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What's left over  
from APEC, and  
then some

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TV star player Geoff Lynch  
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dislocated knee

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A book that breaks the  
stereotypes of the motherly  
figure—and other things



# Stonewalled

by John Zaozirny

Trying to interview Oliver Stone seems like something out of *The X-Files*. A dark, shadowy and mythical figure, always out of reach. Arranged meetings that always fall through. Phone calls from subordinates. The Stone is out there.

When I first looked into interviewing Stone, it was more of a longshot than anything actually solid. He is, after all, one of the major directors in film today, and such people are always difficult to see, let alone interview. When grasping for interview slots with 'important' subjects, the onus is always put on the would-be-interviewer, an abrupt switch from the normal format. Interviewers and their subjects are usually held together by a symbiotic relationship; the writer needs the story and the subject needs the publicity.

But when it comes to dealing with the 'important people,' the relationship shifts into a darker slant, the relationship being seen as parasitic, and the interview as an unbearable nuisance. Furthermore, the 'important people' are always surrounded by buffers protecting them from the inquiring writer, and even when interviews are granted, every communication is slowly filtered through innumerable layers. As Martin Amis once wrote (on interviewing Madonna), "Now, when you are circling round a star of this magnitude—stacked like a package tourist above her fogbound airport—you never negotiate with the star herself. You negotiate with her people or, in best post-modern style, with her people's people: her agent's agent, her assistant's secretary's assistant's secretary. The messages come back in a remote and cautious cipher. And such was the case, when I found that I was to be granted a ten minute telephone audience with the highly elusive and barely available Mr. Stone."

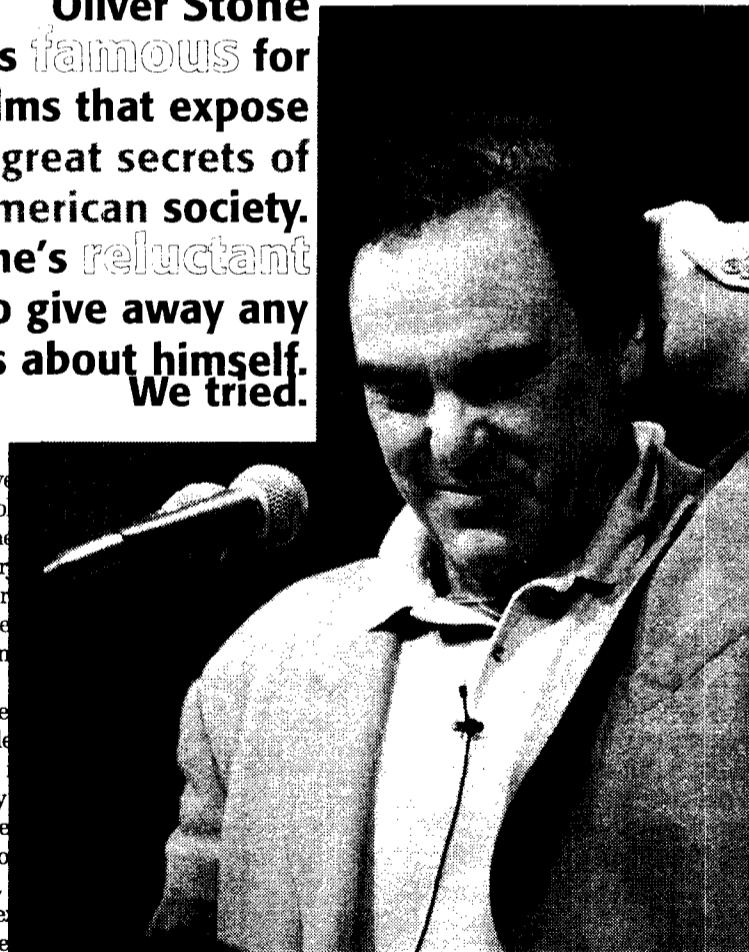
Now, ten minutes is an incredibly short period for an interview, especially when dealing with the ramblings and aside that telephone interviews can encompass. But ten minutes is better than nothing, and so the next day found me sitting by wire-tapped telephone. Hours after the call was due, I received notice that my ten minutes would have to be shifted to tomorrow, when Mr. Stone would call from another city. So, I skipped classes and canceled work for yet another day. Next day, same thing, but this time Mr. Stone's assistant, a weary and wary Ms. Annie Tien, called in to inform me that my interview had been upgraded. I would be able to meet the infamous director in person, and would be given fifteen minutes of his time.

So, the date for Oliver Stone's pricey and highly anticipated (though not highly attended) lecture arrived and I, along with the less than half capacity crowd, trooped into the Orpheum to hear about movies, meaning and other such things. The ostensible reason for this lecture tour was to promote and discuss Stone's latest endeavour, a book titled *A Child's Night Dream*, though he hardly opened the book the entire lecture. The book itself has as spattered a history as Stone himself, having been written feverishly when the author was 19, half destroyed in a rage, and then left to ignominious decay in a shoe box before being discovered by a book editor friend of Stone's who saw its potential. What potential the book has, other than cashing in on Stone's loyal fans, is a bit questionable and I'd read enough of the book to convince myself that it might have been best left in the shoe box. But all this had

little importance at the lecture, because Stone spent most of the time assailing critics of his films and speaking about how only the young truly understood his work. This was quite a winning tactic, as he was speaking to the converted (who else would shell out \$30+ for tickets?), and must have been even more effective at his usual choice of venue: American colleges. I seriously doubt there was a single person in the Orpheum that day who believed that Lee Harvey Oswald shot J.F.K..

The lecture finally ground to a halt, and the floor was opened to questions, which resulted in long, meandering inquiries, most of which seemed to ask why Stone hadn't made a film about *their* cause,

**Oliver Stone  
is famous for  
films that expose  
the great secrets of  
American society.  
But he's reluctant  
to give away any  
hints about himself.  
We tried.**



OLIVER STONE at his Vancouver engagement at the Orpheum Theatre last October. RICHARD LAM PHOTO

which ranged from marijuana legalisation to the struggle of Natives. Placed on a pedestal as the *only* liberal filmmaker in Hollywood by his fans, Stone did little but get harried and annoyed at their insistence. The question and answer period dragged on for a short while, Stone's actual answers never quite answering the questions asked. But after this, the much more attractive item (at least for a number of the fans there) of the day finally began: the autograph session. But any hope that this might pass for a chance to 'meet and greet' Oliver Stone—a major life goal for some fans at the lecture—was dashed by the hurried motions of security and the wearied apathy of the lecturer.

My interview with Stone was supposed to happen after the lecture, but I was getting a bit nervous about the interview happening at all. Spying Ms Tien, I inquired whether it would take place that night. Unfortunately not, was the answer yet again, though I

was assured that I would be slotted in "somewhere" between all the interviews Stone was doing the next day.

Given a time and the name of the hotel, I dutifully showed up in the hotel's lobby, twenty minutes late due to a mysterious disappearance of parking spaces in the downtown core. Viewed as a potential threat by the suspicious hotel staff—Ms Tien had forgotten to give me the room number—I was only let up half-an-hour later after several frantic phone messages. I walked into the room, expecting to find Stone, but instead I found a very peeved Terry David Mulligan camped out with his sullen camera operator. TDM was pleased to inform me that I could do my interview just as soon as he finished his. He'd been waiting for two hours

Stone arrived, half an hour later, surrounded by a coterie of journalists and assistants, and Mulligan was soon plying his trade to the weary Stone. Mulligan had introduced Stone at the lecture the night before, but the director seemed to have no idea who he was. To TDM's dismay, I was told to sit through his interview to "get a feel for the questions" that Stone was being asked. This meant sitting and listening to Mulligan's attempts to flatter Stone (he called *A Child's Night Dream* an instant classic, which should be "required reading for students") and throw pointless questions at him (such as what his thoughts on the Internet were). An hour later, I was forced to sit through yet another flattering and overly analytical interview, as a reporter from *The Vancouver Sun* lavishly lauded Stone's novel with references to Joseph Conrad, Ernest Hemingway, e.e. cummings, William S. Burroughs and Arthur Rimbaud tossed out casually.

But after all the preening and contemplation was over, it was my turn to bargain for a piece of Stone's time. Problem was, there was no time left. Eager to meet with some backers, he was in a rush to escape the interviews. So, as Stone rushed from room to room, I was to interview him. After weeks of preparation, my page of questions was cut down to three questions—three questions that were hardly answered by a harried Stone as he impatiently strode around the hotel hallways.

The responses aren't even worth printing, except to note that when I asked him about the special appeal of the desert, a prominent setting for key scenes in four of his films, he simply replied, "I like it." Soon after, Stone rushed out of what I had attempted to make into an interview to get ready to fly back to the golden lights of Los Angeles. But as he hurried down the corridor he did point at me and ask his press secretary to send him "a copy of Bob's article." I didn't bother to correct him.

Yes, I met Oliver Stone, I ended up spending two and a half hours with him, but in the end I had nothing more than a bad taste in my mouth. Stone never seemed to break out of a shell he'd built up for dealing with journalists, when dealing with fans. The worst irony of the experience was that Stone had held as his strong point his relation with the youth of today, with the 'young people.' But every instance where he was called on to relate with them, to discuss his ideas with them, he ignored them. At the question and answer session, the autograph session and even the interview, Oliver Stone held himself apart from his young fans, from his supporters. Here was Stone saying that only 19-year olds would understand *A Child's Night Dream* and be able to discuss it, while at the same time he did an excellent job of ignoring a 19-year old sitting across the table from him.♦

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Coordinator of External Affairs

Nomination forms and candidate information is now available from the Executive Secretary in SUB 238. All candidates are required to meet with the Elections Administrator once nominations have closed. It is only after the close of nominations that a list of candidates will be released, and campaigning may begin.

For more information, please contact, Kaaren Vlug, Elections Administrator, c/o AMS SUB Room 238, or drop by AMS SUB 224, or call 219-0465.

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

CLOSED JAN 9 1998

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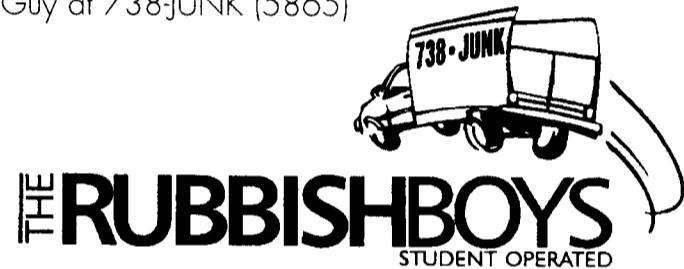
The AMS is looking for poll clerks to manage the polling stations during Voting Week (January 19th to 23th, 1998) of the AMS Elections. Those interested are advised to bring a copy of their class schedule to SUB Room 224 at 1:00 pm on Tuesday, January 13th, 1998. Honouraria will be paid, of \$9/hour.

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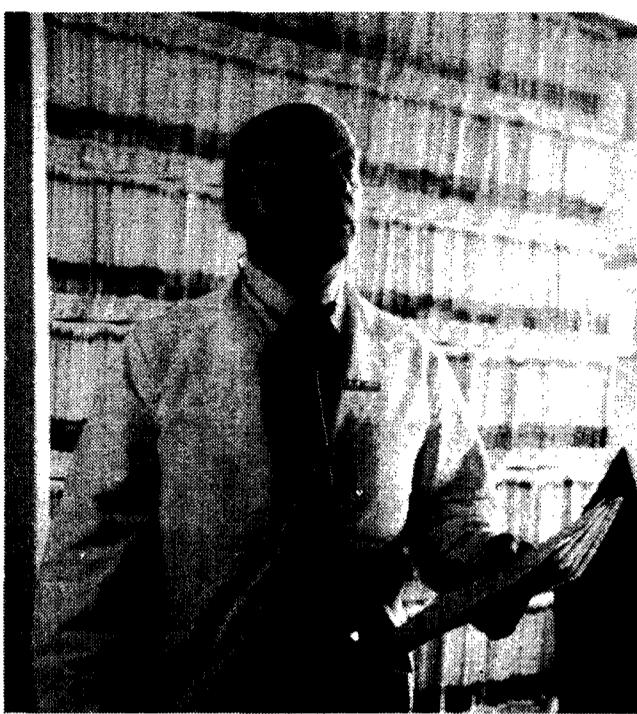
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# UBC professor admits to assault



DAVID LEVITT wasn't talking Thursday RICHARD LAM PHOTO

by Daliah Merzaban

A UBC medical professor is under investigation by the College of Physicians and Surgeons after pleading guilty in BC Provincial Court to common assault Monday.

## So long Thunderbird Store

by Sarah Galashan

After two hours of emotionally charged debate last Wednesday, AMS council voted 18-14 not to renew the lease of the privately owned Thunderbird Shop.

But students could have a direct say in the future of the Thunderbird Shop, a SUB fixture for the past 25 years, if the AMS accepts a petition of 5000 signatures and puts the petition question to renew the shop lease to referendum during the upcoming AMS election.

Kristie Kimmett, a fourth year geography student and a Thunderbird Shop employee, presented the petition to AMS officials last Thursday.

Ryan Davies, the AMS president, wouldn't comment Thursday on whether the petition was sufficient to trigger a student referendum. The AMS did not want to comment on the possibility of a binding student vote until they consulted a lawyer about the wording of the petition question.

Some councilors said at the council meeting Wednesday that the Thunderbird Shop's petition question was misleading because it doesn't say what the AMS's plans for the shop's space are.

