry concerning why M'Barek was deported despite possible threats to his safety back in Tunisia.

"The minister has to answer, and it's getting urgent," Garon said. "Canada has already been condemned by the United Nations in the fall of 2000 because it wasn't treating refugees correctly." ♦

—Translated by Pierre-Olivier Savoie

## Dentistry building start of University Boulevard development

by Alicia Miller

An upcoming mixed-use dentistry building is set to be the first in a series of University Boulevard buildings which UBC hopes will transform its Point Grey campus into a self-sustaining 'university city.'

The dentistry mixed-use building is slated to be built on the southwest corner of University Boulevard and Wesbrook Mall and will be five stories in height and cost an estimated \$16 to \$17 million.

Architectural plans call for five retail vendors on the ground floor, a dentistry clinic on the second floor—which will be connected to an existing adjacent building—and a total of 57 one- and two-bedroom residential units on the top three floors.

The building is part of a larger, long-term plan for the construction of a series of buildings along University Boulevard as outlined in the university's 1997 Official Community Plan (OCP)—a document which outlines campus development over a period of 20 years.

But according to Fred Pritchard, UBC's

director of Campus Planning, only the plans for the dentistry building have been solidified.

"For all the others, location, size, and how they are going to be placed along University Boulevard, a lot of that is still in the discussion stage," he said.

The OCP stipulates that the area along University Boulevard include day and evening conveniences, with an emphasis on pedestrians and transit, in order to reflect the road's status as the most important entrance to the university.

Al Poettcker, CEO of UBC Properties Trust, the ancillary group chairing the project, said the planned developments should make the campus a more inviting place to stay.

"The main goal of the planning process is to hopefully reduce the amount of commuting that students have to do everyday and hopefully encourage transit usage and more socialising on campus, essentially create a community that has a lot of life after four o'clock in the afternoon," he said.

Tieg Martin, a student representative on

UBC's Board of Governors, said that he thinks the plans should improve the campus atmosphere.

"The existing campus is based on the old-style, North American model of city planning where you have business and daytime industry work that goes on in the middle, and then everybody lives outside on the fringes," he said.

"What you end up with after working hours, is this dead zone that is totally unsafe...In new developments what they want to do is avoid repeating the same mistakes."

While Martin rests in favour of the development, others, like Alma Mater Society (AMS) General Manager Bernie Peets, are not so sure.

"From a business perspective, it probably is the best location on campus for this development, but I don't know that five retail units are going to be a destination," said Peets. "It may not be a success until they finish the development on the other buildings that they are planning."

The impact of the University Boulevard

development on AMS businesses in the SUB is also an issue, but Peets said he is not concerned.

"Any new retail establishment may have some impact; however, currently the food fair over at the Village has had basically minimal impact. There's a lot of demand on campus, granted, but the SUB is the busiest building on campus and so we benefit from the amount of traffic that comes into the building," he said.

Outgoing AMS President Maryann Adamec expressed her hope that the university consults with the AMS and student groups about the type of retail vendors they will be bringing onto campus.

"We want to make sure that sound community planning principles are put into place and that the people who are coming onto campus, external renters, etc., have the campus' needs at the forefront," she said.

Plans for the Dentistry building will not be finalised until plans are created for the surrounding neighbourhood. Poettcker expects the plans will be finalised this spring and that construction will begin in January 2002. ♦

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# Automatic remission

## Alberta students given a break on their loans

by **Christie Tucker**  
Alberta Bureau Chief

EDMONTON (CUP)—Starting in August, Alberta students will receive automatic remission on their loans when they graduate. Graduating students' debts will be capped at \$5000 per year that they attended school, and all further debts will be forgiven.

The introduction of loan relief to first-time, first-year students is a new addition to the Alberta student loans program. If the student fails to graduate or switches programs, the loans are not eligible for remission.

"This is going to help a lot of students coming out of school," said Naomi Agard, a vice-president of the University of Alberta's student union. "It's something we've been asking for all year."

Agard, along with other members of the student union and representatives of the Council of Alberta

University Students, has been lobbying the provincial government since October.

Randy Kilburn of the Alberta Ministry of Learning said that after consulting with students, the government realised that loan remission reform was necessary.

"It was clear the government needed to find a simpler way to offer remission. Some students were missing out on a valuable benefit," Kilburn said.

Agard said that she would like to see further progress in loan relief in the area of graduate studies and in private bank and credit card loans, but she does see this move as a great step forward.

As for future plans, the government has announced that over the next few years it will provide relief payments after every year of study.

Kilburn said discussions on many issues will continue with student associations across Alberta. The government will spend \$70 million on the project in the next year. ♦

## Sexual assaults often go unreported

"Assault" from page 1

often afraid of the response they will receive if they report an attack.

"Sometimes women feel like they're victimised again by the system, because sometimes people are sceptical...most of the time the assailants are known to the victim. And then when the guy is pulled in then sometimes you get into he said, she said."

A recent study by the US Department of Justice found that it is rare for a student to be assaulted by an unknown attacker, with nine out of every ten on-campus sexual assault victim's knowing their assailants.

UBC's decision to post the notice came under fire from Suzanne Jay, a crisis worker with the Vancouver Rape Relief and Women's Shelter.

"I would call this fear-mongering on campus," she said. "There are no specific details about the man who attacked. It doesn't sound like the administration is taking any responsibility to ensure that women are actually safe on campus other than to put the responsibility back on the individual women," she said.

But Wong and Eford disagreed.

"We have got a responsibility to let the people know that there is a potential for this. What we wanted to do was to let people know that the university is committed to dealing

with these concerns and that we have a whole bunch of programs that are available for people to utilise," Wong said.

"It's our duty and responsibility to acknowledge this rumour that's going around because it may in fact be true, and to encourage the person or persons who are the victims to come forward," Eford added.

While representatives from several campus resource groups admitted to hearing the rumours, none would disclose any details about the person attacked, the location or any suspects.

The warnings come after a series of reports were issued about the use of Rohypnol, a date rape drug, on campus last term. ♦

## School plans fundraising effort

"Theology" from page 1

But Wendy Fletcher-Marsh, dean of students, said that only one course has been cancelled this year, and that the decision had nothing to do with the School's current financial situation.

According to Fletcher-Marsh, VST has set thresholds on the number of students necessary to maintain elective courses, but added that this policy can be overruled, and no course that is critical to a student's graduation will be canceled.

But Gallinger and other students are still concerned that their education is being affected by the School's financial situation.

"Greater amount of work has been put on the professors and less time can be spent on students," said Mark Davis, a first-year graduate student.

"I notice that office hours are very short and all of the professors are very rushed," added Gallinger.

But Fletcher-Marsh said that she

doesn't understand these worries, indicating that she has been extremely impressed by the level of care the faculty gives the students.

However, there are still financial problems that need to be dealt with, according to Young.

VST has developed a short-term plan to lower costs and increase revenue, and a long-term plan to improve the School's overall financial situation for the future.

The School hopes to quickly increase revenue by expanding its Doctor of Ministry program to bring in more students, as well as by promoting its residences as accommodation through Tourism Vancouver.

The VST has also planned a fundraising program which will look for donations from churches and other organisations, with the objective of raising one million dollars within the three years.

The long-term plans focus on revenue from the buildings, upon which Gallinger feels many of the

problems are based.

"In part, [financial problems] are happening because VST owns its own buildings, and there's a lot of work to be done on these old buildings," he said.

But Young said that although the buildings contribute to the financial problems, they may also be the solution. He said that the School is considering several proposals involving the buildings that will bring in long-term revenue.

The castle-like Iona building will be renovated, and two half-acre sites beside it are being considered for student or faculty residences, or market housing. The school also hopes to use the five acres it owns by Chancellor Boulevard for market housing such as townhouses or apartments.

UBC's Board of Governors is currently reviewing all the site proposals for the land development, which Young hopes to use to increase the school's capacity and let it recruit more students. ♦

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# Boulevard trees being cut

by Sarah Morrison

The silver maple trees which previously lined University Boulevard are being removed for posing an "extreme risk to the public," according to the Ministry of Transportation and Highways.

Fifteen trees that have been deemed at risk due to problems such as weak branches and decay are being removed, to be replaced by 34 new trees more appropriate for the area.

"The type of tree they planted is called an American Sweet Gum...they're quite nice trees," said Laura Lemp, a Ministry spokesperson. "It's a really hearty tree, and it's a lot more resistant to diseases and...poor climatic conditions than the silver maples were."

The silver maple trees along University

Boulevard were individually evaluated and given a hazard ranking based on general health and structural integrity, according to Lemp.

"The 15 trees that came down are considered extreme-risk trees by the independent arbourists," she said.

The Ministry is also pruning the other silver maples, and an additional 60 campus trees identified as high risk will be closely monitored in the future.

**"The 15 trees that came down are considered extreme-risk trees by the independent arbourists."**

—Laura Lemp

**Ministry of Transportation and Highways spokesperson**

The trees, which were planted about 80 years ago, were inappropriate as street-side vegetation, according to Peter Wharton, the curator of the David C. Lam Asian Gardens at the UBC Botanical Garden, and one of the arbourists who evaluated the trees.

