The Ubyssey

SUMMERTIME AND THE LIVING IS EASY

DRUGS IN SIC THE

IS THE CIS DOING ENOUGH TO STOP VARSITY ATHLETES FROM DOPING?

FREEDOM OF INFORMATION REQUESTS TO BE DENIED? MORE ON PAGE 5

PICS OR IT DIDN'T HAPPEN

PICS OR IT DIDN'T HAPPEN

OUR LAST ISSUE of THE YEAR

THE UNDERGROUND COMES UNDER FIRE AGAIN

"If you take away the ability to JOKE about SEX, it fosters FEAR and TABOO about the subject."

PAGE 3

HERE LIES PAUL, OUR EX-COORDINATING EDITOR, DOOMED TO AD SALES FOR EVER AND EVER AMEN

OUR WORST *HEADLINES*

TOP *ten* STORIES

your BLOCK PARTY *photos* *on* PAGE 8

ALL HAIL JUSTIN, LEADER OF THE FREE PRESS

THE LAST *TOO SEXY* OF THE YEAR 2009/2010 ON PAGE 14

IT CAME FROM THE INTERNET

DUMB WAYS THAT PEOPLE HAVE FOUND *UBYSSEY.CA*

№57

Editors and enemies alike *rejoice.*

THIS YEAR'S T-BIRD AWARDS ON PAGE 12

ALL OF YOUR TOP ATHLETES AS CHOSEN BY *CiTR* AND *THE UBYSSEY*

APRIL 19, 2010
VOLUME XCI, N° LVII

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LEGAL

The Ubyssey is the official student newspaper of the University of British Columbia. It is published every Monday and Thursday by The Ubyssey Publications Society. We are an autonomous, democratically run student organization, and all students are encouraged to participate.

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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 Please include your phone number, student number and signature (not for publication) as well as your year and faculty with all submissions.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. The Ubyssey reserves the right to edit submissions for length and clarity. All letters must be received by 12 noon the day before intended publication. Letters received after this point will be published in the following issue unless there is an urgent time restriction or other matter deemed relevant by the Ubyssey staff.

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Canadian University Press

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EVENTS

ONGOING EVENTS

GRAD SURF TRIP TO TOFINO • The Graduating Class Council is hosting a graduation trip to Vancouver Island. Celebrate the end of exams and your degree with us! Accommodations, transportation and events including surfing, hiking, kayaking and lounging are all included. This trip is subsided for graduating students by the GCC. • *May 4–7, contact* ubcgradtrip@gmail.com *for more info.*

TUESDAY, APR. 20

BRIDES OF THE MOON • A group of female astronauts voyage to a far-off moon system to help populate a space resort, only to find themselves aimlessly adrift when their ship collides with unexpected wreckage. Their complications are further interrupted by malfunctioning Sex Drive Implants, creating a love boat of moaning and unzipped space suits. A hilarious comedy written by The Five Lesbian Brothers. • *Runs until Apr. 24, 8pm, doors open at 7:30pm, $18 pre-sale and online tickets , $20 at the door, more info at* leapingthespians.ca.

WEDNESDAY, APR. 21

HEALING ON THE SPIRITUAL PATH - THE KEY TO TOMORROW'S HEALTH • Dr Vogelsberger will present a lecture about medically verifiable spiritual healing. Medically documented healing will be explained and healed individuals will share their experiences. Participants will be able to experience the healing energy for themselves. • *7pm–9pm, SUB Rooms 214/216, more info at* bruno-groening.org/english.

DINING ON AMBROSIA: AN EVENING OF POETRY • Join prize-winning bards Penn Kemp and Susan McCaslin for a delectable evening of poetry with ancient planetary mother goddesses. They will discuss their ongoing explorations into the myths of the earth goddesses; read and perform their poems; and facilitate interactive dialogue and exercises about the role of Gaia in contemporary culture and consciousness • *7:30pm–9pm, Peter Kaye Room, Central Library, 350 W Georgia St, free admission.*

THURSDAY, APR. 22

¡CLAMOUR! FEATURING FORBIDDEN FLUTES • The new cocktails, DJ and contemporary music series, ¡CLAMOUR!, features Forbidden Flutes, the wildly imaginative duo of Laura Barron and Liesa Norman. Original works and arrangements of Imogen Heap and Radiohead are paired with Canadian composer Derek Charke's "Raga Cha" and Steve Reich's "Vermont Counterpoint" for 10+ flutes! Catch their eclectic sets after work, with friends, over a pomtini. • *5pm–7pm, Grand Luxe Hall, 303 E 8th Ave, $10.*

EMANUEL AX, PIANO • Revered by his peers, Emanuel Ax is one of today's pre-eminent pianists. His repertoire ranges from Bach to the 20th Century, and his warmth and intelligence make him one of the most endearing and approachable musicians around. Presented by the Vancouver Recital Society • *8pm, Chan Centre, $36-$80 at Ticketmaster.*

THURSDAY, APR. 29

***MOVENT* PRESENTS: AROUND THE BLOCK** • The energy and excitement of New York inspires Day Helesic's Around the Block, a full-length dance work reflecting the spirit of the city and the people who live there. Four dancers travel the streets of Manhattan in a desire to find connection within the chaos, in a physical essay of boldness and intensity. • *Runs until May 1, 8pm, Scotiabank Dance Centre, 677 Davie St, $15.*

VOICE OVER MIND FESTIVAL • Western Front New Music kicks off their Voice Over Mind Festival, which responds to audiences' growing appetite for unusual singers and "extreme" vocalists. Vancouver's versatile vocalist Viviane Houle performs with Stefan Smulovitz's elaborate sampling and improvising systems. Adam Basanta leads a solo expedition through fields of sound, intimate and distant to the listener's ear. • *5pm–7pm, Grand Luxe Hall, 303 E 8th ave, $10.*

INTERNATIONAL DANCE DAY CELEBRATION • From contemporary to flamenco and salsa to hula hooping, Vancouver celebrates International Dance Day with a series of events which highlights the diversity of BC's dance scene. Initiated in 1982 by UNESCO, International Dance Day is marked annually with events across Canada. The date commemorates the birthday of Jean-Georges Noverre, regarded as the founder of modern ballet. Each year The Dance Centre, BC's resource centre for dance, presents events which celebrate the art form. • *12pm, Scotiabank Dance Centre, 677 Davie St, full schedule and info at* thedancecentre.ca.