At Wednesday's meeting, councilors flip-flopped between taking a business risk—there is no guarantee that developing an AMS owned shop in place of the Thunderbird shop will make money—and sticking with what has proven successful in the past. Even Jennie Chen, director of administration and a former advocate of the proposal, was undecided. In the end, she voted against the motion not to renew the T-Bird lease.

## UBC to promote banking services under monopoly deal

by Chris Nuttall-Smith

An arrangement intended to give the Royal and Hong Kong banks a campus monopoly includes a provision that will see UBC promote banking services to staff and students, sources say.

The deal, approved by UBC's Board of Governors (BoG) last month, gives the two banks exclusive rights to set up branches and instant tellers on campus, except inside the SUB, which is controlled by the Alma Mater Society.

The two banks will have to negotiate with the AMS to replace the Bank of Montreal branch and Toronto Dominion and VanCity instant tellers in SUB. The spaces are currently leased out by the AMS.

The two banks want to buy out the Bank of Montreal's lease as early as this summer, then replace all instant tellers in SUB when those leases expire.

Preliminary groundwork for future nego-

tiations has already begun.

Meeting with AMS General Manager Bernie Peets and AMS executives Jennie Chen and Vivian Hoffman last month, UBC Business Relations officials offered to help the student union work out its own deal with the banks.

Debra Sweeney, Business Relations marketing manager, also suggested the AMS could help market the banks' services to students.

"We would determine together how best to communicate with students about the benefits of the partnership, to them and to the institution so that they can decide whether they wish to move their personal banking to the Royal or HongKong Bank," Sweeney wrote in her minutes of the meeting.

"This would include determining the AMS' potential financial benefits from marketing the program to students," she added.

Paula Martin, a UBC spokesperson,

wouldn't discuss details of the agreement Wednesday, but she said the university would make a formal announcement later this month.

She added the agreement will create a sizeable windfall for UBC. But she said that figure, as well as other details of the agreement, will stay confidential.

Martin said UBC officials will consult with groups, including the AMS and the Graduate Students' Society, about how to implement parts of the agreement.

A motion allowing AMS staff to begin discussions with the two banks was presented to council only this Wednesday. The motion, tabled by Chen and Hoffman, will come up for discussion and approval later this month.

If and when the cash-starved AMS works out a deal with the two banks, council will likely revisit many of the arguments still clinging to the Coke deal signed in 1995.

The most contentious issue will be

whether council should limit student banking options in exchange for cash.

The issue of exclusive agreements is a controversial one, both on campus and within the AMS.

Marathon council debates over whether to join the university and sign on to the cold beverage agreement giving Coca-Cola a campus monopoly were some of the most contentious in recent AMS history.

Council's decision to accept the deal was also a lucrative one—the AMS generates some \$130,000 annually from the contract.

UBC administrators already have hopes for the money coming from the agreement. Maria Klawe, vice president of student and academic services, asked AMS council Wednesday to support a plan, whereby \$400,000 of annual revenues from the agreement would go to varsity athletics.

Klawe proposed the money pay for tickets to varsity games, which would be given away to students.♦



MICHAEL KINGSMILL'S drawing of the proposed AMS store.

posed retail outlet and have made several presentations to the council to assure them that their plans are sound. Peets' extensive retail experience has been noted several times as well.

For Peets planning ahead has meant looking into possible suppliers and merchandise, and finalising renovation plans.

But Lecky said he doesn't believe AMS executives questioned Peets enough and he doesn't think they understand the principles behind the decision. "Who are you going to believe: an administrator with a vision and no money invested, or an entrepreneur who has invested 25 years in the business?"

Peets expressed confidence in the future of the plan. "From my perspective I understand the concerns and why it is emotional for the Thunderbird [employees], but I don't agree. We're poised to be very successful."♦

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# Researchers push for big infrastructure boom

by Chris Nuttall-Smith

UBC researchers are hoping to get a big piece of an \$800 million federal fund for university research infrastructure, but if the provincial government doesn't soon agree to pitch in with its own money, the Canadian Foundation for Innovation (CFI) funds could be a lot harder to get.

The CFI was announced in the federal budget last year to help fund university science projects like new labs, science research libraries and computer networks, and also to hire new faculty. But the fund only provides up to 40 per cent of a project's cost; universities must find the balance from private donors, industry, endowment funds and their provincial governments.

So far, however, only Ontario and Alberta have committed provincial funds. Quebec has refused the federal support and BC, while talking with UBC officials about the fund, is wavering on an announcement. When asked whether the province will allocate money for CFI projects, the BC education minister, Paul

Ramsey said: "Yes, absolutely," but he wouldn't discuss specifics.

"I respect that the CFI is a wonderful opportunity for institutions in British Columbia to improve their research facilities and I want to work with them to find ways to do it. Having said that I gotta tell you that the fact that the Liberal government is coming and doing this at this time is quite out of sync with what British Columbia has been doing," Ramsey said.

"So [while] we have a new opportunity here I wish they'd been around a bit earlier instead of all the cuts we got," he added.

Ramsey said he would likely make an announcement about the CFI during the spring sitting of the provincial legislature.

But UBC administrators are hoping the provincial government will give \$100 million to BC universities to support CFI projects. And while they're shying away from suggestions that UBC is 'lobbying' the province, university officials say they have met with BC Premier Glen Clark and expect to meet with employment and investment minister Dan Miller this month.

Alison Speer, UBC's manager of government relations, also said staff in the university development office have asked business leaders to urge the province to commit money to CFI.

In a presentation to the university's Board of Governors (BoG) last month, Martha Piper, the UBC president, laid out a financial plan that she says will bring some \$330 million from CFI and provincial and external donors.

By her estimates, that money would create about 1500 construction jobs, several research spin-off companies, patents and licences resulting in 375 research jobs. "The future economy of this region is going to be driven by technology, research and know-how," said Piper.

Richard Spratley, the director of research services at UBC, is heading up the university's proposals for CFI grants. He said that unlike applications to other federal granting councils, CFI proposals will often be for broad and costly projects. "We're looking at the big bucks, really. We're going to try to package really integrated proposals," he said.♦

## Grad students say 'Non' to department merger

be given in English...but these courses would not be compulsory.

"Any graduate student who prefers in the future to take all his or her courses in French, rather than in English, that will still be possible."

Hodgson said the majors of the two programmes will be retained. He also said there is a growing trend in Canada to merge Romance language departments.

The proposal was first announced by Shirley Neuman, dean of Arts, in November. Despite repeated requests from the *Ubysey* for an interview, Neuman refused to comment. But in a memorandum sent out to the various departments dated November 12, Neuman explained that the merger was necessary for administrative reasons.

One reason cited was that there is currently no replacement for Marguerite Chiarenza when she steps down as head of the Hispanic and Italian Studies department at the end of this academic year. The department is also in need of a new faculty position, but cannot afford to keep both a head, and create that new position.

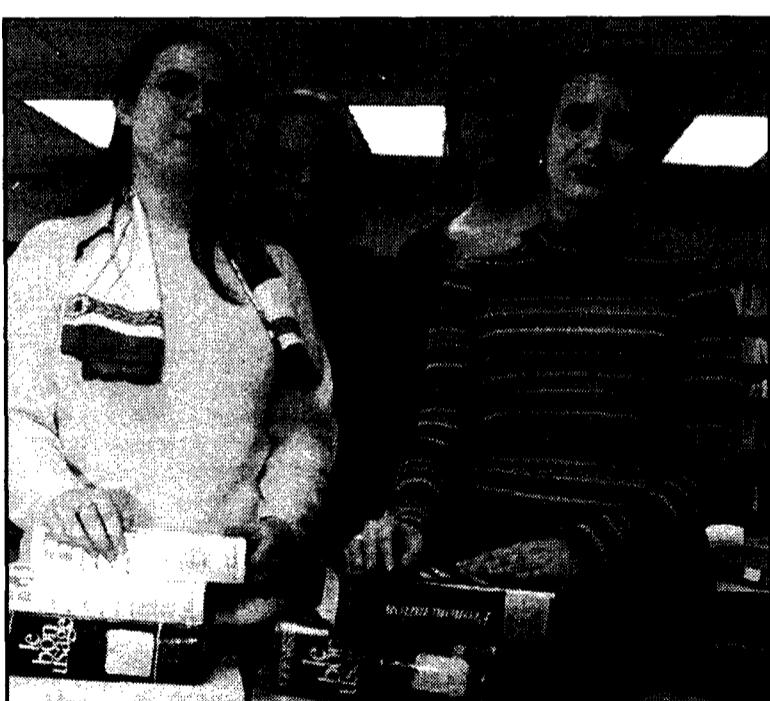
According to Derek Carr, a professor in the department, the number of full-time positions has dwindled to just eight. The merger with the French department is the only thing they can do to maintain funding levels, he said.

Neuman's memo also cited problems within the French department. Because of declining enrolment in third and fourth years, and steady faculty numbers, the department needs to collaborate with other programmes in order to carry its share of teaching in the faculty."

Neuman suggested that the departments merge, and develop shared courses and programmes (e.g. in literary theory and Romance Studies): "such programmes would give students a broader-based expertise when they leave the university for the job market."

But graduate students say that the bottomline remains: the range of courses available to them in French is slowly diminishing. And Spiliopoulos says that doesn't bode well for Canada's other official language.

"If we want the language to survive we have to make sure that there is expression."♦



Corinne Seror, Nancy Stevens, Darcy Cullen and Valia Spiliopoulos stare down the dean. RICHARD LAM PHOTO.

by Douglas Quan

UBC's senate has approved the creation of a new French, Hispanic and Italian Studies department despite strong objections from some graduate students.

Grad students studying French say that merging the French department with that of Hispanic and Italian Studies will mean the proliferation of courses taught in English (the only language common to all three disciplines), and the general erosion of French studies on campus.

"The French language courses won't be as popular," said French grad student Valia Spiliopoulos. "We'll be studying the language, but it will be as if it's a dead language."

The graduate students presented a petition to Senate on December 10 asking the academic body to oppose the merger. But Senate voted to support it.

Current French department head Richard Hodgson will head the new department once it comes into effect April 1 and says the students don't have all that much to worry about.

"It's true that in this new department, we will be offering perhaps one or two more courses a year which would

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Owning and operating by the Canadian Federation of Students

by Chris Nuttall-Smith

It's been nearly a month and a half since 18 APEC leaders met at UBC but the fallout around campus is still raging with allegations of a Prime Minister's Office (PMO) plan to silence protesters, a crusading webmaster, at least two law suits and high-level questions about whether the APEC lead-

# APEC fallout

## Rages at UBC

ers' 'retreat' should have been held here at all.

This week some 20 students and activists who were arrested or pepper sprayed during campus protests against the leaders' retreat at UBC November 25 agreed to let two Vancouver lawyers, Cameron Ward and Aymen Nader represent them in a civil suit against the RCMP and Prime Minister Jean Chretien.

"We feel that there is evidence that the police have acted maliciously and that their treatment of protesters deserves not only compensation but also punitive damages," said Nader.

He said the suit, which will likely be launched in BC Supreme Court later this month, will allege false and wrongful detention and imprisonment, assault and battery and sexual harassment of the women who were arrested November 25. The women allege that they were all strip-searched at the Richmond Pre-Trial Centre, while none of the males were.

They will also argue the RCMP and Chretien violated their Charter rights to freedom of conscience, expression and security against unlawful search; as well as their freedom from cruel and unusual treatment, Nader said.

The political interference allegations against Chretien stem from documents released by UBC last month that show the Prime Minister's office changed RCMP-approved security arrangements in order to keep protesters away from the leaders' motorcade. The protest area between the Law Building and Chancellor Boulevard was originally planned to extend close to Chancellor Boulevard, where the passing leaders would see the protesters, but the area was moved back from the street by the PMO, despite strong objections from UBC.

The protesters might also name the university in their suit because of a letter the UBC president, Martha Piper wrote to Chretien November 19. In that letter Piper warned Chretien of serious concerns about the safety of protesters.

"Officials from your office have decided to reduce significantly the area available for line of sight access to the APEC leaders. This contravenes the University's commitment to its community, violates a prior agreement, and increases the risk of a serious incident arising out of over-crowding and frustration in a very confined space," Piper wrote.

The protesters allege that Piper was negligent because she knew there could be a safety problem on the twenty-fifth but failed to take adequate precautions.

Jonathan Oppenheim, an anti-APEC organiser who might join the suit, said the protesters aren't after personal gain. He said the protesters agreed that if they claim and win damages from the suit they will donate them to charity or start a scholarship or trust fund.

A similar suit that caught national media attention last month was launched by Craig Jones, a UBC law student and a member of the BC Civil Liberties Association. He was

arrested on November 25 while holding two signs saying 'Free Speech' and 'Democracy.'

Jones was standing on the lawn in front of Green College, where he lives, when RCMP told him to remove the signs. After arguing that he had a Constitutional right to hold the signs, Jones was arrested and taken to the Richmond Pre-Trial Centre, where he was held for 14 hours then released.

In his suit against the RCMP, the Attorney General of Canada and three RCMP officers, Jones alleges police acted with a "wanton, flagrant, inten-

keep the campus informed before the event, partly by ensuring the *Ubsysey* was permitted behind security lines to cover the event.

Piper added she did not meet any of the 18 Asia Pacific heads of state at the retreat, other than Chretien, to whom she handed over the keys to Norman MacKenzie House, the president's official campus residence and a venue for a leaders lunch that day.