He explained that the silver maple is vulnerable to decay and that as the tree ages, the connection between its trunk and branches becomes very weak. As many branches hang over roadways, this poses a serious risk for

motorists.

"It's really a very large forest tree. Unfortunately, it was planted...in the small grass strips between the hardtop of the road itself and the sidewalks," he said.

This is not the first time that the Ministry has tried to deal with the silver maples. In 1995, after a report from an arbourist detailed the risk posed by the trees, the Ministry removed several of them.

"This caused an incredible public uproar, partly because this was done with no real public consultation, which is unfortunate," said Wharton. A public consultation was later held by the Ministry.

Lemp said that the new, full-grown trees cost about \$400 each, but each tree will cost the Ministry about twice as much after paying for transportation and things like soil and fertilizer. ♦

# Toronto college wants campuses in China

by Alexander Dobuzinski  
The SFU Peak

TORONTO (CUP)—A Toronto college that was part of Team Canada's trade mission has plans to create a technical school in China, which would mark the first time a foreign post-secondary institution has been permitted to establish a permanent presence in the country.

The Seneca College of Applied Arts and Technology says that the federal government is backing the plan, which requires approval from

the Chinese government.

"They are very pleased with it," said Seneca's marketing and communication director Martha Lowrie.

The announcement came on the same day that Prime Minister Jean Chrétien called for reforms of China's judicial system in a speech before China's National Judges College.

In order to tap China's technical and vocational training market, Seneca plans to establish one campus in Beijing and another in

Guangzhou.

The curricula would match the training that students receive at Seneca's Toronto campuses, with special emphasis placed on business management, accounting, computer science, and English.

According to Lowrie, the move would not run counter to Canada's stated commitment to promote human rights in China.

"We feel that this is a global endeavour," said Lowrie. "There are always concerns about the respect for human rights, but we

hope this will help create bridges between the two countries."

Canadian student leaders, however, have a lengthy history of criticizing any educational links between China and Canada, charging that such links are primarily driven by profit.

Anita Zaenker, the BC chairperson for the Canadian Federation of Students, said that concerns about China's human rights record led a group of students and faculty at the University of Victoria to protest the administration's plan

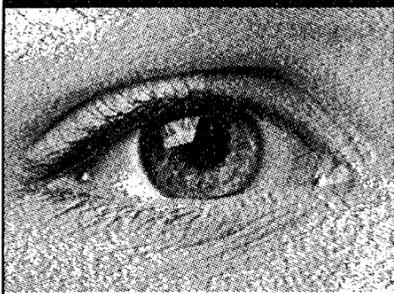
to award an honorary degree to Chinese Premier Jiang Zemin in 1997. The ceremony was eventually canceled.

Zaenker maintains that the university was using the honorary degree as a means to expand its opportunities in China.

"We understood back then that educational services and educational products are something that the Canadian government very much wants to market to China, essentially for the profit motive," said Zaenker. ♦

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10:00 AM	SCHLUMBERGER
10:30 AM	WESTERN DIVERSIFICATION: E-BUSINESS BASICS
11:00 AM	CREATIVITY WITH TECHNOLOGY PANEL HOSTED BY MAINFRAME ENTERTAINMENT INC.
12:00 PM	PIVOTAL CORP.
12:30 PM	CANADIAN FORCES RECRUITING: WOMEN & TECHNOLOGY TRAINING IN THE CANADIAN FORCES
1:00 PM	WOMEN'S TECHNOLOGY OPEN PANEL DR. MARIA KLAWE, NAOMI BRUNEMEYER & KAREN MIDDLETON
2:00 PM	ELECTRONIC ARTS
2:30 PM	INTRINSYC SOFTWARE: TRANSITION FROM ART SCHOOL TO HIGH TECH
3:00 PM	MICROSOFT: .NET STRATEGY - WHAT DOES IT MEAN TO YOU?
3:30 AM	MINISTRY OF SMALL BUSINESS TOURISM & CULTURE: ACCESSING GOVERNMENT INFORMATION














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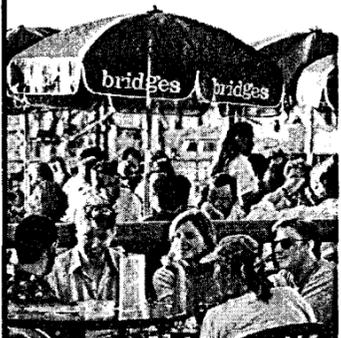
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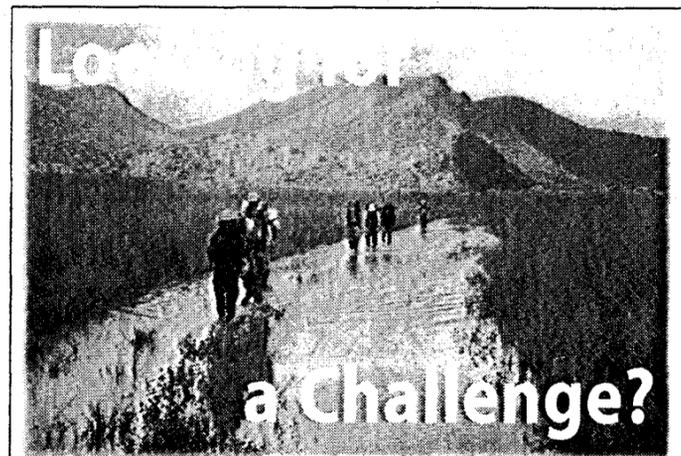
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# Med Students for Choice fights for better teaching

## Canadian medical students claim abortion is not taught enough

by Barbara Haas  
The McGill Daily

MONTREAL (CUP)—One of the most consequential—and persistently controversial—surgical procedures performed on women is one that few medical students ever learn, fewer plan to practice, and even fewer are willing to talk about. But according to Medical Students For Choice (MSFC), an international organisation of medical students that has been fighting for better abortion care education since 1993, all this has to change.

The MSFC coordinator at McGill University says that one of the biggest misconceptions about the organisation is that it is pro-abortion. "Med Students For Choice means just that: that it should be an option that's available for women and something that should be discussed between a woman and her physician, and not anything that should be legislated."

The statistics are surprising. According to recent reports, between 30 and 40 per cent of Canadian women will have an abortion at some point during their lifetime. About half of the women who seek abortions are under 25, while 45 per cent already have children. In spite of these numbers, however, few students in Canadian medical schools expect to provide abortion when they are practicing doctors. According to many members of MSFC, the reasons for this are not hard to understand.

Some medical students are simply scared. They are familiar with cases such as those of Barnett Slepian, a doctor who was killed in Buffalo, New York in 1998. Of course, Canada has also had its share of violence. Garson Romalis, an associate professor of obstetrics and gynecology at UBC, has been the victim of two near-fatal attacks—once when he was shot near his Vancouver home and a second time last summer, when he was brutally stabbed.

"Rachel," who spoke on the condition of anonymity, is the coordinator of McGill's chapter of MSFC. Like many others involved in MSFC, she doesn't want her real name published in connection with her pro-choice activities. She thinks that the fear of violence is a major factor in the reluctance of students to learn about abortion.

"It's a very good reason to say 'I didn't go into medicine to be threatened.' Whether there's a threat on your life, or the threat of feeling like people are going to hate or really judge because of what you do, for a lot of people that's not what they want in medicine. [But] for other people, they see this very much like a calling or something that needs to be continued," she said.

But Rachel also knows that the small number of medical school graduates willing to provide abortions cannot be blamed entirely on a handful of pro-life activists who have turned violent. Instead, she says, the problem begins in medical schools.

"[Abortion] is presented in lecture style during [obstetrics] and during family medicine, but it's not taught in depth, really, and it's definitely not mandatory," explained Rachel. Students do learn the procedure, she continued, "[but] it's definitely not presented as an easily accessible option. It's something that's easily avoided and a little bit harder to seek out."

At other Canadian universities, however, receiving instruction on abortion seems to be even harder.

"Catherine," who also spoke under the condition that her real name not be used, is in her third year of medical training at the University of Western Ontario. She describes abortion education at Western as "not accessible to students."

The only talk of abortion that she's heard in classes, she said, was during a discussion of how to take a patient's medical history. She said there are no courses that deal with abortion issues or techniques. Catherine instead took advantage of the "externship" that MSFC provides, in which students are provided with a stipend and the opportunity to spend a month working with abortion providers. Nonetheless, she doesn't know of any other students at Western getting that sort of training. "In the residency program, there's only been one resident in years who's shown interest in learning," she said. "At this point, it's not an openly discussed topic."

But according to many of those teaching at medical schools, enough is being done to give students the opportunity to provide abortions when they graduate.

"Every student passing through their clinical clerkship gets exposed to the subject of family planning and abortion with at least a one-hour session. They're made aware of when and where procedures are being performed, and there's an invitation to show up if they want to see and learn more, but few avail themselves of that

opportunity," said Paul Fournier, an obstetrician and gynecologist who teaches at McGill.

Fournier says that abortion, as a surgical technique, should be learned during residency as an elective, and not in medical school, because there just isn't room in the medical school curriculum. "It may be that students' expectations are not realistic," he said.

Peter Mitchell, who chairs the department of obstetrics and gynecology at the University of Alberta, agrees with Fournier. In fact, Mitchell was surprised by the level of "anti-choice" sentiment among his first-year students.