FRIDAY, APR. 30

INDIAN CLASSICAL MUSIC: ANOUSHKA SHANKAR • Anoushka Shankar has emerged as one of the leading figures in World Music today. She is deeply rooted in Indian classical music, having studied exclusively with her father, the legendary Ravi Shankar, and is now one of the foremost performers in that tradition. Caravan World Rythms in partnership with the Chan Centre presents Anoushka Shankar playing the sitar. • *8pm, Chan Centre, $36–46 at Ticketmaster, student discounts also available, more info at* anoushkashankar.com.

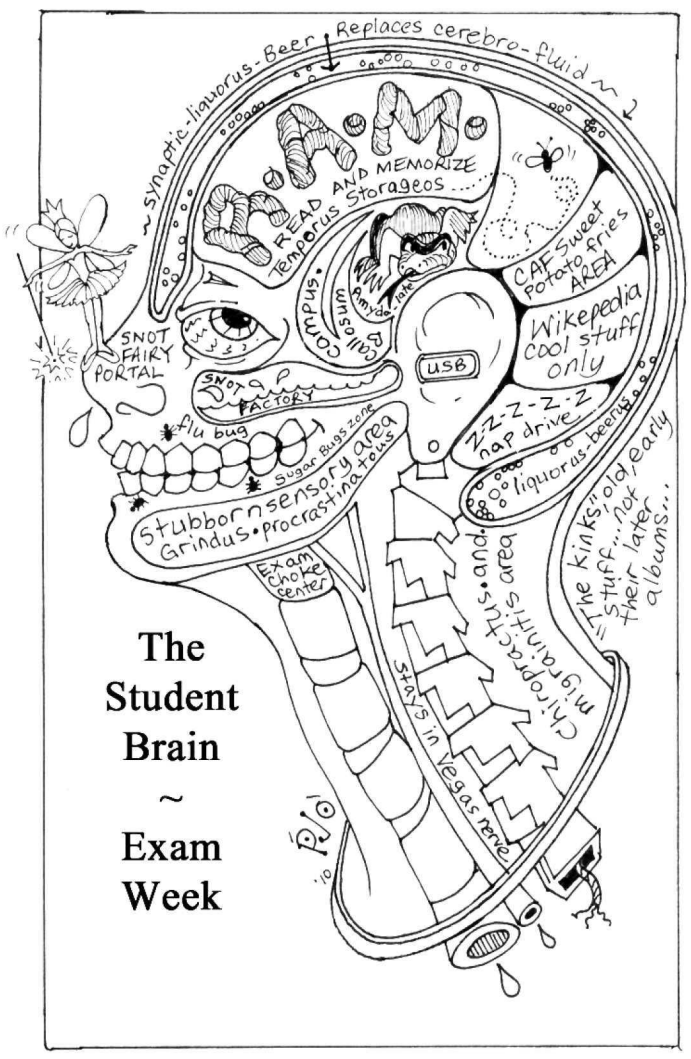
WEDNESDAY, MAY 5

FIRST NATIONS STORYTELLER-IN-RESIDENCE: JACKIE TIMOTHY • Join us for stories told by Vancouver Public Library's 2010 First Nations Storyteller-in-Residence. Jackie Timothy is a storyteller, cultural presenter, master carver and residential school survivor. He is from the hereditary Chief lineage of his village near Powell River, BC. Check the library website for upcoming events by VPL's First Nations Storyteller-in-Residence. • *6:30pm– 8pm, 4515 Dunbar St, free admission.*

SATURDAY, MAY 8

ORIENTIK/PORTRAIT • In celebration of Asian Heritage Month of May across Canada, ERASGA Dance is pleased to announce the kick-off of its tenth anniversary season with the remount and Canadian tour of acclaimed dance creation OrienTik/Portrait. Attend an opening gala fundraising event performance in support of Co.ERASGA and Vancouver's ExplorASIAN Society. • *7:30pm, Freddy Wood Theatre, $28, purchase tickets at* ticketstonight.ca *or call at (604) 684-2787.*

CAMPUS CALLOSUM: EXAM BRAINS, BY PAM OLIVER (*NEXUS*)



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This is the last issue of the year! Let us know if you want to get involved next year.
coordinating@ubyssey.ca

NEWS

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UBC PROF NOMINATED FOR JUNO

Stephen Chatman, head of the Composition Division for the School of Music, was nominated for the Juno award for Classical Composition of the Year, but lost to Canadian composer Marjan Mozetich's "Lament in the Trampled Garden" Saturday night.

Chatman's work for choir and orchestra, titled "Earth Songs," was written in order to celebrate the 100th anniversary of the university in 2008.

—Samantha Jung

Arts presidential race declared invalid

SAMANTHA JUNG
news@ubyssey.ca

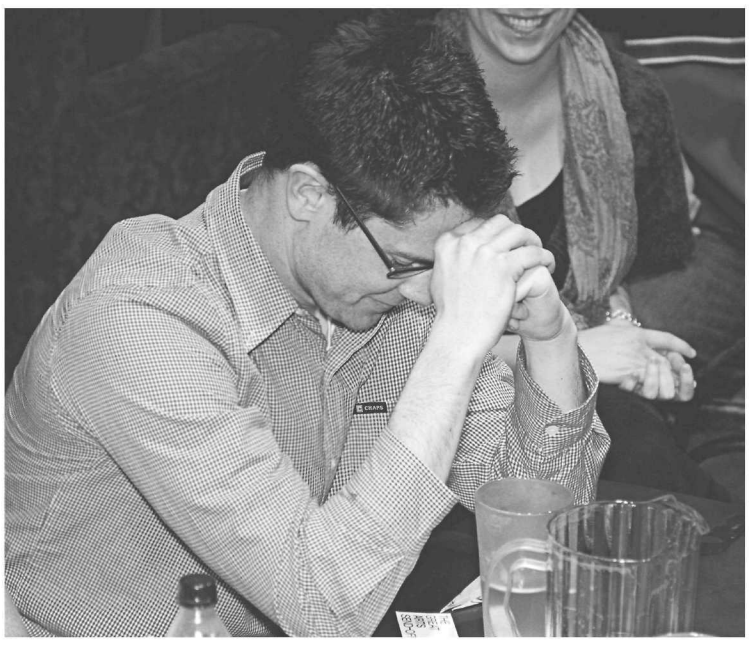
A highlighted ballot, a burned results sheet and a controversial Student Court ruling are the latest developments in the ongoing dispute regarding the Arts Undergraduate Society (AUS) presidential race, which Student Court deemed invalid on Friday afternoon.