She also said she will work to correct and investigate the events of the twenty-fifth. Piper's other actions:

- She requested access to RCMP reports and investigations of the day;
- Piper wrote to request a Solicitor General's inquiry into the day;
- She gave \$5,000 to both the AMS and the Graduate Student's Society for research or legal action;
- Piper announced a public forum on APEC to be held at the Chan Centre on January 20. She said she invited GSS and AMS representatives, as well as anti-APEC organisers and a campus union representative to sit on a panel at the forum.

According to Philip Resnick, a faculty representative on BoG and a vocal opponent of having the leaders' meeting at UBC, the administration's actions since APEC have helped remove some public stigma from the university's image.

"It puts the university in a much better light than if those letters were never sent," said Resnick.

Lois Moen, a staff representative on BoG, said Piper should criticise Chretien for his comments. "I don't think it would be out of line for this board to write the Prime Minister to address his flippant and real arrogant remarks that he made...that made us all look like idiots," Moen told the BoG.

The board directed Piper to write Chretien with an outline of the actions she was taking and also to express concern over his now infamous "For me, pepper, I put it on my plate," response to a reporter's question about the RCMP use of pepper spray against protesters.

Many of the board members, including Resnick, Ken Georgetti, and student representatives David Borins and Kera McArthur, said the APEC meeting at UBC was an embarrassment to the university. "The building of the Atrium at Norman MacKenzie House, the endowment of a few chairs and scholarships [in exchange for holding APEC] are a high price to pay for the limiting of civil liberties on campus," said Resnick.

The fallout has also prompted letters to Martha Piper from the English department, Interdisciplinary 19th Century Studies, the department of Fine Arts, and the History department, all condemning the RCMP actions. Twenty-five professors from the faculty of Law also wrote Chretien to express their concern over "breaches of fundamental constitutionally protected rights on our campus on November 25, 1997."

UBC Law professor Wes Pue has also started a website of accounts about November 25. The site, with the title 'Canada, APEC and the rule of law' cheekily placed over the official APEC logo, includes Jones' suit, accounts from Green College residents, the departmental letters to Piper and Chretien and photographs taken that day. Pue also examines the day from a legal and civil rights standpoint, and he offers some harsh criticism of the federal government and of the RCMP.

"The RCMP has been disgraced. Many officers — who joined the force as a noble public calling — will wear the Red Serge less proudly in the future," Pue writes. "Some of them should never wear it again."

The website is at [www.law.ubc.ca/links/apec97/](http://www.law.ubc.ca/links/apec97/) ♦



RICHARD LAM PHOTOS

**"We feel that there is evidence that the police have acted maliciously and that their treatment of protesters deserves not only compensation but also punitive damages"**

—AYMEN NADER  
A VANCOUVER LAWYER

# Questions after AMS hires elections administrator

by Michael McGowan

The search for someone to oversee upcoming student government elections ended in late November. After two calls for nominations failed to fill the position of election administrator, AMS council appointed Kaaren Vlug following a council vote November 19.

After previous attempts to hire someone for the \$1800 position failed, Vlug a 1997 representative for the Arts Undergraduate Society, and friend of Jason Murray, current Arts Rep and chair for the

elections nominating committee, was hired.

"I do see how people would be concerned," Vlug said. "Jason [Murray] and I are friends but we've been friends before either of us were interested in student politics, she added. "I think I can do a very good job."

After administrative problems with last year's AMS elections recommendations were made to hire the next administrator well in advance to avoid any similar mishaps. Last year's election saw ballot miscounts and as a result the loss of Jeff Myers' Board

of Governors student representative position.

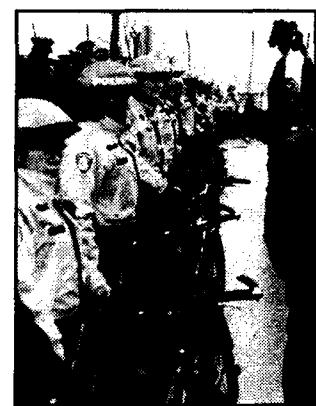
In addition allegations of voting fraud were raised but never substantiated and two unadvertised poll booths were operating off campus.

According to Vlug her late appointment to elections administrator will not affect the election. She says this year the elections committee is taking action to correct some of last year's problems.

The ballot counting machine that three years ago cost the AMS \$16,950 to purchase will be replaced this year by a man-

ual count conducted by a hired accounting firm.

Separate ballots are also being used for the AMS race, the Board of Governors race, and the Ubsysey Publications Board race. Instead of using felt pens to mark off squares on the back of student cards, the elections committee has opted to have poll clerks physically scratch out these squares to eliminate the possibility of multiple voting by the same person. The draw for free tuition, which previously offered a strong incentive for students to vote multiple times will not be offered this year. ♦



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# The hindered path

by Laura Tiffany

The Muse

ST. JOHN'S (CUP)—It's just before final exams and Claire's walls are covered with giant sheets of paper. Covering the length of the walls are with complex diagrams. Claire is pursuing a master's degree, and while the road through post-graduate studies is rarely easy for anyone, she has found the journey especially difficult.

Claire is autistic.

Sometimes when she gets scared or "a bit frazzled," she climbs underneath her desk and refuses to venture out until she feels safe. Claire realises most people don't react to stress in that manner, and has learned to cope with the response it sometimes elicits from her fellow students. "It freaked out everyone who came into my room during that term, but I had finally learned not to care," she says.

Autism is a neurocognitive developmental disability. The syndrome affects the way the brain processes information. Autism is not a form of mental retardation, as many people mistakenly believe. It occurs in approximately 15 out of every 10,000 births and approximately four out of every five autistic people are male.

The disorder affects people with varying degrees of intensity, explains Jared Blackburn, another autistic student, who refers to autism as a "spectrum disorder."

"It ranges in severity across a wide range of conditions, like the colours of a rainbow," he says.

Aspects of the condition include severe communication and language difficulties, an inability to relate to other people or form social relationships and unusual or problematic behaviour, such as responding oddly to sights and sounds.

Autism was first identified in 1943, and the cause is largely unknown. It seems to involve a "muddling" of the information the brain receives from the senses, and this inhibits the accurate processing and integration of it.

Some of the biggest problems university students with autism face have less to do with academics and more with social situations they encounter. Parties, class discussions, and even conversations with roommates can be extremely difficult, if not impossible, for people with autism.

"The higher functioning students with autism...may excel academically, but they often have difficulty with the dormitories, the social scenes," says Carol Grey, a Michigan school board consultant for children and adults with autism.

"The worst problem is that it's noisy and chaotic here in these dorms," Jared says. "I like people, but I find them most strange, illogical, petty and superficial. I can intellectually grasp, but not relate to, their motives."

He explains that, because of autism, he feels like he is in a state of perpetual culture shock. "I don't understand many of the basic social assumptions that others take for granted."

Autistic students also encounter difficulties understanding exactly what their professors expect from them on an assignment or exam. "They might not be able to pick up on [what professors want]," Grey said. "They usually have to study longer and harder, and cover everything because they don't necessarily pick up on those strong points like the rest of us."

Jared finds himself spending a long time at his studies because of another aspect of his difficulty with processing information. He says he has difficulty scanning words into actual meaning while studying.

"I must stop and process letter by letter, syllable by syllable, and then word by word... so it takes me a long time to read," he said. "When I have many reading assignments, I spend all my time on them, get behind, and am too burned out to concentrate on anything within a week or two."

Dianne Wills, who is also pursuing a master's degree, admits that frustration over her studies sometimes lead her to harming herself. "I often found math frustrating, and if I couldn't solve a math problem I would often bite myself. I bit myself when I was frustrated from as early as I could remember."

Coping with autism can affect a student's decisions throughout university. Diane had the option, to complete her master's degree, of taking an exam or writing a thesis. She chose the exam.

"Writing a thesis would have been very difficult for me since, due to my autism, unstructured tasks don't come easily," she says.

Students also seek extra assistance from their schools to help them cope.

The most common request from university students who have autism, says Grey, is to have more time allotted for exams. She believes autistic students often require more time to complete an examination.

"It does take them longer to figure out what it is intended from a question and to formulate their response," says Grey.

But whether or not autistic students are allotted the extra time they need depends on the school they attend. For Claire, it was not a problem. "My tutors were generally sympathetic and interested when I told them about my diagnosis, and I was able to get permission on medical grounds."

**"The higher  
functioning  
students with  
autism may excel  
academically, but  
they often have  
difficulty with the  
dormitories, the  
social scenes"**

**CAROL GREY  
CONSULTANT  
FOR CHILDREN  
AND ADULTS  
WITH AUTISM**

It is often suggested that the university community as a whole needs to become more aware of autism and the problems associated with it. Grey says one approach to this could involve "just improving in general the understanding that professors have of students with autism so that they will not misinterpret or take offence at some of the social errors they might make."

For Jared, this surfaces as the "constant and frustrating" problem of being unable to get his points across to others, including his professors. "I might ask a question about one subject, and get an answer about another, totally unrelated subject," he said. "Since I am the common factor," he said, "the logical explanation is that I am not expressing myself well... in a way other people can understand."

University has for some time been emerging as a reasonable goal for people with autism, explains Grey, as the face of those with the disorder is changing. "We are identifying more and more high functioning people with autism... so we're dealing with a new population that we just became aware of."

The assumptions that autistic high school graduates should either get jobs in sheltered workshops or out in the "real world" are being challenged by the realisation that there are other options, including university.

While pursuing a post-secondary education, autistic students are acquiring much more than diplomas and degrees. Some find their social skills can be helped just by attending college and university.

Diane recalls eating lunch with fellow classmates.

"I remember making a very big effort to keep a conversation going and I must have been successful because they continued to have lunch with me," she says. "However, I wasn't able to feel a real deep attachment with anyone. Still, I think those experiences of eating with those girls, and also socializing with other girls, was positive."

Jared adds that as time passed, it became easier for him to meet others.

"Before college, I had no real interest in socialising or spending time with other people. I preferred to be alone," he said. "During my early years of college, I developed a taste for company, which I previously lacked."

Dianne says she is happy she attained a post-secondary education, adding that it not only enhanced her social and communication skills, but also gave her a "very good career."

Many autistic graduates have gone on to successful careers in their chosen fields and lead fulfilling and productive lives. But they still must grapple with the realities of their condition. Grey explains that many of these students often end up in careers where contact with others is minimal, and where they "don't need to stand around the water cooler to make points, or to climb a social ladder. [They go] where they can just pursue an area of interest."

Whatever their destinations, it is evident that more and more people coping with autism will be making the journey through university. And though it will often be a difficult passage marked with frustration, as it has been for Claire, Jared and Dianne, chances are they will be the better for it. ♦

## Jane's diction Sassy but nothing's really shocking anymore

JANE MAGAZINE

by Marina Antunes

As of last September there is one more magazine to clutter the closets and coffee tables of women aged 15-30. But this one's a little different—it's actually good.

The creative team behind *Jane* is the same group that brought us the original cutting edge style of *Sassy* magazine. Granted *Sassy* now sits with the current glut of nauseating crap such as *Teen*, *Seventeen* and *YM*. Thankfully, the creative team that originally made *Sassy* such a great success has infused that cutting edge style into *Jane*.

After reading *Jane*, most of the other mainstream, trend-setting magazines seem worthless. *Jane* covers all of the bases from health to fashion but does it with dignity and raciness. Behind the glossy layout and slick appearance are some interesting and informative articles.

In the November/December 1997 issue, the writers of *Jane* showed off both their hilarious and serious sides. In sections like "Dish", the reader is given Hollywood's inside scoop, but not in the kiss-ass manner practiced by other magazines. *Jane* kisses no one's ass. Instead, this mag chooses to treat celebs as regular people rather than bigger-than-life superstars.

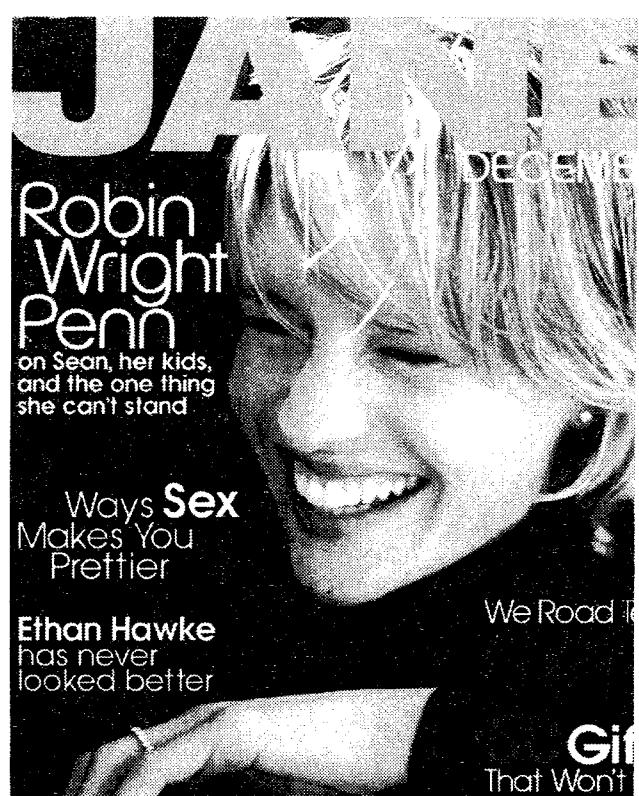
Also on a comic note, is a short article in the "Fashion Blender" section of the magazine. In "The Sidewalk is my Runway," Gigi Guerra tests the validity of runway fashion as wearable clothing by taking an outfit provided by designer Alexander McQueen onto the streets and observing the response.