"There's not interest to do it. Why force them to?" he asked. He said that the curriculum at the school includes discussion of abortion ethics and counselling, and added that there are opportunities to learn abortion techniques during residency. He explained, however, that few students take advantage of that opportunity. "One in ten shows any interest in learning the procedure," which means about one resident every two years, he said.

However, according to many advocates of far-reaching abortion education in medical schools, such as MSFC, that sort of attitude is dangerous.

Stephanie, a first-year medical student at UBC and a member of the school's MSFC chapter, thinks that neglecting to teach students about abortion-related issues, such as counselling and post-operative care, puts women who choose to have abortions at risk. She believes even doctors that are not abortion providers should be well informed about how to treat abortion patients.

"If they choose not to be part of the abortion, that's fine, but they're still responsible for the care," she said.

This feeling is shared by many already in the business of providing abortions.

"Women are consistently being told that their abortion wasn't well done, that it was incomplete. People have told us that there's pieces of the fetus left when we know that we did a procedure on somebody and there wasn't even a fetus. For us, that's a problem," says Genevieve Smith, co-ordinator, and head nurse at Montreal's Morgentaler clinic.

Henry Morgentaler, the founder of the clinic where Smith works, had access to abortion in mind in 1988, when he challenged Canadian abortion legislation before the Supreme Court. At the time, section 251 of Canada's Criminal Code stated that women could have abortions only when they could prove to a hospital's therapeutic abortion committee that their lives would be endangered by a pregnancy.

Morgentaler, who had been accused of providing illegal abortions, convinced the Supreme Court that section 251 meant that many women did not have sufficient access to abortion. The Supreme Court struck down section 251 and, to date, Canada remains without any law on the books regarding abortions.

But according to Smith, access to abortion remains a problem for Canadian women in many rural regions. Data shows that, in most provinces, the majority of abortions are performed in a few locations. For example, in Québec, 75 per cent of abortions have to be performed in Montreal, while on Prince Edward Island, there are no abortion facilities at all.

Rachel says that while the situation in Canada is not nearly as bad as in the US—in 1996, 86 per cent of all counties lacked an abortion provider—the problem of access continues to loom large in Canada. "Rural communities are unable to attract people who are trained in this care. It's difficult to attract physicians to rural areas just to practice medicine," she said.

Abortions performed in clinics represent 30 per cent of the Canadian total and are an alternative to hospitals, which often have long waiting lists.

That's a problem, Rachel says, because it is critical for a woman to be able to get an abortion as soon as she has made up her mind to do so.

"You can't wait with an abortion. I think it's something that's acute, in that sense, and if the hospitals aren't capable, aren't willing, to keep up, a clinic will keep up with that. I think the Canada Health Act actually supports the idea of paying for clinic abortion care if it's not provided in hospitals and supports that all provinces should include it in their coverage."

In the end, MSFC is seen as a way to begin building networks of support for pro-choice students. "With MSFC, I see a resource to allow people to see that, 'Yes, there's other people interested in this and wanting to do this.' And we can network and see each other as a collective in which it's easier to say 'This is something that's important,'" Rachel said. ♦

# Music students in pain

by Daliah Merzaban

Twenty-year-old Kimberly Strain hasn't played her violin regularly for over a year now, after practising with the instrument caused her excessive pain in her left wrist, elbow, and upper back.

Strain, a third-year student at UBC's School of Music, suffers from tendonitis, one of a number of repetitive strain injuries increasing in incidence in the music profession, and prompting concern within the School about potentially career-threatening disabilities.

Repetitive strain injuries, also known as overuse injuries, occur when any biological tissue—such as muscle, bone, tendon, or ligament—is stressed beyond its physical limit.

Strain, who has been playing the violin since she was four years old, said that the injury has been emotionally and physically strenuous because it calls into question her future in music.

"Right now I'm not sure where I want to go," Strain said. "Being injured, it takes you off of the path where you're going. People would ask me 'what would you do if you didn't do music' and I don't know."

Bob Pritchard, a music professor at the School, said stories like Strain's are increasing in number. He relates this increase to enhanced competition within the music profession—which has prompted teachers to demand more of students, and students to practice harder and for prolonged periods of time.

"I think we have to recognise that we do have a problem of injuries within the School [of Music], and it's not surprising," Pritchard said. "My experience from being at the same university, in the same School, as 20 years ago, is that I believe students are at greater risk."

The School conducted a survey in December to assess the incidence of instrument-related injuries among students. Out of 99 who responded to the survey, 77 per cent indicated that they had been injured by their instruments. Of those, 41 per cent said that they were currently injured.

"Some performers are taking it as a given that they will be in pain as part of their career. That's really unacceptable," Pritchard said, adding that because of the on-tour demands on students, UBC should consider setting up a fee structure for music students similar to that offered to the varsity athletes, who pay an annual fee for medical assistance.

Pritchard said that greater communication with injury specialists is necessary to combat the problem.



**PAINED:** Playing the violin is something that third-year music student Kimberly Strain hasn't been doing much of lately, after being diagnosed with tendonitis, a repetitive strain injury, over a year ago. Officials at the UBC-School of Music are concerned about the greater incidence of these injuries. DALIAH MERZABAN PHOTO

Rhonda Willms, a specialist in physical medicine and rehabilitation with the GF Strong Rehabilitation Centre, agrees. Willms said that while overuse injuries have always existed, recognition of them is growing.

"The problem is that musicians aren't really understood by the medical community," Willms said, emphasising that it's important for the injuries to be properly diagnosed.

The overuse injuries, according to Willms, stem from such factors as inadequate physical preparation, sudden changes in practice schedule, and improper techniques leading to muscle imbalances.

Cathy Burnett, a theatre professor who teaches body movement techniques that can help remedy the injuries, added that it's important for musicians to be aware of their bodies.

In March, Burnett will be offering actors and musicians two free non-credit trial courses teaching different movement remedies,

which she says release tension and promote healthy movement, stretching, and breathing.

Burnett said that the demand for the two courses—which are already full and have long waiting lists—attests to the need of for-credit movement courses to be available for students in the future.

**"I think we have to recognise that we do have a problem of injuries within the School [of Music], and it's not surprising,"**

**—Bob Pritchard,  
UBC music professor**

As for Strain, she said that such education could have helped her prevent a great deal of uncertainty.

"I really love music, it's a huge part of me," she said. "It's how I define myself...Having it not there, it's like a shock. It's like a slap in the face." ♦

The importance of preventing overuse injuries is also emphasised by Janet Mee, director of the UBC Disability Resource Centre (DRC).

While the DRC accommodates injured students with such services as note-takers and scribes, Mee said that the key to prevention is education, something that is not yet fully developed on campus.



**ALEXANDER TECHNIQUE:** Theatre prof Cathy Burnett demonstrates a technique that helps relieve pain. DALIAH MERZABAN PHOTO

## Nuclear industry plans new Ontario storage site

by Darren Stewart  
Environment Bureau Chief

OTTAWA (CUP)—Ontario Power Generation is one step closer to building a controversial nuclear waste storage facility east of Toronto.

The provincial utility launched an environmental assessment for plans to build an above-ground storage facility for waste from its Darlington Nuclear Station last week. The project is expected to be completed by 2007.

The problem, critics say, is that the facility is only a temporary solution, given that the proposed storage containers last up to 100 years, while the waste remains dangerous for 200,000 years.

"The key question is how we're going to ensure that there's enough money around to

dispose of the waste properly in the long term," said Irene Kock, spokesperson for the Sierra Club of Canada's nuclear campaign.

Kock said that even if the nuclear industry can operate without dangerous incidents like the much-publicised Chernobyl accident in the Ukraine, there will always be dangerous waste remaining.

"No country in the world has discovered how to dispose of this waste safely and properly," she said. "It's a problem without a solution."

**"No country in the world has discovered how to dispose of this waste safely and properly."**

**—Irene Kock,  
Sierra Club of Canada**

Darlington spokesperson Phil LeSavage said that the environmental assessment is intended to find safe storage for the waste for the next 50 years, while longer-term storage is under the jurisdiction of the federal government.

"[The federal government] has been looking into this for years," he said. "It's not our issue."