"I find the rules under which the AUS Elections Committee conducted the election void. It follows that the result...is also void," reads the report written by Alexander Cooke on behalf of the Student Court, a group of seven appointed students who act as judges and typically function as an appeals court for decisions made by the the AMS and various election committees.

The Court decision resulted in the resignation of AUS President-elect Brian Platt. "I just don't think it was appropriate for me to stay in charge of the AUS while the AUS made decisions on how to proceed," he said. "Obviously there's a conflict of interest." Elysia Pyne, the AUS VP Internal, has been appointed the interim AUS President.

On March 22, when the ballot results showed a tie between presidential candidates Platt and Ryan Trasolini, Elections Administrator Matthew Naylor cast the deciding vote in favour of Platt. Announcement of the results had already been delayed on Friday, March 19, to the following Monday as the Elections Committee was waiting on validation of student numbers from the university.

On the same day the results were announced, the hard copy of the online voting results was found to be burned in places, obscuring the number of online votes that Platt incurred. Naylor did not explain the reason why the paper was burned, and told *The Ubyssey* that he went by the results that were posted on his laptop.



Brian Platt on AUS elections results night. **GERALD DEO FILE PHOTO**/THE UBYSSEY

Trasolini appealed Naylor's ruling, and a recount was completed by AMS Chief Returning Officer Ricardo Bortolon.

One ballot, however, was the subject of particular scrutiny. According to the Student Court ruling, the voter cast his or her ballot using a "broad-tipped highlighter."

"Platt and [Trasolini] are listed one above the other on the left side, and the voter's 'X' straddles the underscore adjacent to Mr Platt's name," reads the document, "which line effectively divides the areas in which the voter may indicate his or her selection."

Trasolini alleged that "there was some talk on the part of those in the room during the recount, before Mr Bortolon's decision, of trying to measure the X." Bortolon responded that these considerations did not factor into his decision.

"This case arises from a dispute that might have been averted by the expedient purchase of a two-dollar box of ballpoint pens," reads the Court's report.

In addition, Student Court alleges that the AUS elections violated AMS guidelines. Naylor disagrees. "I am confident that [the elections were] run 100 per cent according to the rules," he said.

The decision still needs to be accepted by AMS Council. Last year, after spending thousands of dollars on an external consultant to review the rules of student court, Council decided to change its bylaws to make it harder for Council to overturn results of Student Court. Bijan Ahmadian, AMS President, told *The Ubyssey* that he expects Council to accept the court's motion.

> This case arises from a dispute that might have been averted by the expedient purchase of a two-dollar box of ballpoint pens.
>
> **STUDENT COURT'S RULING ON THE AUS ELECTIONS**

Naylor, who has continually argued against the interference of Student Court into AMS issues over the years, disagrees. "The responsibility lies with Council to defend the prerogatives of elected representatives and by extension, the electorate, and make sure that this type of fooling cannot be tolerated from Student Court because it disregards the very court they are mandated to uphold."

Trasolini says a by-election is "a pretty simple thing to do," and Platt is trying to stay as far away from the issue as possible.

"I still feel hopeful that at the end I'll still be president," Platt said, "but what's most important is that this gets done right."

Underground causes upset once again

Editor criticized for article about 'tramp stamps'

SARAH CHUNG
schung@ubyssey.ca

The Arts Undergraduate Society's (AUS) official satire publication *The Underground* has sparked controversy after producing an offensive article—for the second time this year.

The article, published in *The Underground*'s March issue, is titled "Tramp Stamps Made Mandatory at UBC for Slut Identification, STI Prevention," and is about an interview with a fictional spokesperson from the Vancouver District: Health Experts on Rashes Procured Sexually (HERPS).

"People who are termed, scientifically, 'big whores' will be marked with 'tramp stamps.' These lower-back, upper buttocks, decorations have long been informal and self-induced markings of modern-day harlots," reads the article.

Immediate opposition to the article sprouted among various student groups, including the Women's and Gender Studies Undergraduate Association (WAG) who outlined their criticism in an e-mail to the Dean of Arts and representatives of the AUS.

> This is not the first time *The Underground* has faced such accusations.

"The ['Tramp Stamps'] article...perpetuates sexist, misogynist stereotypes about sexual behaviour, women and maintains a culture of fear and hatred around Sexually Transmitted Infections and people who have them," reads the letter.

This is not the first time *The Underground* has faced such accusations. In October, an article that allegedly trivialized rape provoked the creation of a Facebook group called "Rape is not a Joke" and motivated for UBC's first Sexual Assault Awareness (SAAM) month in February.

WAG's letter states that the "Tramp Stamps" article has "belittled" the sexual health workshops during SAAM and calls for more accountability from the editor of *The Underground*, Alicia McLean, who wrote the most recent article.

"She has proven to us that she is not capable of keeping her promises," reads the letter. "The editor of *The Underground* has proven that she is not equipped to run the paper."

McLean responded that censoring certain topics may be more problematic than printing them: "I've heard [the 'Tramp Stamps' article being] called 'sex-negative,' but I think if you take away the ability to joke about sex, it fosters fear and taboo about the subject: that's how you create a sex-negative environment."

"While I support the larger goals of feminism, the insane level of political correctness demanded by some groups can be (and has been) described as suffocating. It promotes constant scrutiny and disapproval of everything one sees, which leads to thinly concealed censorship."

The consequences *The Underground* will incur, if any, remains uncertain as both the Dean of Arts and the AMS president were unable to comment by press time.

McLean said that her term as *Underground* editor is over. "Those who think I am an unfit representative of the Arts can sleep easy at night," she said. "I haven't technically been editor for a couple of weeks."

NEWS BRIEFS

SELECTION OF NEW SUB ARCHITECTS NARROWED TO THREE

After a vote that brought over 2400 students to the polls, the AMS has announced that Bing Thom Architects, Busby Perkins + Will and HBBH+BH have moved on to the final stage in the selection process for an architectural firm to design the new SUB.

These three firms will now be asked to present proposals to the AMS' New SUB Committee outlining their services, mission statement, sustainability charter and fees. A final selection will be made during the summer, with design work scheduled to begin in September.