And if that doesn't tickle your funny bone, check out "It's Hard to be a Woman" in which 26 year old "boxer-short-wearing, upright-peeing, dirty-toe-and-hang-nail kind of chump style guy," Tony Romando explains the hardships of being a female after spending a month, that's an entire 30 days, as a woman.

November/December's issue also proved to be a showcase of great writing talent. Susan Colón's interview with Robin Wright, a woman who takes crap from no one and refuses to cooperate with media, hints at the potential of the magazine. In a three page interview, Colón managed to get Wright to disclose information about her modeling career, her husband Sean Penn and her feelings toward being in the public eye, something she says that she never wanted to do. The magic is that Colón gets Wright to talk, something that other writers fail to do with celebs who enjoy the spotlight but who clam up when asked to talk about it.

Of course there are the standard make-up-tips stories that few women's magazines successfully hit the shelves without. These tips usually leave people feeling as if they need a professional make-up artist and a million bucks to make them useful. On top of that, most tips also suggest people need to wear makeup to cover up flaws that don't even exist! *Jane* provides easy to understand tips, that do not sell makeup as the salvation for "imperfect" women. Instead they show it as an art form that was created to accentuate or highlight a person's natural features.

And although *Jane* stories are not the underground topics that will revolutionise the way we view the world, their stories do take a new slant on some very old and tired topics.



Compared to the others there is one major difference: *Jane* has good writers with attitude. Omit the stories titled "Eight Ways Sex Makes You Prettier" and "A Therapy Victim shops for a shrink" and you're golden. ♦

## Anne Rice fiddles around from vampires to ghosts

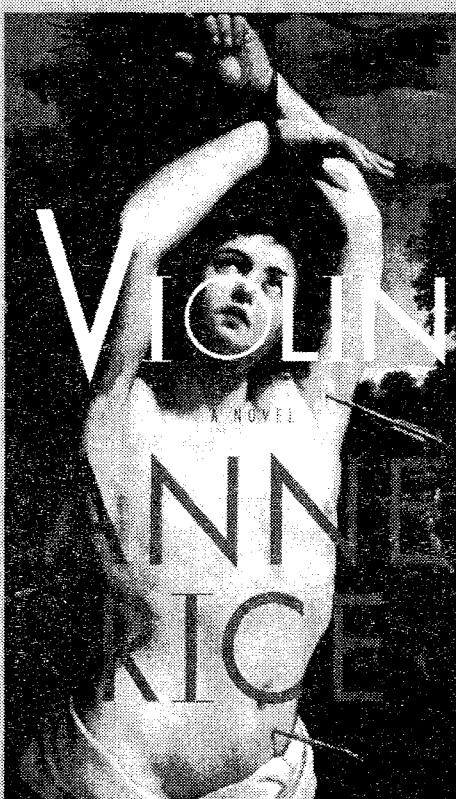
by Marina Antunes

Anne Rice  
VIOLIN  
[Knopf Canada]

While most of the really good material published each month remains largely unread and unheard of, except in "the literary underground," Anne Rice, the best-selling author of supernatural fiction plunges into the literary scene once again with her new novel *Violin*. It's already on the best-seller's list. Too bad it isn't worth \$32.95.

Rice does not return to her romantic vampires who earned her both a following and a fortune. Instead, she rekindles her recent love affair with ghosts.

Rice's narrative successfully weaves through both present and past, dream and reality, while telling the story of Triana, a woman cursed with misfortune and loss. From the death of Trianna's husband to the loss of her six year old daughter to cancer, the reader is whisked from



one tragedy to another. Triana also finds herself haunted by the death of her father and alcoholic mother as well as the loss of her first husband to her ex-best friend. Starting to feel like this is a soap opera script? Worry not. The plot doesn't get any juicier.

The plot not only confuses the reader, poor Triana is also befuddled by this mesh of problems. Unable to handle the pressures of her bleak reality, she seeks relief in classical music. Stefan, the ghost of a Russian aristocrat and selfish bastard who plays a mean, demonic fiddle, taps into Triana's grief and her love of the music he plays so well, to her mad.

In a spellbinding sequence of events, Rice takes Triana into Stefan's (Satan's) world as well as into her past and gives her the opportunity to rescue herself from an end she unknowingly created.

Although confusing at times and slow at others, *Violin* is Rice's richest work to date by far. Her trademark use of language and vocabulary reaches an all time best. It's unfortunate the story doesn't live up to the promise of her prose. This will be a great disappointment to fans. Rice could have spent her time rehashing an old story. Perhaps fans would then feel a little more satisfied. ♦

## Cathode Ray looks back in envy



CATHODE RAY  
self-titled

My first impression upon spinning Cathode Ray's debut CD was that singer Richard Reagh sounds an awful lot like Neil Young. It opens with a strong, catchy powerpop song, vaguely reminiscent of the B-52's which promises more hard-ass excitement than the rest of the CD actually delivers. This is not to suggest, however that, musically, the rest of the CD is uninteresting.

Cathode Ray have somehow managed to combine a slow, almost mellow jazz-like funk with the driving, rough-around-the-edges rhythm guitar *de rigueur* for any serious band in the post-Grunge 90s. There is also the odd Down-Under element operating within the Cathode Ray context—the song "Memphis" for example, could easily relocate to a Midnight Oil CD without exciting the notice of your average punter of the Aussie persuasion.

In a strange, almost dreamy kind of way, Cathode Ray's moody-melancholic music has achieved the sort of lazy introspection once, long, long ago, the preserve of Neil Young, way back when he still was. ♦

Andy Barham

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Panelists: Arnab Guha, University Forum  
Jonathan Oppenheim, APEC Alert  
Martha Piper, President, UBC  
Wesley Pue, Professor, Faculty of Law

# Hockey Birds hope new year brings playoffs

by Wolf Depner

It appears to prevail as the UBC hockey team heads into the second half of the season, still chasing its first playoff spot in eight seasons.

The Birds have reasons to be confident. UBC is unbeaten over the past three games and finished the holiday exhibition schedule with a 2-1 record. UBC's best game came against division rival Calgary, whom they beat 4-3 in overtime to claim the Father Bauer tournament for the third time in ten years.

"It is good to get back at them," said forward Chris Low, who scored the overtime goal. "It was a good combination," said UBC head coach Mike Coffin. "It was meaningful and the way we won is something to build on."

While the victory did not count in the Canada West standings where UBC trails the Lethbridge Pronghorns by one point for the final playoff spot, it gave UBC a much needed boost of confidence.

"But this is not the time to be complacent," Coffin said. UBC has after all lost four out of its last six games that do matter.

All losses came against weaker teams, at least on paper, if not on ice. "I think we get up more for the stronger teams than for the so-called 'weaker sisters,'" explained Low. He has a point. UBC has played well against Edmonton and Calgary, but it does not justify the team's horrid play against the likes of Brandon and Regina.

Low's theory will be tested over the next three weeks. UBC will host western division-leading Alberta this weekend, then travel to second-placed Lethbridge before East-division leading Calgary, before East-division leading Saskatchewan comes to town.

The three teams combine for a .690 winning percentage.

Lethbridge opens the second half with games against Manitoba, Regina, and Brandon—a sad lot considering they have a grand .369 winning percentage.

Everybody knows what's on the line and there is a good chance UBC could trail Lethbridge by much more than one point when the Birds travel to Lethbridge at month's end.

But Coffin does not see the next three weeks as a make-it-or-break type situation. "You don't judge it until it is done," he said. "If we are thinking playoffs, we better put that out of our minds and start thinking day to day. We're reminded in November, the most important is the next one."

The next two against the Alberta Golden Bears are as big as they get. "We always want to beat the Golden Bears," said Low. "You ask any guy in that locker room and he will say 'bring them on.' Be careful what you wish for—last season the Bears brought it on right, as they swept, no, destroyed UBC, winning both games by a 17-2 score.

But the Birds are a better team this year and more importantly, they are healthy heading into the second half.

Winger Corey Stock and centre/winger Geoff Lynch are back in the lineup and they seem to have found their stride after injury. Stock, who had a terrible first half and suffered a broken bone in his right hand, played with the same grit and drive he displayed last year when he was the team's leading scorer.

Lynch, who scored seven goals before dislocating his left knee, had a goal and two assists in his first two games back, a 6-4 win and a 3-3 tie over Mount Royal College.

The Birds also added two forwards to the roster over the holidays—winger 6'1", 195 pound Brad English and 6'2", 210 pound centre Ben Hoy. Both come from the

NCAA and add size. "That's a quality we need in our forwards," Coffin said. But it is clear they still need to get in game shape.

When they do, they are expected to help in the goals-for-column, where UBC ranks third-worst in the Canada West.

UBC, 5-8-1 on the season, lost four games by one goal and the Birds can't seem to get timely goals late in the game, a trend that has carried from last season.

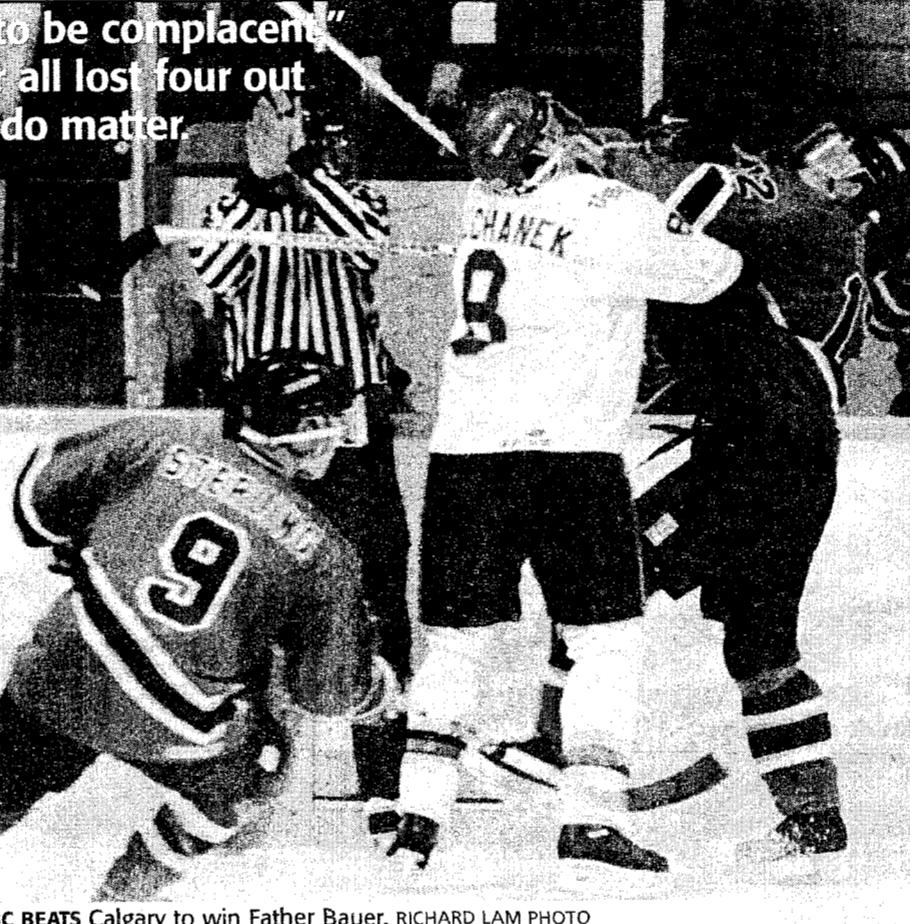
When UBC is tied or leads after two periods, the Birds are only 4-5-1. "Those were the situations we would have liked to have been better in and if we had, we would be in a much better situation," Coffin said.

UBC's poor offensive production overshadows the fact UBC has the second-lowest goals against total in the league. Defensive zone coverage has been good and goaltending has been outstanding, if not spectacular. Dave Trofimoff was the Father Bauer tournament MVP and has a 3.19 goals-against average in 21 games.

Jon Sikkema gets the job done when called upon and continues to split playing time with Trofimoff. Coffin said he will alternate between Trofimoff and Sikkema, but promised to stick with whoever has the hot hand.

Coffin also stressed team discipline as a key to success as the playoffs draw near. "When your team has trouble scoring, discipline needs to give you an edge," Coffin said.

In a playoff race that may be decided sooner rather than later, the Birds need every edge they can get a hold of. ♦



UBC BEATS Calgary to win Father Bauer. RICHARD LAM PHOTO

by Wolf Depner

Geoff Lynch, UBC's top centre, is used to plenty of ice time. This past Friday night, his first game back from a dislocated left knee, he logged only 12 minutes. That was just fine with him.

"I'm a little bit tired, but it is to be expected," he said after UBC beat the Mount Royal College Cougars 6-4 in exhibition action. "The hands were not quite there, but it felt alright."

Lynch's return to UBC's lineup could not have come at a better time. As UBC tries to make the playoffs for the first time in eight years (the Birds trail Lethbridge by one point

back on the ice.

Playing without a set pair of wingers, Lynch tried to make the most out of his limited playing time by throwing his weight around. He also had a handful of chances, but missed the biggest one when he put the puck over the cross bar from four feet out.