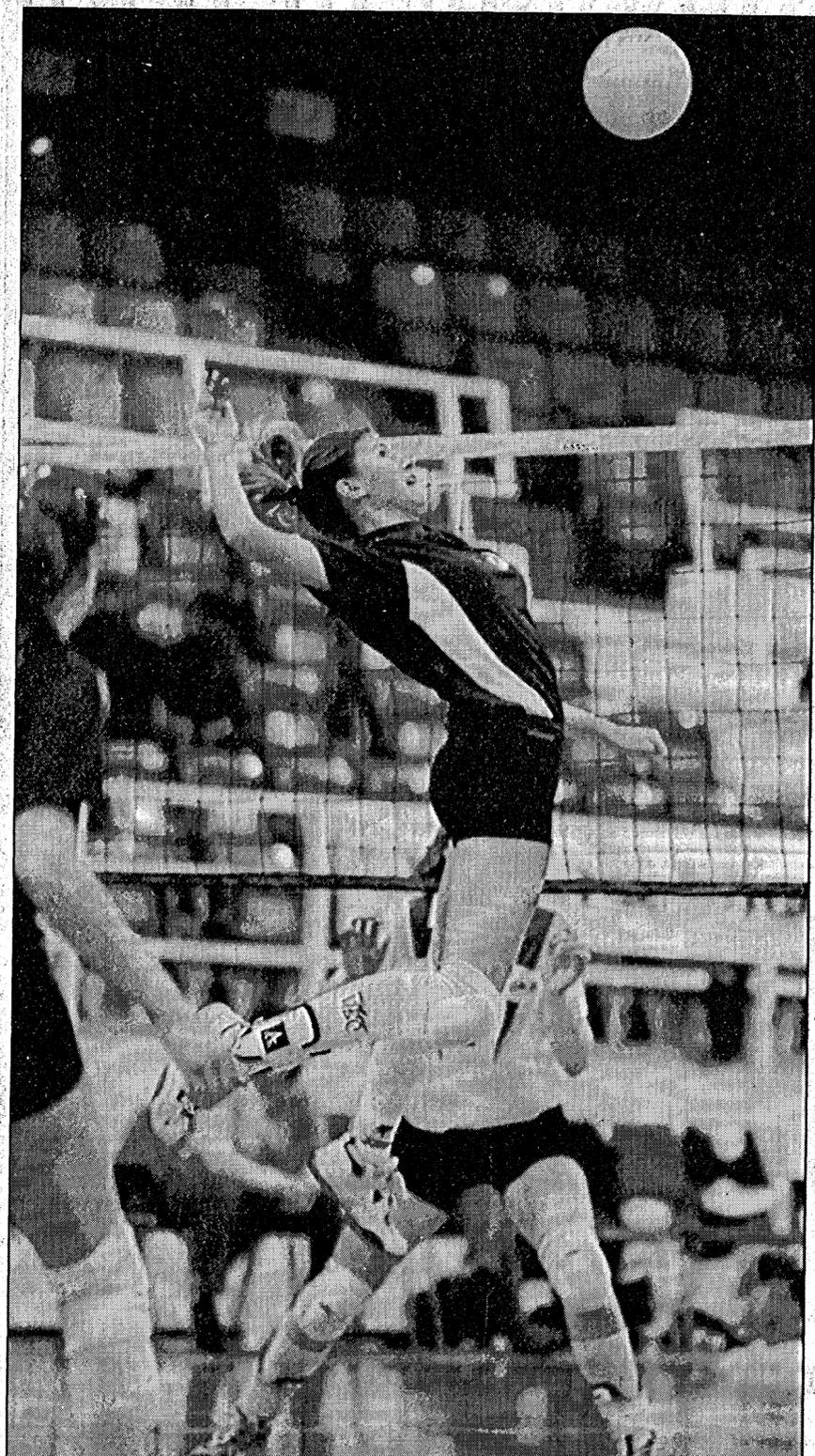
LeSavage said that the facility is essentially a big warehouse, and that the assessment will take into account the safest possible site with the least environmental impact. He added that the study

will leave room for much community feedback.

The new facility is the same type that met with strong opposition from community and environmental groups in the Kincardine area, which was slated as a site for the disposal of waste from the Bruce Nuclear Station. Residents lost their battle to block the unpopular project last May.

The federal government has investigated the option of storing spent nuclear fuel 500 metres below the ground in the plutonic rock of the Canadian Shield, in containers designed to last 500 years. The government and Atomic Energy of Canada released the results of an environmental assessment for the project in 1997.

The plan, however, has received much criticism from First Nations groups, environmentalists, and communities in the area. ♦



## Huskies tamed, Birds advance

**SOARING TOWARDS GOLD:** Sara Cummings (above) and her teammates on the UBC women's volleyball team will head to Winnipeg this Thursday for the CIAU Championships. During the first weekend of reading week, the team defeated the Saskatchewan Huskies in a thrilling, sudden-death 3-1 semi-final at home. Unfortunately, the semi-final saw the Birds injury/sickness woes continue: Cummings sprained her ankle, libero Alison Padfield got food poisoning, and backup libero Jasmin Yip came down with appendicitis. The Birds then dropped the Canada West Final in two straight matches to the Calgary Dinos this past weekend in Alberta. In spite of the loss, their national ranking allows them to advance to the Nationals on a wild card. The team will look to its deep bench for inspiration this weekend in Winnipeg. NIC FENSON PHOTO

# BIRD droppings

## Men's Basketball

The UBC men's basketball team traveled to Alberta this past weekend to face the University of Lethbridge Pronghorns in the Canada West quarter-finals. Despite beating the Pronghorns twice in War Memorial the previous weekend, the Birds lost the first game of the playoff series 31-80 in overtime. UBC bounced back to win 100-84 Saturday night, forcing the series to a third game. But the Birds' season ended in a rout when the Horns came out on top of a 90-64 decision Sunday.

## Track

The UBC track team won five medals at the Canada West Championships in Regina this past weekend. David Milne won gold in the 3000m with a time of 8:32.46. He also won bronze in the 1500m in a time of 3:55.32. Byron Wood finished third in the 3000m in a time of 8:38.90. Chris Williams won silver in the 600m with a time of 1:21.45, and Jon Luckhurst won bronze in the 1000m with a time of 2:31.52. Seven members of the track team will head to the University of Sherbrooke in Quebec in two weeks for the CIAU Championships.

## Baseball

The UBC baseball team traveled through the States on a 12-game road trip over the break and came back with an 11-4 pre-season record. The first Saturday, the team beat George Fox College 6-0, and then dropped an 8-5 decision to Laverne College at the Laverne tournament in California. The Birds faced the same two teams the following day, and won both games.

The Birds then played two mid-week games against Concordia, and Point Loma, winning the first 3-2, and the second 13-0.

This past weekend at the Lewis-Clark State Tournament in Idaho, the Birds beat Eastern Oregon twice, lost to Northwest Nazarene, and lost two to the Lewis-Clark Warriors, the host team and the defending NAIA champions. ♦

# Swimmers win fourth title in as many years

"Swimming" from page 1

best time. But I knew I was kind of ready for something in the butterfly, my training had been leading up to it," said Stefanyshyn.

Stefanyshyn was once again denied the gold in the 100m backstroke. The winner of the race, veteran Toronto swimmer Julie Howard ended up breaking the CIAU record for the event.

Laval University's Sophie Simard in particular was a thorn in UBC's side. The second-year swimmer, another Olympian, dominated the freestyle events, winning the 100m, 200m and 400m. Simard, who won Swimmer-of-the-Year honours, also managed to shave almost two seconds off the CIAU record for the 200m freestyle.

Like the women, the Thunderbird men were not immune to upsets. National team veteran and University of Calgary Dino Rick Say outswam Johns in the 200m freestyle. Say scored three more victories for Calgary by winning the 100m, 400m, and 1500m freestyle events. He set a new Canadian record in the 400m free and capped off his stellar meet by outpacing the field by more than 20 seconds in the 1500m Freestyle. Say was named Swimmer of the Year.

Another disappointment for UBC was Mark Versfeld's absence from the top step of the podium. The Commonwealth Games medalist and Olympian has been a Thunderbird for five years, and will be leaving the team at the end of the year. Versfeld was outtraced all weekend by the University of Guelph's Sean Sepulis. Versfeld lost both the 100m and

200m backstroke by less than half a second.

"I didn't have many expectations," Versfeld said after the meet. "The training level I've been at so far this year has been pretty low. I've been swimming at most just once a day. So I was happy to be able to contribute to the team with my experience. I didn't think I was going to be in the best shape that I could be, but I was happy with my times and the places they put me in."

Mark Johnston, another strong UBC swimmer, spent most of the weekend trying to contend with the flu and migraines. Nonetheless, Johnston was able to nab a silver medal in the 400m freestyle, and also swam in two of the relays.

Both the UBC women and men also conceded the breaststroke events to the competition. Rookie Kelly Kaye had the best performance among UBC women, finishing seventh in the 100m breaststroke, while Jake Steele placed fourth in the 100m breaststroke.

"The girls who did the breaststroke definitely stepped up and did well," said women's team captain Kelly Doody. "It might have looked worst because the national calibre, especially of the Calgary girls, for the breaststroke is really strong."

The depth of the Calgary women in the breaststroke translated into first- and second-place finishes in the 50m, 100m and 200m breaststroke. On the men's side it was UVic that took control of the pool, taking first and second in the 100m and 200m breaststroke.

But in the long run, the upsets and shortcomings didn't matter. UBC

dominated the meet, winning 14 gold medals in all, and winning all six relay events. UBC finished the meet in style, breaking the CIAU record in the 4x100 medley relays, and beating arch-rival Calgary in the process.

"We knew they [Calgary] would really rub it in our faces if they won the women's medley relay, so we had to strategise all weekend so we still had enough swims left, because you're only allowed six swims per girl," Doody explained.

For Versfeld, the 4x100 medley relay was an emotional race. "I hardly realised it was my last race until...we were swimming that relay. It kind of put into perspective that five years goes by pretty quick. There's been a lot of mostly highs that went with that. I'm pretty happy with the experience, and I'll never forget it," he said.