U OF A STUDENT FOUND DEAD IN RESIDENCE

According to *The Gateway*, a student was found dead in a University of Alberta residence on Tuesday, April 13.

Edmonton Fire Rescue instituted a "shelter-in-place" procedure, which calls for those affected to seal themselves in their residences in response to an airborne hazardous material after a medical call declared the possible presence of hydrogen sulfide and an unconscious person in a university apartment suite.

The university utilized its Emergency Notification System for the first time in order to evacuate students from an adjacent street as well as a nearby library.

However, when a Hazmat crew arrived, they were unable to find any signs of hydrogen sulfide contamination either inside or outside of the building.

The cause of death for the student was not released to the public. Police are currently investigating.

UBC DESIGNING HANDHELD DEVICE TO MAKE BETTER WINE

According to *The Vancouver Sun*, researchers at UBC's Wine Research Centre are exploring new ways in which to monitor the interaction between wine grape genomes and their environment in order to help growers make better wine. They hope this research will lead to the development of a practical hand-held device that viticulturalists can utilize to determine which growing techniques produce the best wines.

Researchers are hoping that by being able to analyze the genome of grapes and vines at various points within the winemaking process, they can understand exactly the effects that certain production techniques, such as irrigation or fertilization, have on the final flavor of the wine.

The centre is receiving $3.4 million in funding from Genome BC and Genome Canada for a project aimed at mapping grape and wine genomes.

—Arshy Mann

THE BEST AND WORST OF THE UBYSSEY

2010

stupidest search term

i'm a member of a club,due to the way the club is being run,i decided to resign my membership.please in need materials on how to write this letter to the club president

Which browser do you use?

Firefox: 42.94%
Internet Explorer: 29.13%
Safari: 18.55%
Chrome: 8.04%

WINDOWS OR MAC?

Windows: 67.07%
Macintosh: 30.88%
Linux: 1.6%

UN-gate

Only a few weeks after AMS President Blake Frederick was almost censured by AMS Council, he, VP External Tim Chu and former AMS executive Tristan Markle filed a complaint to the United Nations on behalf of the AMS. AMS Council was not consulted on the issue.

What followed next was emergency meetings, calls for impeachment, a surge in on-campus blogs and a massive student outcry that has not been seen in a long time, as Frederick and Chu had their feet held over the fire for their actions. The event marked the tragic end of a semester of division and personal attacks as the AMS fell apart.

Although the two executives were not impeached due to legal complications, this story gains the top spot for the sheer amount of student engagement and public outcry it incurred.

The Olympics, Paralympics and more

Who could forget the effect the 2010 Olympic and Paralympic Winter Games had all over Vancouver and our campus? A month of red and white and crazy street parties. A month of madness in the newsroom but a year of planning and coverage on our part.

The Games had their ups and downs. Low points included protests, student arrests and the death of student Silas Rogers after a night in Whistler. Highs included the coveted gold medal in men's hockey for Canada, a gold medal win in ski cross by former UBC student Ashleigh McIvor (we received 1000 hits to our website the day she won) and incredible Canadian pride.

UBC was part of the international event, having hosted both ice hockey and ice sledge hockey at Thunderbird Arena. Torchbearers from the Olympic and Paralympic Torch Relay graced UBC soil, drawing thousands of students, staff and faculty.

Here are some of the strangest search terms people used to find us at *ubyssey.ca.*

910 TIMES: ubessey
243 TIMES: blake frederick
73 TIMES: anal sex
61 TIMES: canned ham dropped from a great height
47 TIMES: slutty costumes
16 TIMES: bat boy vancouver
6 TIMES: alex lougheed voted for himself
3 TIMES: tips on how to become a chick magnet
1 TIME: cant smell

SUB Renew finally moves forward

Yes, kids, we are getting a new SUB. After tense negotiations between the university and the AMS regarding the SUB Renew Project, the terms of the agreement have been worked out. Students voted on their top three architectural firms, and the AMS will choose the final firm this summer.

UBC orders Koerner's to go dry

On March 26, UBC told the Graduate Student Society (GSS) to halt liquor sales. On March 6, an underage student got drunk, climbed onto the roof overhang above the patio, and fell, alerting police to the illegal serving of minors. Then, less than a week later, on March 12, RCMP arrested students for public drunkenness due to overserving.

Koerner's had close brushes with liquor regulations in 2008 and 2009. The events of 2010, it would seem, were the straws that broke the camel's back. GSS President Arvind Saraswat tried to obtain the police reports for the two evenings, but was told he would have to file a Freedom of Information request to get them.

Wailing and gnashing of teeth ensued among UBC's thirsty masses. A Facebook group in support of Koerner's reached 1500 souls in the weeks following the the shutdown. For the time being, though, the ban on liquor sales continues—indefinitely.

Commerce tries to impose fee on students—again

The year was 2007. Bush was still president. Lehman Brothers still existed. And Commerce Dean Daniel Muzyka, believing that his faculty's reputation would suffer internationally without a building upgrade, persuaded Sauder students to vote in favour of spending $500 extra a year in student fees for renovations to Angus. The provincial government, arguing that the fee was an illegal tuition increase, shot down the change, and as a result all UBC students paid for building upgrades to Angus.

Fast-forward to 2010—more upgrades were needed to be made to the building, and funding was nonexistent. So, Muzyka again convinced students to pay for a $500 annual fee, only this time, he convinced the Commerce Undergraduate Society to make it a binding referendum. While many students outside of the faculty argued that underhanded tactics were used to convince Sauderites, the referendum passed with 63 per cent of Commerce students voting in favour.

Perfect v-ball season ends with the gold

For the third year in a row, the CIS Championships ended with the UBC women's volleyball team on top of the podium. The victory caps off a remarkable 15 months for UBC, which saw them win two national championships and 40 consecutive games. Head coach Doug Reimer took home the CIS Coach of the Year award, while Jen Hinze, Shanice Marcelle and Liz Cordonier were appointed to the seven-person tournament all-star team.

Cordonier was also named tournament MVP in addition to taking home the Player of the Year award. With their seventh title, UBC ties Alberta and Winnipeg for most CIS titles in history, and puts them halfway to the all-time mark of six straight championships, held by both teams.