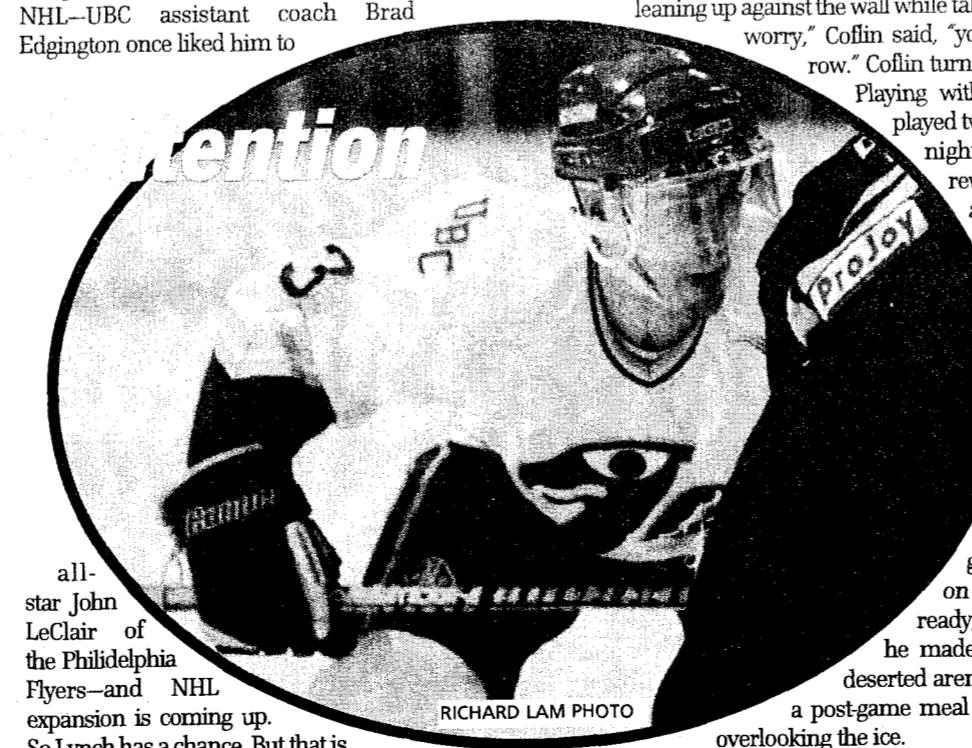
Lynch did manage a point when he assisted on Low's wrap-around that made it 6-4 UBC. All this left Lynch winded.

As coach Coffin left the locker room, he noticed Lynch leaning up against the wall while talking to a visitor. "Don't worry," Coffin said, "you'll feel better tomorrow." Coffin turned out to be prophetic.

Playing with more jump, Lynch played twenty minutes the next night. His efforts were rewarded with an assist and goal, all coming in the first period, as UBC tied Mount Royal 3-3. The draw extended UBC's unbeaten streak to three games and the Birds appear confident as they make a run for the playoffs.

After Saturday's game, Lynch reflected on what lies. "We'll be ready," he stated quietly as he made his way through the deserted arena to join teammates in a post-game meal held in the restaurant overlooking the ice.

Lynch proved he is. In the future and on Friday night, he was just happy to be



RICHARD LAM PHOTO

the national team, coached by former UBC head coach Doug Reimer. "National team was really fun," Ross said. "I can take from the international experience and apply it down here, trying to make people around me better and hopefully, help the whole team improve. I am glad to be back," she said.

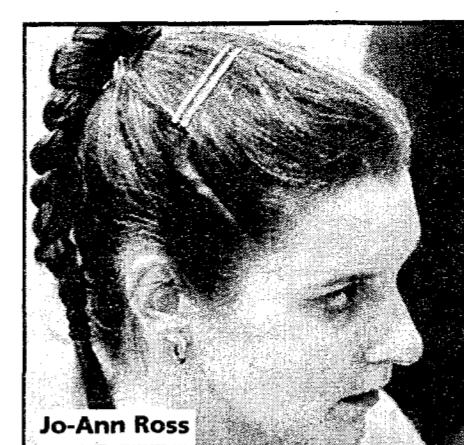
So are her teammates, none more than Maxwell, currently bothered by a sore right shoulder injury stemming from overuse.

The 6'4" Ross will not only help blocking up front, she will also add variety to UBC's attack that has relied way too much on Maxwell and fellow powerhitter Barb Bellini.

"I hope so, that would be nice," quipped Maxwell before Tuesday's practice.

With Ross back in the lineup, Russo said UBC will run a faster offense. But right now, Ross is only a force-in-waiting. She is still recovering from a knee scope she underwent over the holidays, and may not see any floor time this weekend when the Birds host Calgary.

Russo said she will not force Ross' return.



by Wolf Depner

The women's volleyball team had a pretty good first term. Head coach Erminia Russo wants the second one to be even better.

Russo publicly challenged her team this week, saying the players need "to work harder more often" in the second half of the sea-

son. Power hitter Sarah Marwell echoed the sentiment, saying the team lacked "heart in certain games" during the first half of the season.

♦

These comments are somewhat surprising considering they come from a team that is not struggling, but ranks first in the nation. Indeed, UBC won its first eleven games to start the season. "It would have been really nice to come into the break undefeated," Russo said. "But I also know that some of the wins were close. We squeaked through. I think this term is going to be way, way tougher than the first term."

Good thing then middle Jo-Ann Ross is back with the team.

An all-star, Ross spent the last term with

People were gung-ho about it, but I think people have just lost interest," Philip added.

Spectrum estimated the ten Western Canadian schools would have roughly the same number of sports fans—and as large a market—as one major US school, like Penn State south of the border.

Three years ago, Penn State signed on with Nike, a deal estimated to be worth millions.

Canada West schools will discuss the future of the sportswear deal again when they meet in February. "I think it'll be revived, but I am not sure what the time line will be," Philip said.

UBC spokesperson Paula Martin said UBC is still interested in forming a partnership with other schools and Philip added UBC is ready to take a leadership role.

Philip said one potential partnership could involve only the six Canada West schools coming together to strike a deal with a sportswear company. Another involves only UBC, UVIC, SFU, and Trinity Western University.

When asked if UBC Athletics will attempt to negotiate its own, exclusive footwear deal Philip said "We'll pursue it, [but] only if the business relations office agrees."

"And I'm not sure right now of the climate for being involved in the short term with a footwear sponsor," Philip added. "Right now, we're involved with several companies and people don't seem to object to that type of situation. But when you all of the sudden decide to be linked to one, then it seems to generate some concern."

Martin said UBC will explore the possibility of striking its own deal, but only if all other options are exhausted. ♦

## Troubled hoop team faces tough test

by Bruce Arthur

From the outside, it may appear as if the UBC men's basketball is reeling dangerously.

Problems are piling up like rotting pumpkins on November 1st, and the Birds look as though they may be poised to take a dive down the Canada West standings.

UBC has lost five games in a row leading back to late November, and the troubles don't end there. There have been rumblings of frustration within the team at the mounding hurdles, and some players haven't been able to adjust to the realities of this talent-thin era in UBC basketball.

This is a program that won the Canada West two years ago, and probably should have last year. That UBC has to substitute sheer extra effort for their overall drop in talent has been an unwelcome adjustment for veterans and youngsters alike.

First-year post Mikkel Hansen, plagued by injuries all season, is the second big man to quit the team this year. As a consequence, UBC is down to nine roster players.

Head coach Rich Chambers has had to recruit players just to practice with the team—Tuesday night's practice with former Bird Dave Buchanan was the Birds first full-scale practice in seven weeks. Former Lethbridge star Barnaby Craddock has also joined some workouts, which should at least offer a good test for Chambers' guard corps.

So where is this team headed?

Well, with an overall record of 8-8 (3-3 in the Canada West), all is not as bleak as it seems.

Three of those five straight losses have been to national champs Victoria, and two of those were by a combined nine points. The other two losses were by four points to the Seattle Blue Angels and by eight points to SFU.

Ask Chambers how he feels about his team after this weekend's two-game road tilt with the Lethbridge Pronghorns, who are 6-0 in the CW and are averaging a dazzling 98 points per game.

"I think Lethbridge is the best team in the Canada West," he said. "They'll give us more problems than [6-0] Victoria." When asked why, Chambers pointed to their supercharged style of play. "Lethbridge runs nonstop, and that will test us." With UBC's increasingly suspect depth, Chambers said UBC will suffer in a helter-skelter track meet style of game.

But he also believes if the Birds can stay within their disciplined system and maintain their collective cool, UBC could steal one or even two wins.

But given the fact Lethbridge has a reputation of a road stop where the referees practically sit in on the Pronghorn huddle to discuss strategy, the possibility of seven straight losses is a very real one.

Chambers' prime concern is how his charges respond to this tough road—the wins and losses aren't the be-all and end-all. "Hey, we don't have to beat Lethbridge, or Victoria, or Alberta," he said. "We just have to beat out Calgary and Saskatchewan to get into the playoffs, and then we can do anything."

The Lethbridge series will definitely be a measuring stick as to where Birds stand in the Canada West scheme of things, but their home series against Alberta January 16th and 17th should be even more revealing—Alberta is the team that UBC may have to beat out for third place in the playoff pool.

So who does UBC want to play come-postseason Lethbridge or Victoria? That question should be answered—at least in part—this weekend. ♦

# Ubyssey Publications Society 1998 Board of Directors Elections

The Ubyssey Publications Society is the organization responsible for publishing UBC's official student newspaper, *the Ubyssey*. Its membership consists of all UBC students who have not opted out of membership in September by completing an opt-out form. Members are eligible to run for, and vote in, Board Elections.

The Board of Directors oversees the administrative and business aspects of the paper including advertising, marketing, distribution, the budget and finances, meetings of the Society, and management of employees.

The Board is not, however, involved in the editorial aspects of the paper. The editorial policy and content of the paper is determined by the editorial board of the paper, elected by the Staff in March of each year. To become a staff member, those interested need to contribute to three issues of the *Ubyssey* and attend regular staff meetings in order to get voting rights and the right to run for an editorial position.

**Term is January 98- January 99.** Directors attend approximately 20 Board Meetings throughout the year in addition to serving on Board Committees. No previous experience with newspapers or the UPS is required.

The positions up for election are **the President and 4 Directors at Large**.

Nomination forms are available at the Ubyssey Business office, SUB 245. Completed forms must be returned by 4:00 pm Friday, January 9, 1998.

Elections will be held in conjunction with the AMS Executive, UBC Board of Governors, and Senate Elections, January 19 to 23, 1998.

For more information contact Melany Lund, UPS Chief Returning Officer at 822-6681

# Bleek says support the true alternative culture

SPECK

by Alison Cole

Looking for a quick read and a somewhat amusing 'zine *écriture Speck* provides a fair dose of your average indie band interviews, inch-long music, 'zine and book reviews, and the occasional stolen newspaper article.

Interspersed among a generous variety of advertisements, ranging from other home-made magazines to ads for 'The Catalogue of Carnage' ('real human skulls, bones, serial

killers...') and "The Journal of the Church of Euthanasia," this 'zine oozes a personality of cynicism, slackerism and sly humour. It's entertaining to read the primitively profane vernacular of a conversation with the California punk band "Twisted Nixon," as well as to read about the demented morales of US soldiers in Korea in the story "G.I. Gripp."

"Bleek," the author of the 'zine, who hails from Merritt, BC, also uses *Speck* as a vehicle for the programme schedule of his pirate

radio station MFCR. In addition, an article about Free Radio strongly endorses the pirate "industry" and calls the CRTC "the Canadian version of your protection from free speech." Oh, and there is a "How Awful Is the Radio in Your City?" quiz to take, which marks the phrase "Classic Rock" used in any way as a bad thing, and a DJ coughing and sneezing on the mic as a good thing.

While plagued by the eyesores of some really bad comics and one-inch column wide articles in 8-point font, the reading of *Speck*

proves to be amusing but also enlightening. After all, where else would you learn that cat urine glows in black light, that no word in the English language rhymes with 'month' (I unsuccessfully tried to prove this wrong), and that the Boston University Bridge is the only place in the world where a boat can sail under a train driving under a car driving under an airplane? Read this 'zine, and Bleek says you'll be supporting the *true* alternative culture. His or her address is Box 556, Merritt, BC V1K 1B8.♦

# Stories your mother would love

STORIES TO HIDE FROM YOUR MOTHER

by Tess Fragoulis

[Arsenal Pulp Press]

by Penny Cholmondeley

Your pulse races. Your palms sweat. You open the cover of *Stories to Hide From Your Mother* by Tess Fragoulis, ready to be stimulated. But what you find inside isn't your run of the mill moaning and groaning erotica. What you get instead is a collection of witty and imaginative tales that peek into the fantasies of some very interesting characters.

The subject matter (broken relationships, affairs gone sour) is not new. Fragoulis' approach is. She focuses on and somehow puts to paper daydreams and emotions usually left unspoken. One tale involves an older woman, who while waiting for the bus, creates a series of imaginary encounters with a young man she sees everyday. One young woman relives her childhood fear the spider she sucked up with the vacuum will lay eggs and its offspring will vengefully hunt her down. An abandoned lover wan-

ders the streets, finding release, but not comfort in a single lustful encounter.

Fragoulis' erotic and jarring imagery reminds the reader of those moments when they themselves have been unwillingly exposed. As Fragoulis composes short stories ranging in tone from whimsical to serious and introspective, she demonstrates control of her medium. Her short stories don't try to be more than what they are—brief but concise glimpses into a scene or moment in time. There is no pretense, just an observation of the fear and mystery surrounding sexuality.