"It's nice to finish on a high note of a meet that also went really well for almost everyone on the team."

So where do the Birds go from here? Head coach Tom Johnson said that the UBC program can become more competitive, and not just at the varsity level.

"I think that the next step for us is to swim faster, to swim even better in terms of world performance levels. Swimming to the Canadian record standards, like Stefanyshyn did and the relay teams, swimming CIAU records," Johnson said.

The Birds will get a chance to see whether they're up to snuff when they race at the Spring Nationals held in Edmonton later in March, where the Birds will be racing against the best in Canada for an eventual berth in the World Championships. ♦



**STANDING TALL:** UBC's Mark Versfeld collects a silver for a backstroke event in Guelph. IAN WAGG/THE ONTARIO PHOTO

# Women's season ends in Vic

by Tom Peacock

Well, the end result was a little predictable in hindsight, looking back over the past few years in recent memory when the UBC women's basketball team has come up against UVic in the post-season and lost. But that isn't to say this past weekend's Canada West semi-final match up didn't showcase some good nail-biting basketball. No ma'am. Not in the least.

The UBC women's basketball team won two out of three games against the University of Alberta Pandas last weekend during the Canada West quarter-finals series in War Memorial Gym. Then, this past weekend, as has happened the last five years in a row, the Birds traveled to Vancouver Island to have their play-off hopes squashed by the University of Victoria Vikes.

Friday's game in McKinnon Gym was anything but exciting. The Birds came out timid and didn't score until four minutes into the game. The Vikes shot ahead to a comfortable 12-point lead by the eight-minute mark, and they didn't look back.

Occasionally ball players complain about the different rims in gyms, and the Birds might well have wanted to do just that as every shot they took bounced everywhere but in the basket. Stacy Reykdal, UBC's leading scorer, hit one of six attempted field goals. Teammates Carrie Watson and Jennifer Washburn didn't fare much better, combining for a total eight points after 13 attempted shots.

"We came out flat," Reykdal said simply of Friday night's game.

"We didn't come out fired up. I'm not sure why," she continued, adding that the same thing happened last weekend, when the Birds gave in to the Pandas Saturday, after dragging Friday's game into double-overtime and earning the emotional win. The Birds won the quarter final series, but it was apparent that no one, least of all the

players themselves, was sure when they would turn up ready to play.

This past Friday, the Birds came out cold and there was no reasonable explanation for it given the must-win circumstances. Then, for whatever reason, the next night the Birds were ready to play again, and gave the Vikes cause to worry that they might have had to play a third game Sunday.

After five minutes, UBC point guard Charmene Adams had already made two three-point shots, and the Birds had a 12-2 lead. Carrie Watson and Sheila Townsend won offensive rebounds off their taller opponents, and on defence the Birds made it clear to their UVic counterparts that they were going to have to fight for every point.

UBC post Carlee St. Denis went on a six-point run midway through the half as the Birds held on to a five-point lead. Then Carrie Rogers went four-for-four at the line to close out the half, and UBC was ahead by four.

But something happened in the UVic locker room, because when veteran head coach Kathy Shields brought her team back into the gym for the second half they immediately went to work taking apart the UBC offence.

"They played man-to-man in the first half. Then they brought out their press, and that put us back on our heels a bit," Huband said.

The Birds soon surrendered the lead they had held all game as they struggled to retain possession. Kim Johnson, UVic's most lethal weapon, went to work scoring baskets like it was something she usually does with a blindfold on and balanced on a rubber pylon. Johnson had 31 points during the game, 24 in the second half.

But in spite of the dogged effort of the Vikes, the Birds did not back down, and the score stayed close up until the final minutes. With just over two minutes left, Carrie Rogers sunk a basket to bring the Birds within four. A minute later, the Vikes handed the ball to post Angela Mangan who popped it in extending the Vikes' lead to six.

As Adams desperately fouled, trying to force a turnover, the clock ran down. Then Johnson went to the line and sank two and the game was out of reach for the Birds.

In spite of the fact the loss signified the end of the season for the Birds, coach Huband was happy with the effort shown by the UBC team Saturday.

"There is no comparison between tonight's game and last night's game. Tonight we came out and we played and last night we didn't," she said.

"We thought we had a pretty good chance," Rogers said after the game. "Of course there was the intimidation factor, but we tried not to think about it."

Rogers added that the team wasn't really too phased by UBC's history of losing in McKinnon.

"It's a little different every year," she said. "They've had different players over the years, and so have we."

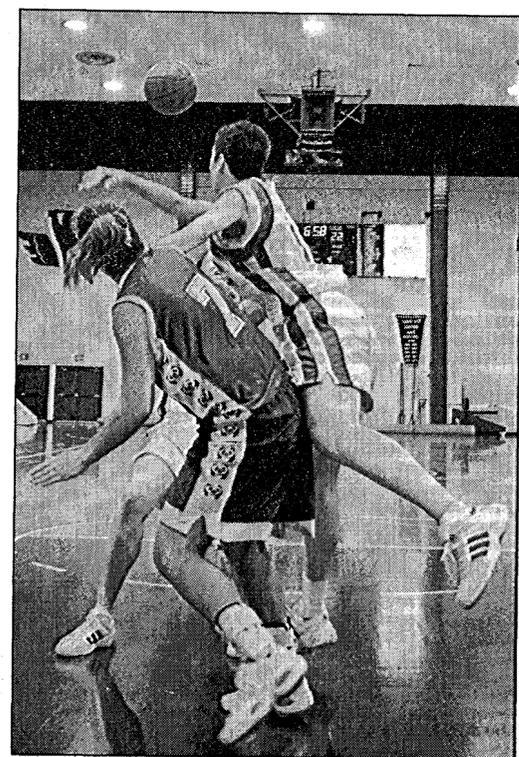
Huband agreed. "Every year's different. I don't care about what happened in the past," she said, adding that what's important is that the Birds came out ready to play and to compete, and to show a good team like the Vikes that they can compete against them.

For Lisa Nevoral, Washburn, and Reykdal, this weekend was their last as a member of the team. After five years playing at the varsity level, they are no longer eligible.

"It's going to be strange going to school with no basketball," Reykdal, who is returning to UBC next year to finish her degree in Human Kinetics, said. "It will be the first time since like Grade 6," the emotion after Saturday's final game showed clearly on her face.

Reykdal says she'll still be a big fan and is even hoping to help out with some coaching if possible.

As for the rest of the team, there's always next year when UVic will lose five of its players, including three starters. So next season will be indeed a whole different ball game. ♦



**REACHIN':** UBC's Jennifer Washburn swats at a ball. TARA WESTOVER PHOTO

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# No more hockey

## UBC men's team ends disappointing season

by Sara Newham

The UBC men's hockey team can pack their bags, air out their equipment, and take their skates home because their disappointing season is finally over. The beleaguered team played its final two games this past weekend against the 8-13-5 Regina Cougars.

The weekend's match-ups were meaningless in terms of points for the T-Birds since, despite their much-improved play in the second half of the season, the Birds were no longer in the running for a spot in the playoffs. Still, the Birds were intent on winning.

"We had some goals of finishing .5 in the second half and some goals of establishing some winning things and that's what the last few weeks have been about," explained Head Coach Mike Coflin.

So after losing their 19th game of the season 4-2 on Friday, UBC ended the season on a high note with a convincing 7-2 victory Saturday to finish up with a 6-19-3 record.

Last Friday, with the score tied at one, The Birds took their first lead early in the third period when rightwinger Dustin Paul converted a pass from forward Sandy Hayer. The lead held up until 12:22 of the final frame when Regina scored on a powerplay.

UBC pressed Regina more aggressively to try to regain the lead, but the Cougars' defence came up big when needed. Unfortunately for the Birds it was Regina who got the go-ahead goal at 16:25 to make it 3-2. After a brief time-out for the Birds, Robert Filc was pulled for the extra-attacker but UBC was unable to force overtime with a tying goal and Regina added an empty netter to seal the win.

"I think it was a pretty close game," said Josh "Cinzies-Buns" Cinnamon, who is graduating this season. "I think for the most part we played pretty well. We really battled hard and it was evident in the score until the last five minutes [when] they capitalised on us. It was sort of emblematic of the season, I guess."

With five T-Birds playing in their final game for UBC, Saturday was a completely different and very special game. The veterans got the ball rolling early Saturday night when Hayer put it past the right side of Cougar goaltender Graham Cook just 23 seconds into the game.

Regina tied it up on the powerplay at 3:04, but that was the last goal they would score for a while because Saturday night was one for the Birds. Everything seemed to click. Goaltender Peter Brady gave them the big saves, the defencemen were great when they had to be, and the forwards were aggressive in their pursuit of the puck and had plenty of chances and goals to show for it.

"I was thrilled for the guys," Coflin said after Saturday's game. "It's an emotional night...Your team comes together in the fall and when you realise that it is your final game there is a lot of emotions tugging at everybody involved, so quite often it's a difficult game to play. I thought our old guys got us off to a good start and we never looked back."