Translink says 'No more bus loop'

After years of vicious back and forth between UBC and the AMS about whether there would be an underground bus loop built below university boulevard, TransLink decided that they couldn't afford to contribute their portion of the budget, effectively halting the project.

Rather than allow their opponent to gracefully lose, then-AMS President Blake Frederick sent out a press release that effectively said, "Na na na na na na, we won," over which he was nearly censured. Nearly. As usual, instead of acting, most of Council reprimanded Frederick verbally then decided that censuring was too harsh. Then they tried to impeach him two months later.

Carl Wieman summoned by White House

For many scientists, winning a Nobel Prize would be the crowning achievement of a career. For physicist and UBC professor Carl Wieman, it was just the beginning.

On March 22, 2010, a press release from the White House announced that US President Barack Obama had nominated Wieman for the position of White House Associate Director for Science, once again earning the physicist international recognition. Working for the White House Office of Science and Technology Policy, Wieman will provide scientific analysis and advice to the President, affecting the federal government's major policies, plans and programs.

Voter fraud in the AMS elections

Voter fraud rounded off a turbulent year of AMS politics. The January elections resulted in almost no change to the elections results, but incurred over $43,000 in costs for the investigation.

While none of the executive positions were affected, $900 worth of prize money was distributed among affected student media groups in the Voter Funded Media contest, and the tuition referendum question passed instead of the one approving President Blake Frederick's impeachment. The Senate race was affected, with Alyssa Koehn gaining more votes than Nader Beyzaei. The culprit was never caught.

Underground chided for article—twice

In October, The AUS newspaper, *The Underground*, wrote a story titled "So-called 'Campus Rapist' simply exploring his sexuality" and was met with angry letters about its trivialization of rape. *The Underground* issued a formal apology, and escaped the threat of being shut down. News of the scandal spread quickly around campus, showing us just how much of an impact it had. The question of where the line lies between satire and offensiveness was hotly contested.

The issue resulted in numerous talks with the Dean of Arts and the creation of Sexual Assault Awareness Month. Recently, *The Underground* has gotten into trouble again for publishing an article stating that 'tramp stamps' must be placed on girls as a marker for STIs.

OUR DUMB YEAR

The stupid things we've said in headlines (thanks, *The Onion*)

SEPTEMBER 8
MAKE FRIENDS, JOIN A CLUB
And pleasurable your student experience will be.

SEPTEMBER 10
HAPPINESS IS THE BEST MAGIC POWER
First of all, this is clearly false. The answer is flying. Second, do you have any idea what the story is about based on this?

SEPTEMBER 14
STICK YOUR HAND UP MY ASS
No, thank you.

OCTOBER 15
CRITIC SPEAKS OUT AGAINST HARASSMENT
You could replace "harassment" with any word for a bland, universal headline. Congratulations, us.

NOVEMBER 12
STUDENT PARTICIPATION CAN IMPROVE CAMPUS HEALTH
In what? How? Campus health is a sentient being?

NOVEMBER 16
WE DON'T DRINK THAT MUCH
False.

NOVEMBER 19
DVORAK COMPARES AMS EXECUTIVE TO WAR CRIMINALS
This actually isn't a bad headline. It's entirely accurate. It's just hilarious to reprint.

DECEMBER 7
UBC STUDENTS INSPIRED BY THEIR INTERACTIVE STUDIES
Which could mean "UBC students inspired by raising their hands"

FEBRUARY 1
WHAT DO ABBOTSFORD, UBC AND NORWAY HAVE IN COMMON?
What do lists, disparate elements and crappy headlines have in common?

DECEMBER 3
NOODLE SOUP AND YOU

MARCH 15
YOU AND THE ORDER OF CANADA
In Ubyssey, *headline writes you!*

MORE WEIRD SEARCH TERMS

is body glitter slutty

what is noise what is not

what to do before you die when your are a hick

AMS lobbies for change in the FOIPPA Act

ASHLEY WHILLANS
awhillans@ubyssey.ca

Every year the AMS tries to collect information from UBC organizations and companies such as UBC Properties Trust and the UBC Farm, and every year they are forced to file Freedom of Information (FOI) requests to obtain this information. Thanks to delays or denied requests, it is not uncommon for the AMS to pay large sums of money for documents from the university or fail to receive them at all.

Frustrated with the amount of time and money they have to spend filing FOIs, the AMS has recently submitted a report to the Special Commission to review the Freedom of Information and Protection of Privacy Act (FOIPPA).

"The idea was that some of the concerns we had with access of information were shared by numerous third-parties and we thought that it would be good of us to make a submission and see if we could get some of these concerns rectified," explained Tahara Bhate, the ex-chair of University Affairs and External Relations for the AMS, in regards to filing the report.

As Bhate mentioned, the AMS is not alone in their frustrations. Submitted on March 31, the AMS report entitled "Improving Access" was just one of over 30 filed by different organizations across the province who also want changes to be made to the FOIPPA.

Passed in 1992 and implemented in 1993, the FOIPPA was created to increase government accountability by making copies of government records available to BC citizens in a timely and affordable manner.

Every six years the Act is subject to a public review in which individuals or organizations are able to propose changes. At this time, a special committee comprised of MLAs compiles the requests, writes a report and submits it to the provincial government. The government is then able to create amendements to the Act at their discretion.

> There are requests pending for FOIs filed over three years ago. According to the AMS, not only are these time delays annoying, they prevent the AMS from completing research.

THE AMS'S PROPOSED CHANGES

Some of the changes the AMS would like to see include lower costs as well as a reduction in the time it takes to receive documents.

To put their requests into perspective, it is important to note the scope of the AMS's FOI problems. Typically the AMS files 10 to 20 FOI requests a year, and spends a considerable amount of money in the process. In the 2009/2010 academic year, the AMS spent $6724 trying to obtain files and reports through FOI requests and in 2008 they paid $246,000, nearly their entire policy budget, for FOI-related appeals and judicial reviews.

In addition to cost, time is also an issue for the AMS. While FOI requests are supposed to be decided within 30 calendar days, AMS VP External Jeremy McElroy, who is currently in charge of handling and submitting FOI requests for the AMS, said there are requests pending for FOIs filed over three years ago.

According to the AMS, not only are these time delays annoying, they prevent the AMS from completing research.

"When our executive turns over annually the FOI process can be very frustrating," explained McElroy. "If I have anything I want to investigate now, chances are it won't come in until my predecessor is in office."