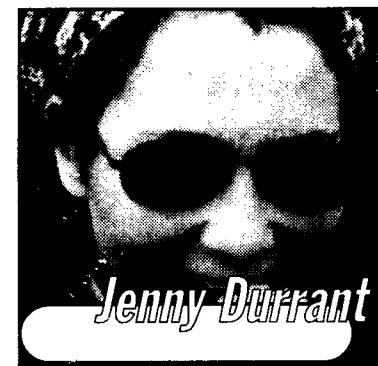
However, while her characters slide comfortably into the settings she creates, they are also a source of weakness in the collection. It is as if the same character is moving from story to story, changing names but not personality.

Yet what Fragoulis lacks in character development, she makes up for in style. She shocks, and still follows through.

A story about a cannibalistic mother starts by hinting at a gruesome ending, but develops into a story about an uncon-

ventional woman's confinement in playing the role of mother.

While you might want to call this a feminist collection, it's not really necessary. Fragoulis is not out to change your politics, she's out to entertain. Yes, her characters are often strong, independent women. And yes, they are ultimately the masters of their fate, but they get carried away by their passions also. But don't read too much into it. Enjoy the sensations and images the author creates and, while you're at it, share it with your mother.♦



WHEN I SAY NINE O'CLOCK  
I NEED TO MEAN IT  
by Jenny Durrant  
[Smoking Lung Press]

by Tom Peacock

A bizarre love triangle is the story Jenny Durrant weaves for the

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**THE UBC HUMANISTS' SOCIETY**  
**Religion and Equality: Are They Compatible?**  
 by John Westwood (Exec. Director, BC Civil Liberties Association). Free Donuts!  
 •12:30, Jan 13, Scarfe 206.



UB/SSEY FILE/ADAM BRADLEY PHOTO

## Rule of law violated

by W. Wesley Pue

A group of dictators who controlled some of the most powerful economies in the world came to Canada recently. Many returned to basket-case economies, having shared their political values with Canada's leaders. It was not a good exchange.

Though media attention focussed on police brutality the public should be concerned about matters bigger than low-level thuggery.

The right of free citizens to peacefully express opinion on all and any matters is the hallmark of free society. It is the foundation on which Canadian constitutionalism rests.

Though any government can properly decide not to raise human rights concerns in multilateral economic discussions, it is a very different matter to decree that no Canadian citizen in the line-of-sight of APEC leaders may hold a banner or shout a slogan.

The former is within the range of lawful political judgment. The latter is not.

Beyond free expression, two other rights are fundamental. In free societies any person may do anything not expressly prohibited by law. Second, "no man can be punished, or can be lawfully made to suffer either in his body or in his goods, except for a distinct breach of law established in the ordinary legal manner before the ordinary courts." (Lord Hewart.)

Imagine two possible lines of authority:

Line A: Prime Minister-flunkie's decree-police-truncheon-citizen  
 Line B: Constitution-Queen in Parliament-police-courts-citizen

The second is a short-form expression of the Rule of Law. The first, not to put too fine a point on it, is dictatorship. This is so even when assault by noxious chemical ("pepper spray") and plastic handcuffs strand in for the truncheon of old.

Now, imagine an Act of Parliament enacting that no poster which is displeasing to the Prime Minister shall be displayed within his view, or perhaps, that no one within 100 meters should utter words displeasing to a Canadian politician. No constitutionally-minded Commons, Senate, or Governor-General would approve it. If enacted, any such statute would be struck down by any court in Canada—without second thought.

No attempt to justify draconian measures on the grounds that certain words might cause offense to foreign despots (if that were the case) could confer the dignity of legal justification under the terms of the Charter, within the spirit of a free and democratic society (Constitution Act, 1981), or under a constitution similar in principle to that of the United Kingdom (Constitution Act, 1867). Freedom is not made of such material.

Now, it is an elementary legal principle that, if the Queen in Parliament is prohibited from doing something, so too are her ministers, "executive assistants", and police.

All of these features of the Rule of Law were violated when APEC came to UBC. It may or may not be the case that federal officials insisted on a "no poster" policy. Policing perimeters at the University were however clearly designed to conceal any sign of criticism. Dictators, perpetrators of genocide, were protected from Canadian speech (not mob violence). A *cordon sanitaire* protected their sensibilities, not their bodies. Our leaders' apparent willingness to violate the spirit on which constitutional freedom rests is no small matter.

Some of the post-APEC accounts of Police/Political behaviour are, if verifiable, scandalous:

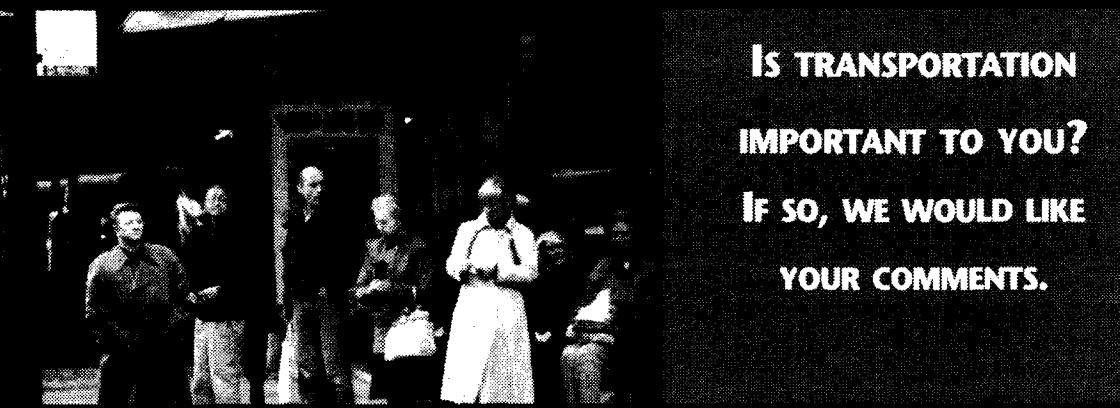
- 1) a student arrested for holding a smallish sign saying "free speech";
- 2) a lawyer/graduate student prohibited by police from posting signs around Green College, told this was on orders from the "PMO" and that, if she persisted, police would "think of" a charge after arresting her;
- 3) the obstruction of Graduate Student Society President Kevin Dwyer's attempt to fly a flag on a building far from (but within sight of) the APEC meeting;
- 4) a demonstration organiser arrested for "assault by megaphone" (look that up in the Criminal Code!) which took place some weeks earlier;
- 5) the use of pepper spray to punish.

Substantial issues lurk behind "bad cops."

The seeming enthusiasm of our elected representatives to order the suspension of very fundamental rights should not be overlooked. These matters bear enquiry.

**W. Wesley Pue is a Professor of Law at UBC and has set up a website dealing with the police actions during the APEC meeting.**  
[www.law.ubc.ca/links/apec97/index.html](http://www.law.ubc.ca/links/apec97/index.html)

## TRANSPORTATION: ARE WE ON BOARD?



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- ◆ co-ordinate and deliver bus, rail and SkyTrain transit services to double transit capacity by 2008
- ◆ co-ordinate and fund a network of major roads
- ◆ provide a wider range of transit services
- ◆ complete Broadway-Lougheed-Coquitlam-New Westminster Light Rail Transit system
- ◆ support carpool and vanpool programs.

### THIS CAN BE ACHIEVED WITHOUT:

- ◆ increasing residential property tax
- ◆ expanding bureaucracy
- ◆ duplicating municipal functions.

### HOW TRANSPORTATION IMPROVEMENTS WOULD BE PAID FOR

#### TRANSFER EXISTING REVENUE SOURCES FROM THE PROVINCE OF B.C.

- Transit fares
- Portion of gas tax
- \$1.90 BC Hydro levy
- Non-residential property tax
- West Coast Express revenues
- Parking sales taxes

**TO THE GREATER VANCOUVER TRANSPORTATION AUTHORITY**

### PUBLIC MEETINGS

**You are invited to attend a public meeting that will be hosted by the Transportation and Strategic Planning Committee of the GVRD.**

#### EVENINGS: 6:30 P.M. - 9 P.M.

Speaker registration 6:30 - 7 p.m.  
 Presentations 7 - 9 p.m.

#### January 7th: North Vancouver

Lonsdale Quay Hotel, 123 Carrie Cates Court

#### January 8th: Port Moody

City Hall, 100 Newport Drive

#### January 13th: Vancouver

Roundhouse Community Centre, 181 Roundhouse Mews

#### January 20th: New Westminster

Justice Institute, 715 McBride Boulevard

#### January 21st: Richmond

Richmond Inn, 7551 Westminster Highway

#### January 28th: Langley

Langley Senior Resources Society, 20605 - 51B Avenue

#### SATURDAY MORNINGS: 9:30 A.M. - NOON

Speaker registration 9:30 - 10 a.m.  
 Presentations 10 a.m. - noon

#### January 10th: Maple Ridge

Old Library, 11973 Haney Place (Upper Level)

#### January 17th: North Delta

Pinewood Leisure Centre, 11777 Pinewood Drive

#### NOTE TO PRESENTERS:

To make a presentation, please register in advance by calling 432-6339 or, register at the event between 6:30 and 7 p.m. for evening meetings and between 9:30 and 10 a.m. for Saturday meetings. Presentations should be kept to five minutes.

#### Written submissions can be sent to:

GVRD Transportation and Strategic Planning Committee  
 Communications and Education Department  
 4330 Kingsway, Burnaby, V5H 4G8. Deadline - Jan. 30/98.

For more information call 432-6339 or visit the GVRD web site at: [www.gvrd.bc.ca/archive/planning/pr/tranpln.html](http://www.gvrd.bc.ca/archive/planning/pr/tranpln.html)



# Muslims fasting for Ramadhan

by Dwi Faulus

For Muslims around the world, the end of year 1997 marks the beginning of the month-long fast of Ramadhan. Ramadhan, which begins about 11 days earlier each year, is the month on the Islamic lunar calendar during which Muslims abstain completely from food, drinks, and other sensual pleasures from break of dawn to sunset. Along with the declaration of faith, daily prayers, charity and pilgrimage to Mecca, it is one of the five pillars of Islam.

Fasting is compulsory for those who are mentally and physically fit, past the age of puberty, not traveling and are sure fasting is unlikely to cause real physical or mental injury. Those who are sick, pregnant women, women who are nursing babies or who are menstruating are among those exempt from fasting and must make up the missed days at another time.

For Muslims, Ramadhan is a time of remembrance, a time to give thanks to Allah (the Arabic word for the Almighty God) for what we've been given. It's also a time to contemplate about God and the universe and your place in it. Fasting will increase one's sincerity to Allah, strengthening the relationship between the human being and the creator, a sense of self-purification and renewed focused spirituality. It is also during this month that Muslims are encouraged to remember the poor and needy more by paying the poor due of this month and by inviting them to meals.

Muslims also appreciate the feeling of togetherness shared by family and friends throughout the month. The practical benefits lies in the yearly lesson in self-restraint, discipline, patience, and unselfish-

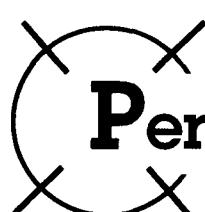
ness that can carry forward to other aspects of a Muslim's life such as work and education.

The end of Ramadhan is marked by the feast of fast-breaking called Eid ul-Fitr, one of the two major Muslim holidays besides the Pilgrimage one, Eid ul-Adha. It begins with special congregational morning prayers on the first day of Shawwal, the month following Ramadhan and lasts for three days. During Eid, Muslims greet each other with the phrase "Eid Mubarak" (edd-moo-bar-ak) which means "May God accept from us and you." Eid is as important to Muslims as Christmas and Yom Kippur are to Christians and Jews. Therefore, it is very important that Muslim workers and students be given time to attend Eid prayers. For non-Muslims who want to share the celebration, they can congratulate their fellow Muslims with a small token such as a card or simply by saying "Happy Eid."

The Muslim Students Association of UBC organises a series of events during Ramadhan for Muslim students on campus such as the daily taraweeh, weekly iftar gatherings, and public speakers. MSA-UBC is an AMS constituted club and the only student organisation on campus that among other things, serves the cause of Islam and present Islam to both Muslims and non-Muslims and promotes friendly relations and understanding between them. For further information about Ramadhan, visit the MSA-UBC web site at: <http://www.cs.ubc.ca/spider/faulus/MSA-UBC/msapage.html> or send e-mail to [msa-ubc@cs.ubc.ca](mailto:msa-ubc@cs.ubc.ca)

*Dwi Faulus is a representative of the Muslim Students Association of UBC.*

send your letters, perspectives, rants and insults to the *Ubyssey* in SUB 241K



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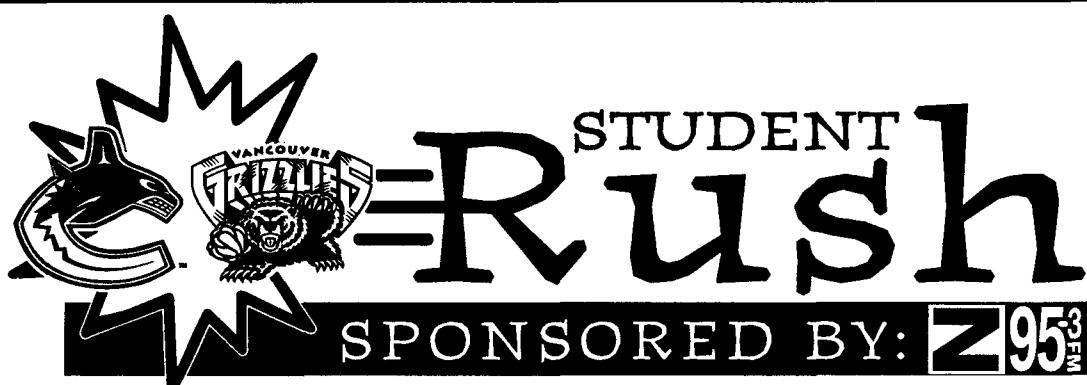
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Grizzlies vs. Minnesota Timberwolves

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**Sports**

Wolf Depner

**National/Features**

Jamie Woods

**Photo**

Richard Lam

**Production**

Federico Barahona

*The Ubyssey* is the official student newspaper of the University of British Columbia. It is published every Tuesday and Friday by The Ubyssey Publications Society.