By the third period, the Birds were already up 4-1. Fourteen seconds in, forward Nils Antons scored



BRINGIN' THE NOISE: UBC's Nils Anton. NIC FENSOM PHOTO

his fifth goal of the season, and the team's fifth goal of the game with assists from defenceman Chris Sotiropoulos and forward Derek Dinelle. UBC went ahead 6-1 at the 3:20 mark when Chris Rowland tucked the puck in the net.

Regina's second goal of the game came at 11:29 of the third, but it was too late to mount a comeback. Antons scored his second goal of the game, doubling Regina's total, and making the final score 7-2. While

**"There's been a lot of times when we've played this well."**

**—Trevor Shoaf,  
UBC defenceman**

there were a few standouts such as Antons, Cinnamon, Trevor Shoaf, and Ian Lampshire, who had three assists; Hayer, whose two goals and two assists marked one of his better outings this season, was named UBC's player of the game.

"There's been a lot of times where we've played this well," said Shoaf, who intends to continue his hockey career in England next year. "Obviously we never played every single game like this, but if you watch the games where we lost, we played with the same kind of effort, just sometimes things bounce your way."

When asked if he wants to retract his earlier statements made after the January 28th game where he said that the team would make the playoffs, Shoaf replied, "I hold my ground. I really thought we were gonna make the playoffs, it came to that one key game [the January 29 game against Calgary], [and a] key call against us where Jag [Bal] made an awful call against us. As far as the statements I made about the *Ubyssy*, I'm the only one that seems to be speaking up...The paper has been nothing but unkind to the team."

On top of all the bad press the team has received, this has been a difficult year for the men's squad. Not making the playoffs again is a

tough pill to swallow for a team that works so hard. There have been a few positive things about this season, however. This is a team with a great work ethic. The majority of the games have not been blowouts, but rather, close contests in which they could realistically compete for a win.

The Birds' major problem this season has been finding a way to win. Before the Christmas break, the team had only one victory and could not finish games in which they led or tied at some point. After the break, however, the Thunderbirds managed five wins and were close or robbed in a few more.

"I didn't think we were a very good hockey team in the first half," Coflin said. "We weren't quite as bad as our record indicated, but we weren't doing things that were gonna win games. I think that maybe some people weren't quite as prepared, or we misjudged their ability to help us win right off the bat. We did have really, two first-year goalies, four first-year defencemen, [and we] lost Chris Fleury, lost Rob Petrie. We weren't ready. We thought we were ready in the off-season and that's the coach's fault."

Another positive thing about this season, perhaps even the last two or three seasons, has been the amount of support the team has had from students, faculty and players' parents. There were many proud parents in the stands each night. Lampshire's mother, David Penner's parents, and Rob Petrie's family, among others, attended every game. Petrie's father, Bob, drives in from Kamloops for each homestand, phones his wife to tell her the score after every period, and drives back to Kamloops on Sundays—supporting the team right up until the end.

Now that the season is over, Coflin must begin to prepare for next season and hope for a better record.

"I think maybe as coaches and maybe as returning players we can prepare this summer for how hard our league is, how competitive it is," the coach continued. "I think we thought because we had a fairly positive finish to the season before things were just going to happen. But you've always got to make it happen." ♦

# Words into dance, opera into ballet

by Ronald Nurwisah

**BUTTERFLY**  
at the Queen Elizabeth Theatre  
Feb. 22-24

What's the recipe for a good opera? Start with music, a great libretto, and a story that can pull on the heart-strings of the most jaded audience. Giacomo Puccini was a master of this formula. Take for example *Madama Butterfly*, with the story of an innocent Japanese girl who falls in love and is betrayed by her lover Pinkerton, an American sailor. The story is a tearjerker, with equal parts sappy romanticism and tragedy. Butterfly's longing and her eventual suicide have to be among the most moving moments in opera. It's a story that translates well into almost any form, including ballet.

There are many advantages to adapting an opera for the ballet. The music is already there, and if it's Puccini, Verdi, or Wagner, it's probably pretty good. Plus you don't need a pesky librettist or a writer to come up with a convoluted plot involving swans, transformations, or sleeping princesses. Just slap together the choreography and you've got yourself a brand-new full-length ballet.

Of course, that in itself is a challenging task. For *Butterfly*, choreographer David Nixon had to convey the tragic nature of the Puccini opera without using arias or words, while creating a watchable and memorable ballet.

*Butterfly* succeeds on both counts—this ballet is filled with moments of pristine beauty, and it communicates the depth of tragedy that exists in the original work.

*Butterfly's* marriage duet with Pinkerton is moving and sensual. Equally moving is Butterfly's suicide dance. Set to music traditionally used for Japanese kabuki theatre, her dance fully conveys the suffering and the turmoil inside the soul of the young bride cast off by the only man she ever loved.

While Nixon's choreography was excellent, credit must also be given to the members of the Royal Winnipeg Ballet. Lissette Salgado is a moving and graceful Butterfly. The role is both physically demanding and emotionally complex. Salgado filled both criteria easily. White Rock-born Johnny Wright also shone as Pinkerton. This role has some great moments, including a poignant duet with Butterfly, and a haunting dream sequence in which Butterfly dreams of Pinkerton's seduction of countless women.

One minor complaint was the lacklustre accompaniment provided by the Vancouver Symphony Orchestra. The strings often sounded laboured, while the woodwinds and brass seemed tired and out of synch for most of the evening. It wasn't until the crucial third act that the orchestra played to a standard worthy of what was taking place on stage.

But this was a small concern and one that didn't detract from my enjoyment of *Butterfly*. This ballet is a splendid and moving work blessed with dancers that communicate the story and move the audience. It's a major accomplishment, and a few flubbed notes can't take away from that. ♦



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## Candida but vapid

by Alicia Miller

**CANDIDA**  
at the Vancouver Playhouse  
until Mar. 17

*Candida*, a romantic comedy written in 1893, is one of George Bernard Shaw's earlier, so-called "pleasant" plays, exploring the relationship between a husband and wife, and examining the impact an outside admirer can have on such a relationship. The Vancouver Playhouse's production of *Candida* features solid acting, an innovative set, and, of course, a script from a Nobel laureate. Despite these strengths, however, the production falls flat.

Shaw, like *Candida*'s Reverend James Morell (Robert Wisden), was a passionate socialist and a popular speaker. In the play, Reverend Morell is married to the witty and vibrant *Candida*, with whom he is madly in love. An honest, pragmatic, and forthright man, Morell is so infatuated with his wife that he thinks catching the measles would be a blessing because his wife would then nurse him back to health.

Enter the young poet Eugene Marchbanks, also madly in love with *Candida*. Invited into the house

by *Candida*, Marchbanks is, ironically, found by Morell, who welcomes the young man. A dreamy, bright, insightful, but insolent 18-year-old, Eugene is horrified when he discovers that *Candida* performs manual labour in the Morell household, and states that he would much rather her "be idle, selfish, and useless, that is, beautiful and free and happy." Eugene presumptuously believes that he is obligated to inform Morell that he too is in love with *Candida*. Not only that, but Eugene informs Morell that he does not deserve his wife, and furthermore, that he does not understand her.

Morell is tempted to kick Eugene out of the house, until Eugene points out that Morell would be doing so only because he is afraid that Eugene is right. Thus, what ensues is a contest between the melodramatic poet or, as Morell labels him, a "little sniveling cowardly whelp," and the goody-goody clergyman.

Several other characters wander in and out of the plot, including Proserpine Garnett, Reverend Morell's typist, and Mr. Burgess—*Candida*'s father. These characters add little to the plot, but add comic

relief. For example, Proserpine tells the insistent Eugene that his truth is not applicable to her and that, if it's original conversation he wants, he had "better go and talk to [him]self." Mr. Burgess, a devoted capitalist and ruthless businessman who opposes Morell's politics and ideas, is for the most part only funny when others are laughing at him, like when Proserpine calls him a "silly old fathead."

The set features a triple-tiered protruding stage framed with gilt. The stage, coupled with the period props and furniture, gives the audience the strange sensation that they're watching an animated painting. Cherubs are found in various locations all over the set—climbing on the stage, peeking beneath it, or hanging from the curtain rod—and serve as a reminder of the more mischievous aspects of love.

For a romantic comedy, the play did not boast many laughs. The acting was solid and the accents were good, but the characters were too incessant or stereotypical to come alive. The set, though creative, gave an impression of falsity and illusion. Overall, the production was flat. Mildly interesting, but dull. ♦

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## Platonic love, haunted

**WILD HONEY**  
at the Jericho Arts Centre  
no longer playing

by John Fenton

*Wild Honey* explores the suffering and humour created by one man's love. Michail Platonov (Alexander Williams) passionately loves each woman in his life. When he is with one woman he loves her completely—seemingly devoid of compassion for anyone else. However, when he leaves the presence of one girl for another he takes his love with him, now bestowing it solely on the new girl.

When the audience first meets Platonov, he is married to a child and biding his time as the local philosopher. He is attending a social held by the local duchess (Andree Karas), who is in love with Platonov, and is spewing forth a bleak and sarcastic view of the world. As the play progresses we are introduced to the many women who love Platonov and their ignorant male counterparts. Every male in the play, except Platonov, loves one woman and all of the women love Platonov. Not surprisingly, this unbalance of love generates problems like death and despair.