ANSWERS? MAYBE NOT

Should the AMS be hopeful that the provincial government will listen to their requests? The answer depends on who you ask.

Since 2004, when the last public consultation took place, 10 of the 28 proposed amendments were implemented by the provincial government, said Karyn Butler, a researcher for the Legislative Assembly of BC. Butler believes these amendments signalled positive change.

However, Darrell Evans, the executive director of the BC Freedom of Information and Privacy Association, doesn't necessarily see these changes as a step forward. He instead feels that the amendments made to the Act in 2004 had little to no benefit for those who use it to try to gain information.

"The committees have done a good job, especially the last one in 2004, but their recommendations really have not been adopted. For this whole [six-year] period not one amendment has been made to the Act that has actually improved the process for requesters," he said.

Stanley Tromp, an investigative journalist who has done a lot of FOI advocacy work, agreed with Evans.

"All this work has led to not a single positive FOI amendment being passed into law, and I wonder if it ever will," he told *The Ubyssey*.

In regards to whether the AMS believes any significant changes will be made because of public consultations, they are hesitant, yet optimistic.

"We are always hopeful, never confident [that our changes will be made]," said McElroy. "In the past we have been taken quite seriously by government bodies and they do care about what we have to say. Whether or not that translates to action, or actually happens, I am not entirely sure."

The Special Commitee is mandated to release its report by May 31, 2010.

DEFINING COSTS

A June 2009 request filed by the AMS for UBC records related to development plans for the UBC Farm cost the society $6022 for 2000+ pages.

WHAT IS THE FOIPPA?

The purposes of this Act are to make public bodies more accountable to the public and to protect personal privacy by:

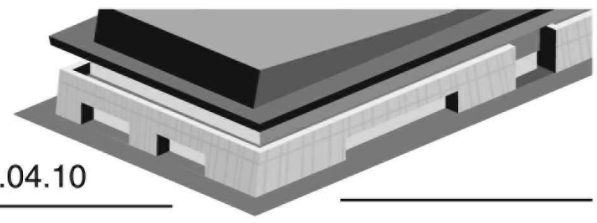
(a) giving the public a right of access to records;
(b) giving individuals a right of access to, and a right to request correction of, personal information about themselves;
(c) specifying limited exceptions to the rights of access;
(d) preventing the unauthorized collection, use or disclosure of personal information by public bodies;
(e) providing for an independent review of decisions made under this Act.

WHAT IS AN FOI?

Freedom of Information (FOI) means that every BC citizen has the right to access government or insider information by filing a Freedom of Information Request (FOI).

Any BC citizen under the FOIPPA has right of access to most government records and the right to appeal if your request is denied.

ams student society | Insider weekly
a weekly look at what's new at your student society 19.04.10



It Takes a University
May 21st – 22nd

The AMS, GSS, and Antigone Foundation are holding a conference on the issue of child care on post-secondary campuses. It is called "It Takes a University" and takes place May 21st – 22nd.

You can register at
http://childcareconference.wordpress.com/register/
or contact us at childcareconference@ams.ubc.ca

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WHAT'S HAPPENING ON CAMPUS

Go to your closet. Take out an assortment of clothes. Make them into a costume. Stand on an empty stage, and act. Act, damnit! That's the philosophy behind Bear Bones Theatre, a new troupe of UBC Theatre students devoted to theatre in the raw and on the cheap. Their first production, a particularly grisly rendition of *Titus Andronicus*, opens April 22 and runs through April 24. Check out our video interview with the cast at *ubyssey.ca/culture*

Sending in the Clowns

Cirque du Soleil seeks talent in Vancouver

Sixty UBC students tried out last week to become the next great acrobat or clown. **PHOTO COURTESY OF CIRQUE DU SOLEIL**

OLIVIA FELLOWS
Contributor

The circus is coming to town! Cirque du Soleil, the Montréal-based circus and performing arts troupe, held its regional auditions at UBC last week at the Dorothy Somerset Studio. On April 16 and 17, following a talk by Marc-André Roy, Cirque's auditions coordinator, UBC theatre students put on their best clown routines in an attempt to land a place in the highly selective troupe.

It was Cirque's casting partner Annette Devick that suggested UBC's Dorothy Somerset Studio as the site of the auditions. Roy thought the studio was a good idea not only because of its size and qualities, but because they were offered an opportunity to use the studio for a pre-audition conference.

"It became a really good idea when we proposed to [hold] a conference before these auditions," said Devick. "The Theatre Department offered us the opportunity in that same studio."

Cirque du Soleil, self-described as a "dramatic mix of circus art and street entertainment," was founded in 1984 and is currently based in Montréal. When it began, Cirque du Soleil was composed of a group of twenty street performers. Two decades after that, it employs more than 4000 people from over 40 countries, 1000 of them artists. Its shows—combining international circus styles, professional artists and live, continuous music—have entertained close to 90 million spectators in more than 200 cities.

Will UBC students be part of the Cirque's award-winning batch of performers? Roy says that 60 candidates are being invited to the audition. Those 60 candidates will be auditioning for two days and might be looking at an entire day of performing, depending on how far up the ladder they are able to climb.

The artists participating in the general audition are not auditioning for any show in particular. After a candidate is accepted, he or she becomes a potential artist for the Cirque, and will be eligible to be presented to the director for a new creation or to the artistic director for replacement of another artist. But even though these are general auditions, the scouts are still looking for specific performer profiles.

Roy says Cirque du Soleil's audition process is quite similar regardless of the city in which it occurs. Vancouver was chosen this time because the audition team saw the possibility of "finding great actors with great physical abilities" in the city. In 2009, auditions for acting and clowns were held in Toronto, New York City, Chicago, St Petersburg, Paris, Berlin and London. This year Cirque will be touring down the West Coast through Vancouver, San Francisco and Los Angeles.

At press time, Cirque had yet to determine if a UBC student will be selected as the troupe's next performer. Fingers crossed that Roy is right about finding hot new talent at UBC.

CD REVIEWS

PHILIP STOREY
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Exam break is upon us, and not a moment too soon. *The Ubyssey* presents a retrospective of albums I omitted in the 2009/2010 school year.

Bombay Bicycle Club *I Had The Blues But I Shook Them Loose*

Despite the fact that I characterize myself as a misanthropic, hate-filled music nerd, sometimes an album gets through to the very centre of my being and stays there. BBC did just that with *I Had The Blues* etc. They put out some of the catchiest indie rock songs of recent memory. Jack Steadman's vocals and lyrics have a pathos that most indie rock bands could never match. Plus, they have a wicked drummer.