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

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

*The Ubyssey* is a founding member of Canadian University Press (CUP) and firmly adheres to CUP's guiding principles.

All editorial content appearing in *The Ubyssey* is the property of The Ubyssey Publications Society. Stories, opinions, photographs and artwork contained herein cannot be reproduced without the expressed, written permission of The Ubyssey Publications Society.

**Letters to the editor** must be under 300 words. Please include your phone number, student number and signature (not for publication) as well as your year and faculty with all submissions. ID will be checked when submissions are dropped off at the editorial office of *The Ubyssey*, otherwise verification will be done by phone. "Perspectives" are opinion pieces over 300 words but under 750 words and are run according to space.

"Freestyles" are opinion pieces written by Ubyssey staff members. Priority will be given to letters and perspectives over freestyles unless the latter is time sensitive. Opinion pieces will not be run until the identity of the writer has been verified.

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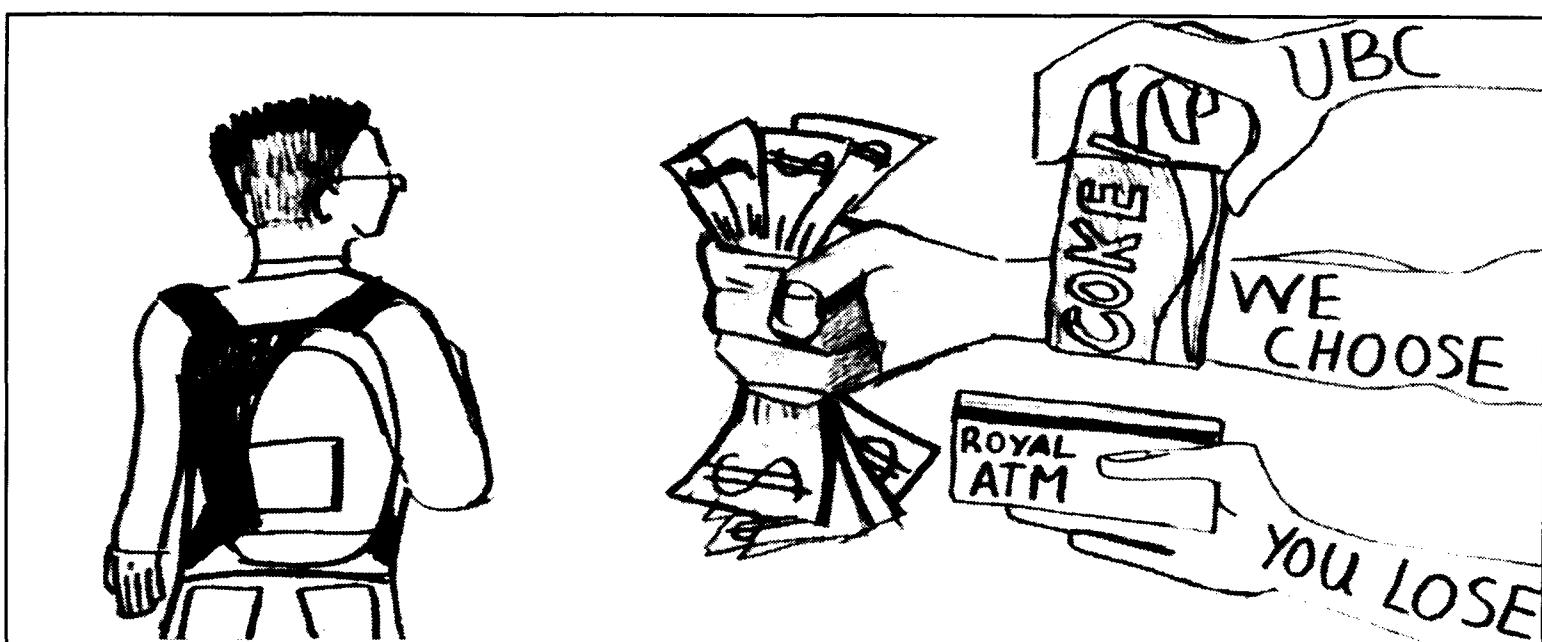
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**Business Manager**

Fernie Pereira  
**Ad Design**  
Afshin Mehnin

When Joe Clark and Sarah Galashan showed up at the reunion together everybody gasped. Chris Nuttall-Smith had been suspicious for years, but Jamie Woods had never guessed it for a second. Richelle Rae also caught people by surprise. She looked more like Federico Barahona than Richard Lam had back in the late 1990s. Wolf Depner hadn't changed a wit. His hair had gotten greyer and his ulcers had ulcers of their own. John Zaozirny whispered to Todd Silver that he still thought Doug Quan was the first candidate for a stress-induced heart attack. Marina Atunes had done a great job contacting all the old hacks, and Charlie Cho made sure to recognise her efforts with a big wet kiss after he gave a toast. Sarah O'Donnell and Ian Gunn were as usual, proving that deadlines still were of little concern, even 20 years later. Scott Hayward, tragically, showed up wearing tight, neon blue leather pants. Matt Thompson just shook his head and bought Ron Nurwisah a beer – just in time for his 21st birthday. Everyone agreed Dale Lum and Dhalia Merzibean had aged better than Michael McGowan. Casey Sedgman didn't look a day over 75. Andy Barham showed up with all of his identical septuplets in tow. Penny Cholmondeley won the "most likely to show up to the 20 year reunion" prize; but Tom Peacock had to accept on her behalf, simply because she and Bruce Arthur were on assignment in Chris Tenove's backyard.



# Have we got a(nother) deal for you

There's a thicker edge to the corporate sponsorship wedge at UBC since December 11, when the university's Board of Governors endorsed a landmark banking monopoly deal for campus.

Details of the pact (hush hush with UBC and banking officialdom) are starting to spill *the Ubyssey's* way, and they suggest this deal is about more than just sugar and water. Your university (it is yours, after all) has just traded a monopoly over one of Vancouver's richest captive markets (you) for a sizable cash kick-back.

If that doesn't sound familiar, it should. The university is basically following the precedent it set for itself a couple of years ago when it inked a deal with the makers of everybody's favourite soft drink. The added wrinkle this time around is that the university is *also* committed, in writing to *promoting* the deal and its supposed benefits to students, faculty and staff.

The university euphemistically calls that commitment "communicating with students about the benefits of the partnership," so that students—always in need of direction—can

decide whether to keep their money safe with the Hong Kong or Royal Banks.

But in a highly confidential and closed meeting, UBC's Board of Governors was told what it really means: UBC just got into the business of hawking bank accounts and mutual funds. Objections from four of the governors were dismissed.

The university's business relations department was less careful with its choice of words in minutes of a meeting between business relations and AMS officials. In its proposal that the student union sign its own deal with the Royal and Hong Kong banks, business relations said discussions with the banks "would include determining the AMS' potential financial benefits for marketing the program to students." In other words, the AMS would not be denied its own chance to haggle over the size of its *own* chunk of change.

The Royal and Hong Kong Banks now have a lock on every area of campus besides the SUB. And the banks have plans to buy off the student union and to buy out the leases it con-

trols—most notably the Bank of Montreal branch in the SUB basement. The university is all too eager to help.

In another highly confidential meeting, Business Relations head Peter Ufford convinced BoG the Bank of Montreal really wants to take a buyout. Stripped of their prime responsibility (the university millions), the Bank of Montreal will be evaluating their usefulness on campus in the coming months, vowed Ufford.

There is one last stand left to preserve some choice for students. The AMS, always here to serve students, has an opportunity to accept a lot of cash. But would they really be serving students by doing so? The inevitable result is that students will end up inconvenienced by a lack of choice or stuck with having to switch banks in order to avoid service charges, which, as we all know, can add up pretty damn fast.

If the AMS truly wants to serve students, bring the inevitable proposal from the banks to students. With an issue this big, let students vote on it. God knows the university won't.

## letters

### 85 cents a small price to pay

In a few days a referendum will be held on the UBC campus. In conjunction with the AMS elections, students will be asked to vote on a proposed increase in their student fees of eighty-five cents per annum to support the work of Pacific Spirit Family and Community Services. Pacific Spirit, an independent non-profit society, has been providing free counselling and community services to the over 800 families who live on the UBC campus for a decade now and as a former community member and a student parent who has been supported by this agency I would like to encourage UBC students to vote in support of this funding. Combining parenting with studying can be very stressful especially when a low income, new culture and family relocation is involved (as it often is). Pacific Spirit has provided me, and many other student families with the information, support and personal space they need to keep going with studying, parenting and personal relationships. However, as a non-profit society, they are constantly struggling to secure the funding necessary to continue these services. So please, VOTE YES during the week of January

19th. Eighty-five cents is a small price to pay for the valuable services this agency provides.

*Cindy Sutherland  
Pacific Spirit Staff*

### Roller coaster of a bike ride

The bicycle path along the University of British Columbia's Boulevard is dark and dangerously unpredictable. To a roller coaster junky the path compares to Disneyland's "Space Mountain": a roller coaster that takes you on a perilous ride through dark and tumbling tunnels. The only difference is that the bike path lacks a warning sign as you enter the University gate. *Caution: may cause extreme nausea and dizziness. Not suitable for those with heart condition...*

On my daily bicycle ride to and from UBC I have witnessed many a cyclist narrowly avoid death. As one dodges ditch and slippery patch of leaves along the narrow path, buses rumble by spraying sheets of cold mud and water from the water accumulated on the road. The road itself barely fits the width of the buses and I fear for those cyclists who, in their frustration with the bike path, risk life and limb for a smoother surface and ride their bikes amongst the heavy traffic.

This stretch of bike path is long overdue in need of repair. However, UBC, UEL, the golf club, and the Ministry of Transport have all informed me that they are not responsible for the upkeep of the path. This may be so... *a piece of free land just waiting for a taker...* it may also be that the owners are just not paying much heed to me—a lone caller—pestering them with my concerns. At this point, it looks as if it is going to take a serious injury and a lawsuit to repave the bicycle path to UBC.

*Emma MacEntee*

### UBC no place for ignorance

This letter has been written to address some concerns I've had regarding a few of the letters in recent issues of *the Ubyssey*. These letters had little in common except that in each the author tried in some way to encourage or extol ignorance. They came from students who were upset about the way in which the APEC protesters had tried to involve them and tell them about the protest.

A Ms. Luebkemann objects chiefly to the APEC-Alert tactic of making announcements to class during class time, claiming that in some way APEC-Alert is "imposing

its ideals" on her and others "who may not want to know."

The imposition of ideals is a tricky and difficult business requiring extensive time and effort: try talking to Forestry students before and after they've been schooled, or try reading *"A Clockwork Orange."*

As for those "who may not want to know," how can anyone tell what they do or do not want until they've been exposed? Or does one just know that when issues one certainly does not want to know when much of that suffering is caused, directly or indirectly, by our own actions and policies?

I respect and admire a devotion to school, but I am appalled at the idea that there are those who hold ignorance as an ideal. In Arabic there is a word that can be translated best as "seeker of knowledge," the English word "student" might have that connotation but that's obviously not necessarily true.

Ms. Luebkemann claims to respect Free Speech as guaranteed by the Constitution, but it seems she'd like to decide how and where.

Mr. Jeff Valance states at the end of his letter that he's "glad it's over." What's over? APEC continues and hopefully so does social activism at UBC.

*Chris Wulff*

## An open letter to Martha Piper

I have included the text of a letter written on November 25 and circulated to several colleagues for their review on the 26. I thought seeing it might give you some satisfaction.

I am very impressed by your quick action evidenced by your message concerning APEC, late Wednesday. I applaud your concern, which is terribly important. It is important for the university to take a pro-active role in dealing with the issues of free speech.

I am writing because I know of your concern for the welfare of the students of the University of British Columbia.

During the recent events organised by our students to raise concern about the APEC meeting a number of events were reported in which it appears that excessive force was used on our students by the security imposed on the campus. These include unwarranted arrests which could and may have threatened the health of a peacefully demonstrating student.

I realise that the security was not organised by UBC, however these are our students. The university should see as part of its responsibility, the representation of their rights while on our campus.

"Now that the protests are over, I request that the University investigate the events during November 24 and 25, to determine whether the rights and welfare of the students were threatened. The University should publicise the results of this investigation. Furthermore the University should establish guidelines for acceptable imposition of security on campus lands. Such guidelines may imply that events requiring the type of security seen over that last two days are inappropriate for a free and open campus."