Intertwined with this love story are many subplots meant to lighten the heavy topic of unquenchable love. Characters such as Colonel Tviletzky (John Munro), Osip (Igor Tugelsman) and Glagolyeo (Derek Carr) provide multiple moments of drunk comedy

that make you laugh out loud, momentarily forgetting the seriousness of the theme. This balance between laughter and tears is crucial, not only for the audience's enjoyment, but also for the accurate depiction of real human emotion.

One would imagine that Platonov woos his women with soft words and praises—yet this is not the case. In fact his goings are bleak and insulting. Platonov repeatedly converses with women in such an indignant fashion that you expect him to be hit, but instead he is only revered more. The anger that Platonov shows is not merely an act to lure in another distinguished damsel but instead is his true feeling about the torment in his life.

Unlike his Latin counterpart, Don Juan, Platonov is not having several lovers. Instead Platonov focuses on the chaos and unhappiness of having multiple partners. When he is with a woman, he truly loves her and no one else, but this does not stop him from worrying about the other women. This is Platonov's Achilles heel; he is completely captured by the moment, but is unable to enjoy it. This particular point struck a chord in me as I have found that it is truly difficult to participate in infidelity without remorse—no matter how good the new nookie is, it cannot completely erase the loving that you have previously received. ♦

# LOLITAS NO LONGER

BY DUNCAN M. MCHUGH

THE DONNAS, WITH TUULI AND  
THE BLACK HALOS  
at Richard's on Richards  
Feb. 16

Perhaps the title of the Donnas' 1998 album, *American Teenage Rock 'n' Roll Machine*, was a little too apt. Like a slick punk rock engine, the Donnas' recent Vancouver stop was smooth and dependable. Unfortunately though, other than having the show over before 10 o'clock (in order to accommodate the traditional Richard's on Richards crowd), the show offered no surprises.

There was a time when the Donnas were rock 'n' roll's Lolitas, and, essentially, a Ramones cover band made up of the "bad girls" from your high school. But, as their latest release, *The Donnas Turn 21*, would indicate, Palo Alto, CA's finest have all grown up. This does have some benefits, of course. Bassist Donna F. no longer acts as though she's kept in a cage between shows, and singer Donna A. did a masterful job of dealing with the underwear thrown at her (though one has to question the hygiene of picking up and twirling a pair of boxer-briefs).

None of this is to say the show was bad, it was just unremarkably good. There were songs about boys, Camaros, hot pants, and boys in the back of Camaros, wearing hot pants. This is all fine, of course, but the whole performance seemed perfunctory.

I missed most of Tuuli's set, but from the four songs I did hear by the Toronto four-piece, I wasn't too upset about arriving late. Despite looking like the Punk Rock Spice Girls (each with a different hair colour!), the girls of Tuuli seemed tired and uncomfortable in front of a largely indifferent crowd.

Next up should have been Bratmobile but, due probably to the hassles of getting through Customs, instead the Black Halos took the stage. Now I have no problem with most of the Black Halos. On Friday, they played a tight set with lots of good songs that didn't repel me. But their lead singer, Billy Hopeless, is

quite a different story.

Someone pretending he or she is drunk is pathetic. Someone as skin-crawlingly unattractive as Billy Hopeless prancing around half nude is pathetic. Someone with an undersized reproductive organ flaunting his leopard-print thong-beclothed crotch is pathetic. Ladies and gentleman, Billy Hopeless is pathetic.

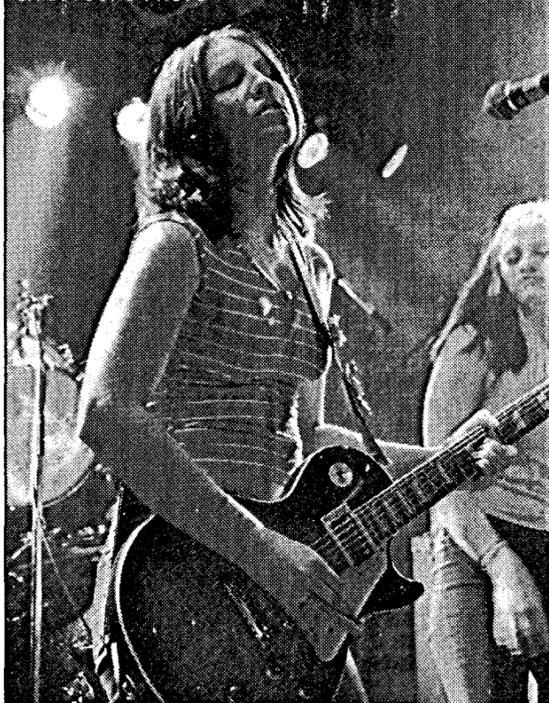
Sobriety, ugliness, and a lack of genital endowment is fine in most sectors of society, and these traits should not, for the most part, form the basis for discrimination. But when someone aspires, as Billy desperately does, to be a rock star, certain things must be ensured. Hence, I offer these suggestions to help Billy out.

1. You're going to have to get actually drunk. Maybe then your posturing will seem less contrived. If you are actually drunk already, you should move to harder stuff, like oven cleaner.

2. You should get better looking. This is going to be really hard and, probably, futile, but a rock star isn't supposed to look like a Faulknerian idiot man-child. Cut that beehive/skyward mullet, get that dumb-looking sneer off of your face, and don't take your clothes off. You are a gross, gross man and you are supposed to allure the teenaged groupies, not repel them. If you simply must take off your shirt and pull down your pants (which, given that you do so with as much inevitability as a Penthouse stripper, you probably do), then, for Christ's sake...

3. Put a sock in your ginch. With all the swagger you have onstage, you're supposed to be hung, and waving that too tiny package around isn't going to get you anywhere.

SARA YOUNG PHOTO



But sadly, I feel this advice is going to go unheeded. If, as *Georgia Straight* music writer Mike Usinger suggested in his recent profile of the band, the Black Halos are "the shit you cannot fuck with," I guess Billy's not about to change. But let this be a warning: Billy Hopeless is a nuisance to music fans everywhere. I only wish that he, and Mike Usinger, find the pool of vomit they so richly deserve to die in. ♦

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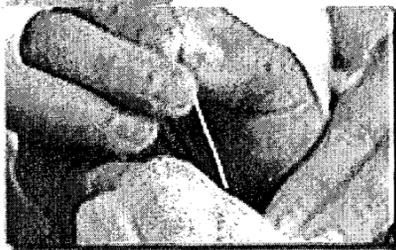
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## One foot in the grave...

Even though the sun's been shining and it's not really that cold out and thank God we don't live in Newfoundland, it's getting pretty bleak around here. It's that time of year when reading break is over and the only thing keeping you going through all the exams and term papers and problem sets and miserable professors is the knowledge that someday in the distant future, the term will end. Until then, the sun may shine, but you're more than entitled to shake your fist at the sky and curse your sorry fate. But just in case you're having any trouble getting in a truly bad mood, we at *the Ubyssy* have made a big list of some of the things we hate. Just think of the list as a few helpful suggestions. And when you're done, let the hate flow. So, in no particular order, we hate...

- Boy bands
- Boys in bands
- Boys in bandanas
- Bandanas
- Small dogs
- Small dog owners
- Small dog owners in bandanas
- Cell phones
- Cell phones that play songs
- People who talk on cell phones on the bus and start their conversations by saying "Guess where I am? On the bus!"
- Not being on the bus and being on the sidewalk half an hour late for...shit
- Movies starring Adam Sandler
- Leather pants
- Professional wrestling
- Any combination of the above three items
- Losing
- Losing your watch
- Thinking you've lost your watch and then realizing at three in the morning that you know precisely where it is and MAKE THE BEEPING STOP!
- Being late

- *Shift* magazine
- Olives
- Oliver
- Feta cheese
- Fetishes
- Mike Usinger (and other boys who wish they were in bands)
- Dust
- Beige
- Hockey
- White shoes in February
- Hippies
- Fourteen-year-olds
- Smoked chicken
- Fourteen-year-old smoked chicken
- Smoking chickens
- Smoking
- Sweater sets
- Inadequacy (yours, not ours)
- Moving
- Fluorescent lighting
- Teen romance novels
- Teen romance
- Love (not the band—Free Arthur Lee!)
- *Temptation Island*
- Regis Philbin
- Leah McLaren
- amihotornot.com
- noyouarenot.com
- The way Colin Powell can't pronounce his name like everyone else in the world named "Colin"
- Colon cancer
- The cost of food in the SUB
- The Golf Channel
- Golfers
- Jennifer Love Hewitt. She's so two years ago.
- Susan Musgrave
- Roommates
- Styrofoam
- Sleeveless shirts
- Boy bands in sleeveless shirts. Boy bands!
- Studded belts
- Anything heavy metal

- Except Judas Priest
- Ravers (yeah, we *still* hate 'em)
- Salt Spring Island yuppies
- Victoria
- BC Ferries
- Away games
- Breakfast cereal
- Pets
- Tpyos
- People who think they're clever (see above)
- Dick Cheney
- The NRA
- Cafeteria food on Saturday
- Manchester United Football Club
- Matchbox 20
- *The Georgia Straight*
- Disease
- Pestilence
- War
- Famine
- The horses they rode in on
- People who think high school was the best time of their lives
- All the people who picked on us in high school
- The way i occasionally free-associate and start typing all stream-of-consciousness-like kinda like that time in junior high school, man i was on top of the world...
- Wah-wah pedals
- Actors
- When possessive's aren't used correctly
- People who think they're being clever. Ahem.
- The prison-industrial complex, man
- *Mask* (1986, starring Cher and Eric Stolz)
- *Grease 2*
- Winter
- Taco freakin' Bell
- Art
- Music
- Sports
- Nature
- People
- Life ♡