MGMT *Congratulations*

The only thing funnier than this album is the media posturing that has occurred since its release. First the duo went on record with *Spinner Magazine* to apologize for how weird they thought their own music was. This was quickly followed up with an interview with *The New York Times* on how artsy their new album was supposed to be. The truly hipster thing to do would be to praise it as ironically awful, but ironically awful is still awful.

Laura Veirs *July Flame*

Laura Veirs is, in my opinion, a female Bon Iver. Veirs has a melancholy cadence, and songs like "I Can See Your Tracks" really show the power of her voice.

Ramona Falls *Inuit*

This is one of the few albums that I've listened to constantly throughout the year. If you know of the band Menomena, then Ramona Falls really isn't all that different. They share the same lead singer and the same style, but good God is it a great style. Almost every song tells a story, complete with build and climax that actually matches the music. "Salt Sack" is tragic, epic and brilliant all at once. It also has an embarrassingly large play count on my iTunes.

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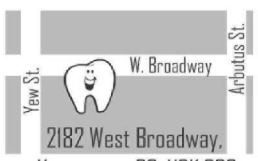

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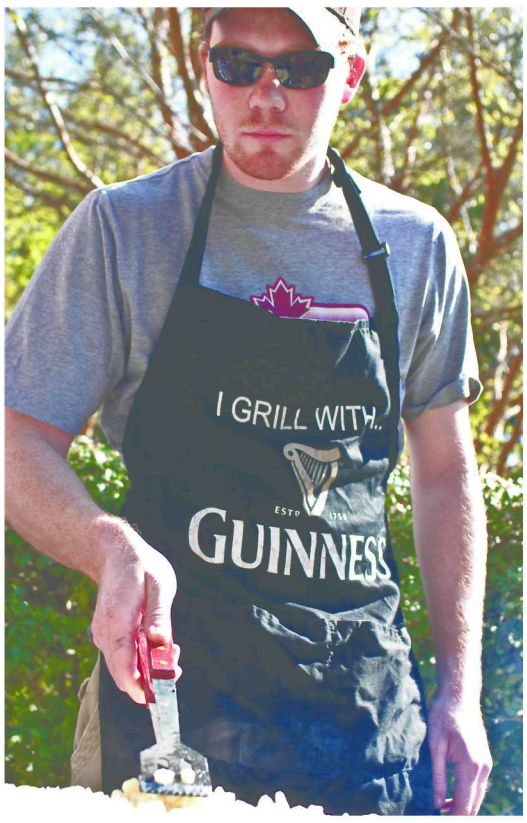
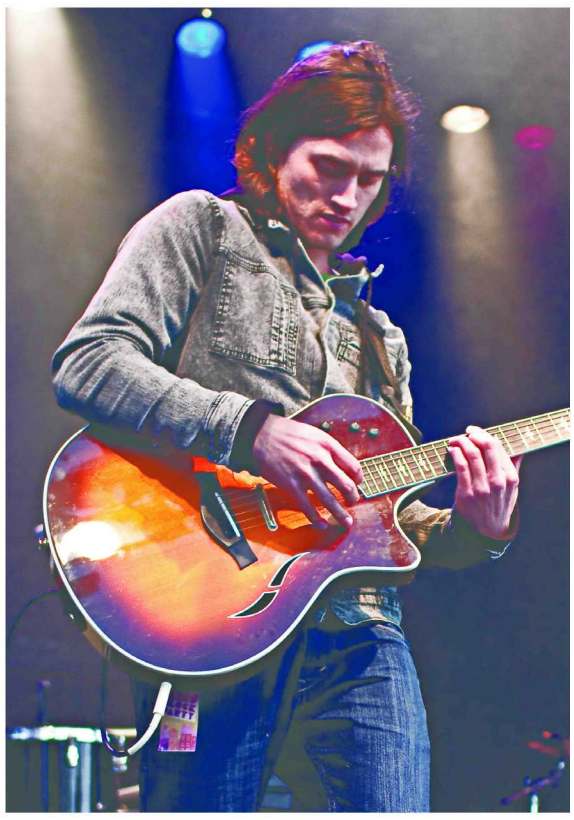

I GRILL WITH..
GUINNESS



EVERYTHING IS GOING TO BE OKAY

The world exploded, then it all got better

BRYCE WARNES
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I stepped out of the SUB on the day of the AMS Block Party and the first thing I saw was a girl crying and vomiting into the bushes. This seemed like a good start. Evidently everyone who was celebrating that day started at about 8am. I've never really believed that the students at UBC have much school spirit, but my doubts were wiped away like pukey chin-spit when I saw belligerently drunk first-year students falling into the shrubbery before noon. Dedication like that brings a tear.

McInnes Field was caged off, and once I passed inside it was like being in a cattle pen. Most of the cattle were lined up so they could show their IDs to security people and cross into the "mature" side of the cage and buy beer. The lines snaked into the distance, and as I joined their ranks, clouds began to obscure the sun.

The line didn't move and day got darker. The idea of waiting longer to drink became less appealing. I'd had a few beers, maybe a joint or two, and some mushrooms in the hours leading up to the Block Party. My stomach was agitated and I felt cold. The psilocybin kicked in as the first raindrops began to fall.

A small group was beginning to bob and shuffle around the stage, and an opening band called Hey Ocean! began to play. I joined them, and started to shift back and forth to the music. Looking down, I noticed the grass was twisting and growing at super speed. The trees around the stage writhed in the fog, and I realized my body was completely wet.

At this point I was struck with an immense pity for every human alive, and their unending desires for the transient pleasures of the material world. My shoes were filling with mud, and I decided that, if I were in fact dead, this would be Limbo. Everything was grey and the people around me were wraiths.

The shuffle around the stage became more intense. I gave up and let myself be bumped along to the music. Hey Ocean! was playing, and the lead singer—a cherub from a Renaissance painting, halo and all—implored us to dance. She pointed over the crowd, and as heads turned to look, a patch of sky lit up gold. People started to move. Everyone seemed drunk but I felt more sober than usual. The band on stage told us to dance harder to clear the clouds. This seemed infallibly logical, and the crowd agreed.