**Dr. George B. Spiegelman,**  
Professor Microbiology and  
Immunology

## UBC admin callous and hypocritical

I am writing to express my deep concern over the university administration's decision to allow this campus to be used for the recent APEC meeting.

Universities are both a symbol and a locus of free speech. University students are encouraged to question, explore, and debate. The very nature of scholarship, research, and learning often involves challenging the status quo.

And yet, UBC allowed onto this campus the leaders of several governments which systematically suppress freedom of thought and speech through the use of torture, imprisonment without fair trial, exile, and execution. As you are aware, these practices contravene the Universal Declaration of Human Rights, to which Canada is a signatory.

The UBC administration's decision to allow these leaders onto campus without a word of official protest at their activities, strikes me as callous and hypocritical.

Your office recently issued a

statement that UBC "upholds the rights of all to express their views freely and engage in peaceful demonstrations." However, I believe that UBC has broken faith with students in other countries who are suffering and dying precisely because they have tried to exercise those rights.

Moreover, UBC's decision to allow these leaders onto campus teaches a cynical lesson to students at our university. It teaches them, I think, that self-interest may take precedence over principle and rule of law, and that the rights and indeed the lives of people in other countries are of less value than those of Canadians.

I hope UBC will make every effort to undo the damage it has done in this instance, and to put morality above self-interest in any future decisions of this nature.

**John Gilmore, Instructor**  
English Language Institute

## We need to look at ourselves

I would like to start off by saying that I commend the efforts of those who participated in the protest of APEC on November 25, 1997. Though I was not part of the action, I feel strongly about standing up for human rights and the injustices that are taking place in the world. Admittedly, APEC was not a familiar term to me when I first moved here from Alberta three months ago, and I was not fully aware of the coming summit in November. Now that I am more informed about what the agreement entails and what so many people have been standing up against, I feel impassioned by those who took the time to voice an opinion. As for the protest itself, I found myself feeling a bit differently. I don't feel that defacing school property and throwing paint all over the Goddess of Democracy is very productive at all. On a similar note, I don't feel that singing songs to the police with words like "you fucking police..." lends any kind of dignity to the purpose of the protest. As for the police, this is such a controversial issue to bring up. On one hand, one could argue that they were simply doing their job and that their aggressive nature was due to the extreme concern of protecting a world leader. However, on the other hand, spraying innocent bystanders in the face with pepper spray seems more like an excuse to exercise unnecessary power. I will say no more simply because I was not present when the spraying occurred. Therefore, I feel I have no right to form any kind of opinion on the matter.

I will end by saying that I find it very ironic how people can protest this APEC matter when our own Canadian government has committed similar crimes to our native peoples. I ask everyone involved in the anti-APEC protest to seriously consider their own country as well. Step outside the emotions, the passion for humanity and open your eyes to what's happening on our streets. How our government at one point has asked the natives to deny their cultural heritage and be "Canadians, as all Canadians." Look at Tibet, then look back in history at the natives before their land was taken over. Take a look and

see if you feel any different about your stand against the denial of human rights anywhere in the world.

**Jennifer Tomomitsu**  
Arts Student

## APEC coverage not objective

Thank you for your remarkably one-sided reporting job in the November 28 issue of the *Ubyssey*. After having read article after article on how unnecessary the police's use of force was against the student protesters outside the Rose Garden on November 25, I'm left wondering if your paper is objective at all. Certainly, what everyone saw on the news reports and in the papers was disturbing and I hated to see it happen, but as a newspaper you have an obligation to show both sides of the story.

Witnessing the events of that afternoon, what I saw was not mentioned in any news reports that I have seen. I saw supposedly passive protesters climbing the Koerner library. I saw a group of students being sprayed in the eyes with painful pepper spray. And I saw it all organised by a few professional protesters who were more concerned with getting their event on television than the safety of the students who were faithfully helping their cause.

Seeing the protesters climbing all over the library, then seeing these same protesters tearing down the fence that was supposed to protect both them and the students who were protesting, the police were well within their rights to perceive a threat to the boundaries they were supposed to be guarding. They knew what would happen to anyone who got past them, and wanted to avoid having to use their secondary measures of dogs and riot squads. They did what they had to, unfortunate and violent as it was. They didn't have time to discriminate between who was a threat to the delegates and who wasn't. The protesters crossed the line and the police were forced to react.

The police have a legal responsibility to protect what Cons. Russ Grabb of the Vancouver Police Department calls "IPP's" or Internationally Protected People. Federal statutes obligate the police to give the IPP's protection based on a scale from 1-7, one meaning they give them a personal van and driver, and five meaning they close off roads, weld manholes closed, and remove all mailboxes from the area, along with putting up fences to keep any protesters at a safe distance. Well, they had twelve level five IPP's in one place at one time. When the protesters were climbing all over the library, they were no longer engaged in a peaceful protest. When they pulled down the fence, they crossed a boundary they knew they shouldn't have, and they were then engaged, as far as the police's instructions indicated, in a riot. It is horrible that they were injured, but the police had to keep them back. Considering the alternatives, pepper spray, with no after effects, was much safer than batons or dogs or guns.

The true travesty is that the students were used as pawns by the organisers so that the protest would be televised. They willfully marched toward the police and took down the barrier. This indicates that they

were looking for some kind of confrontation. If the purpose of all this was to make people think about human rights issues in other countries, then they failed in their purpose. All people were talking about all over the news was the conflict with the police at UBC. The genocide in East Timor got no real press at all.

**John Little**  
4th Year English Student

## The new rabble

APEC was opposed by First Nations organisations, by churches, by trade unions, by teachers' organisations, by women's groups by a wide range of community groups, by immigrant groups that know oppression at first hand, by the unemployed, by citizens on income assistance, by the homeless, by students at secondary school and university, by seniors' groups, by environmental groups, by peace groups, by business groups with a conscience, and many others.

These were the people who made up the large demonstrations against APEC, including the pepper spray war at the University of British Columbia. The students who were in that war are now heroes. They fought for the human rights of ordinary people.

Yet Prime Minister Chretien dismisses the pepper spray war as insignificant. He puts pepper on his plate, he says. For him, and the elite he represents, the students are fools, the church leader are fools, the Native leaders are fools, trade union leaders are fools, women are fools, the unemployed are fools, low income citizens are fools—everyone is a fool except the Canadian Establishment.

What do we do when our so-called political and economic leaders, and their media, treat us like fools? What do we do when we understand that government no longer works for us, but only for the most privileged people in society?

We can protest in the streets. We can practice civil disobedience. We are the new rabble—men of the working/middle class who do not own wealth in any overwhelming sense (the richest 10 per cent of Canadians own over 50 per cent of Canada's wealth according to Statistics Canada Cat. 13-588, June, 1987). We are seeing our country being destroyed by those who would turn community into commodity.

*The Ubyssey* (Nov. 28/97) contained letters from students and professors that expressed shame for the behavior of the Canadian government and the police who carried out the government's orders. Welcome to the citizen rabble of Canada and the world.

**Sandy Cameron**  
A safe place to live?

Is UBC a safe place to be? Yes, some say. But consider the woman who awoke last year to find a stranger in her room, watching her sleep. Or consider the two students who were violently assaulted on campus simply for speaking in French. And the man who was seen peering over bathroom stalls in the SUB women's washroom...The fact of the matter is that these kinds of assaults and intrusions are more prevalent on campus than we would care to admit.

Here are some alarming statistics:

- Out of eight participating universities, UBC students are the least satisfied with personal safety of campus (information comes from a safety report called "UBC Second to None." Go figure.)

- Over 66 per cent of women and 22 per cent of men said they would use the campus more often if they felt safer.

- Twenty-six per cent of women surveyed in 1995 at UBC disclosed that they "had never been sexually assaulted or raped."

- Almost one out of every two women in British Columbia has been sexually assaulted (47 per cent)

Although many of us may not feel threatened on campus, we should be aware that reports of flashers, voyeurs and attempted assaults are recorded almost everyday by the RCMP or campus authorities.

Think of some of the "facts" of university life: night classes, late visits to the library, all-nighters in the computer lab, long walks to B-lot and other parking facilities, and so on. Now think about some of the reported cases of exhibitionism (flashers, streakers and wankers), violent assaults, verbal harassments and sexual assaults that occur on campus. Some of them occur in these isolated areas and darkened corners of the university.

There are ways to avoid the stalker in the bushes:

- Use Safewalk. Use the UBC Safety Bus. Get a friend to walk you home. And walk with confidence. In general, use your head. You can't live your life in constant fear of being attacked, but you should realise the risks that we all face as students on campus...

It is important to remember that the "bogey man" type scenario is not actually as likely to occur as *acquaintance assault*. A drunken friend or acquaintance is more likely to attack you than the "stalker in the bushes". Yet, it is the more "sensational" cases that we hear the most about.

Don't assume that your safety concerns end at your front door. The threat may not come from the stranger in the bushes, but from someone you know and would invite into your home. The "UBC Second to None" report showed that physical assaults were 100 times more likely to occur in private settings. One of the most common factors in the majority of sexual assaults is that the assailant is known to the victim (and alcohol usage is the other most common factor).

So while pepper spray and steel-toed boots may be helpful to assuage fears of the long walk home, one must be aware not only of the darker places on campus, but of situations which can arise in personal relationships and in your own home.

So how can you prevent assault without completely shunning human contact?

Educate yourself. If you take the time to think about issues of safety, you will be that much more prepared to deal with situations that may arise. The decisions you make in your everyday interactions can, and will, affect your own personal safety. Ultimately, awareness is your best means of protection.

**Shana Myara and Vanessa Kwan**  
Safer campus peer educators  
program



# A Vision for the 21st Century

THE UNIVERSITY  
OF BRITISH COLUMBIA  
**INVITES IDEAS AND  
ADVICE FROM ITS  
FACULTY, STUDENTS,  
STAFF AND ALUMNI,  
AND FROM ALL MEMBERS  
OF THE COMMUNITY,  
TO HELP ESTABLISH  
A 21ST CENTURY VISION**

As one of Canada's leading universities, the University of British Columbia is taking the initiative in planning for the 21st century. At a time of social, economic, and environmental renewal and challenge, UBC is asking all its members and alumni, and the broader community, to become involved, give advice, and provide input into the vision process.

The articulation of that vision, planned to take the best part of a year, has already begun with the publication of a pamphlet outlining the contexts, trends and challenges which must be taken into account before any strategies may be devised. This contextual document is widely available on the campus, including in the Student Union Building and the University Bookstore.

Below are some of the points made in the contextual document, including questions that we hope will stimulate thought and discussion, and prompt readers to send us their views.

**Context:** While our economy continues to be heavily dependent on the processing of raw materials and their applications in industry, we are moving into an era dominated by information and knowledge. Technological innovation is transforming education and work, and exercising a significant influence on almost every aspect of daily life, including our leisure and cultural activities...The complexities of the global environment will require individuals not only to be literate and numerate, but also to have an extensive understanding of various cultures, customs, and languages. The need for an educated and informed citizenry has never been greater.

Such trends, highlighting as they do the growing importance of knowledge and knowledge-based skills, are good news for universities. Perhaps at no other time in history has the well-being of society depended so much on the ideas, creativity, and intellectual development that universities can foster. We have thus an opportunity to show the community how its investment in higher education can lay the foundation for future prosperity, and work to our mutual benefit.

**Challenges:** These include 1) the problem of faculty and staff renewal: between 1997 and 2010 almost half the current faculty and staff will retire; 2) freezes in salaries and career advancement plans have created difficulties in retaining outstanding personnel; 3) declining resources have threatened UBC's traditional excellence in research; 4) teaching facilities, including labs and classrooms, are in serious need of upgrading; 5) reductions in public funding relative to our growth threaten our ability to provide a first-class education, create problems of access, and increased the financial burden on students; 6) students are concerned about the relevance of their education to their future career or profession; 7) many aspects of the campus environment, including teaching spaces, roads, and communal space, must be repaired or improved.

**Trends:** The shape of the university of the future can already be perceived through some of the trends evident in higher education today: 1) internationalization, the training of students to work in a truly global environment; 2) interdisciplinarity, the crossing of traditional disciplinary boundaries towards greater collaboration in teaching and research; 3) increasing use of information technology; 4) a renewed commitment to undergraduate education; 5) new partnerships between the universities and industry or government through jointly-funded research; 6) the development of new teaching methods; 7) the expansion of continuing education programmes, including into the workplace; 8) changes in the student population with respect to age, gender, ethnic background and other factors; 9) rising competition among service providers, making higher education a keenly-contested area.

Many questions must be answered before we can begin the planning process, and in the full contextual document we list ten, including:

*How may the University strengthen its links with the external communities that it serves and from which it derives its support?*

*What steps should we take to improve the environment for teaching and research at UBC?*

*What is the purpose of an undergraduate education, and how may that purpose differ in the 21st century from our understanding of it today?*

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**We encourage everyone to consult the full text of the contextual document for a more detailed discussion of the points noted above. The document is available in hard copy around the UBC campus, and also on the Web at [VISION @ UBC.CA](http://VISION@UBC.CA). We invite all readers to respond to the questions in that document, and to offer comments and suggestions.**

**Should you experience any difficulty in obtaining copies, please contact the President's Office, 6328 Memorial Road, Vancouver, B.C. V6T 1Z2; phone no. 822-8300, fax no. 822-5055, email: [vision@exchange.ubc.ca](mailto:vision@exchange.ubc.ca).**