## LETTERS

## Lifeline asks "Why treat our displays differently?"

As I walked toward the SUB last Tuesday afternoon, I noticed that the Origami Club had set up a display. As a member of another campus club, I was extremely surprised and concerned to see it considering "the club never informed student groups about the decision." Sounds a bit silly, don't you think? This is the same concern a student had about Lifeline's Genocide Awareness Project (GAP) display, as stated in *the Ubyssy* on Tuesday,

Feb. 13 ("Time for the university to fill in the info GAP," Editorial, [Feb. 13])

The student maintained that all UBC student groups and students should be given warning about where and when the display is to be held. However, Lifeline did not withhold any information once the final details had been confirmed. In addition, warning signs were placed well in front of the display in various directions to ensure that students who did not wish to see the display could easily change their path. Students who did choose to walk through the display area were not approached if they did not decide to look and discuss. If

Lifeline must inform the whole campus about their educational display, then so must all other clubs—regardless of the type.

When any surrounding issues about GAP are removed, one can't help but admit that the display once again achieved its goal: to get people talking about the abortion issue in a civil manner. Abortion is a topic usually left in the shadows as something rarely of a conversation piece. I believe that people are not educated enough about the issue and the majority of their education comes from misleading and fact-less sources.

GAP provides a new perspective on abortion, full of facts and argu-

ments that are scientifically, philosophically, ethically, and morally sound. GAP challenges students to see abortion for what it ACTUALLY is and strips the argument for abortion of its rhetoric, encouraging discussion about when life REALLY begins. If we are to be charged that the comparison between past forms of genocide and abortion is invalid, then it better be proved, without a doubt, that unborn humans are not people. This brings us into essential debates about exactly that: "what is the unborn?"

—Andrea Martens  
Human Kinetics 2  
Active member of Lifeline

# ReCYCLED ART

by Parm Johal

**BIKE ART SHOW**  
at the AMS Art Gallery  
Feb. 26-Mar. 2

This week Vancouver cyclists will show their love for the multi-spoked vehicle when they pedal down the bike lanes towards the AMS Art Gallery for the *Bike Art Show*, presented by the UBC Bike Co-op.

For those who don't know already, the Bike Co-op is an on-campus club that helps recycle and repair bikes ridden on campus. Its home in the SUB, the Bike Kitchen, is where you can purchase parts for your bike and have it repaired by Co-op members. The Co-op has also established many programs, such as a Bike Repair 101 course and an upcoming 202, course for students interested in training to become professional bike mechanics.

The bike art exhibit is a multimedia presentation that will showcase the work of 15 artists, around 11 of whom are Co-op members. The display is designed to reflect cycling as a way of life—as a natural adrenaline rush obtained by riding on all terrains, in any weather, at any time.

"From my point of view, it's the culture of bicycling brought to the

public," explained Kari Hewett, coordinator of the Co-op. "The bike is not just a utility vehicle, but can be seen as one's expression of the self."

Hewett said the idea stems from a trip that she took to the University of Arizona, where art is used to help attract people to bikes. They have planners and builders interested in transforming bike racks into forms of artistic expression, to show how far they can stretch the limits for cyclists.

Here at UBC, the cyclists/artists have repaired or taken apart their bikes using various art and media supplies to create a visual display portraying the bicycle as an incarnation of their identity.

"Bicyclists will tend to outfit their bikes with both environmentalist and anticorporatism messages," explained Ted Buehler, a member of the Co-op and coordinator of the art show. "The bikes are non-controversial—they're not going to destroy the world." Alongside these activist messages are other artistic pieces, including a bicycle-powered sleigh

with headless reindeer and a collection of helmet art.

The public will also be given a chance to add to this exhibit by creating one square of a bike patchwork quilt that will be slowly created during the course of the week. This invitation is extended to all who want to proudly show off their bike attire or bike parts, whether it's spandex shorts, helmets, or banana seats.



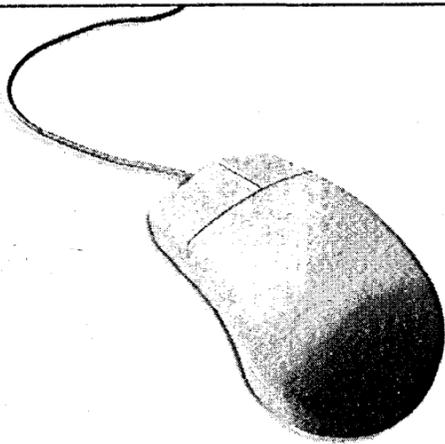
**NUTS 'N' BOLTS:** UBC cyclists do more than ride their bikes—they make art with them. UBC's Bike Co-op is displaying these artforms in the AMS Art Gallery this week. The bright pink monstrosity pictured above plugs into the wall and vacuums up peanuts. We're not making this up. Go see for yourself. Too bad you missed the wine and cheese at the launch. Suckas. TARA WESTOVER PHOTO

This commemoration of bicycle culture is on display indoors in the art gallery, but how long until bicycle art is seen around campus?

Buehler said that arts funding is necessary before bike racks or bike paths at UBC can be transformed into artistic works. He added that the Bike Co-op is invited to decorate the bike racks outside the SUB.

It might be a while before you see

bike racks turned into funky post-modernist forms, but the Bike Co-op will stay busy coming up with new ways to better the condition for cyclists on campus. In the meantime, cars are busy knocking out cyclists, and cyclists are busy knocking down pedestrians. The only place anyone will be able to understand this cycling culture will be at the Bike Art Show this week at the AMS Art Gallery. ♦



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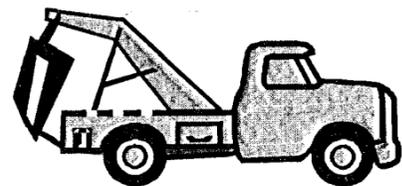
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# Far from a turkey of a film

BY GREG URSIC

## WHAT'S COOKING? now playing

Holidays are a time for families to come together. These little "reunions" manage to bring out the worst in people and unpleasant episodes from the past get dredged up and brutally dissected for the thousandth time. Or your parents may take turns pushing your buttons (which of course they programmed in the first place) and aggravating you with a never-ending barrage of life questions. "When are you getting married?" "When are we getting grandchildren?" "What do you intend to do with your life?" Small wonder that the suicide rate

jumps during these times of joy...

Rather than limit herself to one family's deluge of dysfunctional dialogue at Thanksgiving, writer/director Gurinder Chadha zooms in on a multi-family multicultural view of the holiday. We are introduced to the Jewish family with the lesbian daughter and her lover, the Hispanic family with the philandering husband and newly liberated wife, the cross-generational Vietnamese family's struggle with old traditions vs. new realities, and the successful yet fractured African-American family. Happy holidays!

Unlike *Big Night*, in which food is intended to inspire pure sensory decadence, or *Like Water for*

*Chocolate*, where food takes on a mystical, magical quality, Chadha's film uses food to illuminate the contrasts between the families in the piece. While turkey is served as the main course at every dinner table, it is prepared, cooked and presented very differently by each family. The roasted polenta, fajitas, spring rolls, and homemade macaroni and cheese that supplant the side dishes typically associated with Thanksgiving—corn, cranberry sauce and mashed potatoes—further enhance the feeling (and reminded me that I had missed dinner). But movies do not live by food alone.

What sets this film apart from its contemporaries is its execution.

Any of the plots could easily provide enough fodder for a full-length movie. This makes their skillful amalgamation in 106 minutes that much more impressive. It is more remarkable when one takes into account that no one in the voluminous (there are dozens of speaking parts) and talented ensemble cast is there as window dressing—every character is solid and has a clearly defined purpose. Rarer still is the fact that the lion's share of screen time is devoted to the development of strong female characters, which might explain what drew Mercedes Ruehl, Julianna Margulies, and Joan Chen to the project. My praise has not yet ended.

The dialogue is realistic and well-written, and the situations, though sometimes tongue-in-cheek, are familiar and believable. The pacing is quick, only slowing down to take a breather when the audience needs

it, but never leaving the viewer behind. The editing is tight and clean, rarely allowing any one scene to run too long. Finally, the cinematographer deserves congratulations for the exceptionally sumptuous food shots—I swear I could smell the turkey. In movies, as in life however, nothing is perfect.

The movie does lapse into stereotypes in several instances. For example, could anyone be as truly annoying and clueless as the character of Aunt Bea (played to wonderful excess by Estelle Harris)? I hope not. The film also goes to the sentimentality well a little too often, and the ending, while clever, is contrived. Though noticeable, these flaws are merely mildly distracting and do not overwhelm the film.

As the saying goes, I laughed, I cried, I cringed: it was an experience. Well, I didn't actually cry, I just got a little something in my eye. ♦

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