As the song ended, a hard beam of sunlight hit the stage and I felt a spark of something like hope for the human race. A guy elbowed me in the head and I forgave him with Bohisattva-like compassion. The rain had stopped and another dance had started. Fingers of photons stretched through the crowd and I felt warmth on my shoulders. We surged and shouted praise for the sun. Heads began to steam as the clouds retreated and the temperature increased. Someone tried to crowd surf and fell in the mud. Everyone laughed.

By the time Hey Ocean! finished playing, the world had been redeemed and cosmic order reestablished. I got tired of the music and left after the Barenaked Ladies played a few songs. The beer lines were gone. I had a VIP badge for the Party because I was supposed to write for the paper. It made me look like a dick so I'd given it to my friend before the show started. He came back drunk and told me the pass got him free beer. I didn't know the magical pass warranted free beer. I found my way to the VIP section and smoked and drank and listened to "One Week."

Leaving the Block Party, I passed a field full of broken plastic cups lit up by the sunset like lilies of the valley. People were making out and falling down and it smelled like spring.

OH, THE DEPRAVITY

Into the dark heart of the 2010 Block Party

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Campus, late morning. The walk past McInnes Field is longer than usual, the layers of protective fencing bloating its radius, making it into something pseudo-industrial, psuedo-professional ... keeping out the bad students. Or keeping out the good students, letting in the rest? A containment unit, an ecto-container: pull the cord and the ghosts of bad mistakes past and future go whirling into the field with the beer tents and the burger grill and the rows upon rows of gleaming blue port-a-johns...

Somehow in the post-class maelstrom of the SUB I find the news office and grab the necessities: tape recorder. Wallet. Aviators. Emergency gin. Two big gulps of the second and a hit off someone's beer and I'm back out into the real world, swinging down the hallways. Phone rings; we're all drinking in a secret office location! Get down here now! I hustle through the doors and someone puts a litre of orange juice in my hand; someone else hands me a beer. The little guy has my tape recorder and someone has handed me a third thing, a coke thing, and somewhere far away "Settlers of Catan" is being played. Well.

Oh God, it's not even 3pm and I've been picked up bodily six times.

Another office, another table of questionable legality. Someone storms in to yell about the cops and storms back out. I think there's a protest being organized; we're all going to smoke in front of the fascist fuckers. But first, finishing this drink. Someone claps a hat on my head, troops are gathered and we commence the march up and out and into the parking lot, singing the songs of the revolution. The songs of the revolution seem to be largely from the early 90s.

A little hassle at the registration table; the hipsters are unhappy about our numbers. Damn right they should be; the armies of the revolution are innumerable! ... and we're cranky bastards, don't be fooled by our sweet demeanour; we've infiltrated this area not to be closer to the stage but to wreak havoc among the ranks of the supposed elite, the lucky sons of bitches with their stick-on VIP and their all-access to the washed-up ... picture our masses, sweating, unwashed, yearning to be free—or intoxicated—storming the beer kegs, compostable cups outstretched...

> ...wreak havoc among the ranks of the supposed elite, the lucky sons of bitches with their stick-on VIP and their all-access to the washed-up...

Hey Ocean! tells the crowd they have a song for people born in the 90s, and the mass of them, the heaving screaming drunken bloody mass of them go nuts, throwing themselves on the goddamn barricades like suicidal blues onto a beach, exploding where they once lay quietly ... and Deee-Lite grooves us all in the heart, even the couple humping against the side of the toilets.

Later. Four or five of us lined up along the fence, watching a girl down on all fours, puking into the grass—that's how you can tell which ones have really had enough, they can't make it to the more socially acceptable regurgitation areas, like the toilets or the area around the toilets. Security milling around, waiting for her to finish up before they ask her to leave. Someone takes a picture, and she coughs out a little more, then heads back into the fray with her friends. Hippies move in to dance in the same area, and the Barenaked Ladies take the stage. Eight guitars, no stage presence ... and the aggressively Canadian stage banter is making my head hurt.

But the crowd is still loving it—some of them have even crossed the divide from the piss-up booze-soaked side of the field to the area where the bands are playing—and they're jamming themselves up towards the band again, faces upstretched towards the residual odor of fame ... mouths and nostrils splayed open to catch it ... some great horrible wonderful schmear of beer and drugs and sun and bodies across the field. Tomorrow there'll be great trampled swaths in the grass, and piles of beer cups... crunching beneath our feet as we stumble out into a decidedly lowering evening, mumbling song lyrics into the back of our carriers. It's all been done before.

A SOBER AND REASONED ANALYSIS

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Reviewing Block Party is sort of a strange thing to do. For example, I don't usually make a habit of going over to a party at my friend Stanley's house and then critiquing his guacamole and chip bowl (which sucks, by the way). For what it's worth, then, here is a review of the music event that is Block Party.

First up was Michael Bernard Fitzgerald, a name with far too many syllables to be catchy or easy to say. Anyway, I've never really liked MBF because his whole ridiculously-huge-band shtick always seemed like a gimmick to me. However, I am happy to report that I was fairly impressed with his performance, probably due to the fact that there was only a small group of musicians onstage. His conversation between songs was awkwardly funny but that is the sort of thing that he does and it does show a certain level of stage presence and showmanship. I'm not crazy about the peppiness of most of his tunes but they did seem to suit the last day of class.

> This was the weakest performance of the day, yet by the time BNL took the stage, everyone was too drunk to notice.

Next, Hey Ocean! took the stage. I've honestly never listened to anything by Hey Ocean! before but they too certainly seemed up for the challenge of playing while everyone drank themselves blind. I wasn't crazy about their effort to pad out their set list with covers of Green Day and The Cardigans, but again, everyone else seemed to enjoy it. Nothing in their show really convinced me to start caring about them but nothing really turned me off either.

Finally, Barenaked Ladies arrived onstage. This was, I felt, the weakest performance of the day, yet by the time BNL took the stage, everyone was too drunk to notice. BNL supposedly used to shine with their humourous performance between songs. At Block Party, this humour revolved solely around telling people to drink more water and some inane mention of the kraken. It seemed forced. Obviously it's difficult to judge BNL properly without their chief singer/songwriter. Time will tell if this proves to be a killing blow to them or not, but it wasn't quite the experience I had hoped. Old favourites "One Week" and "If I Had $1,000,000" were played well and certainly resounded with our collective memories of being ten.

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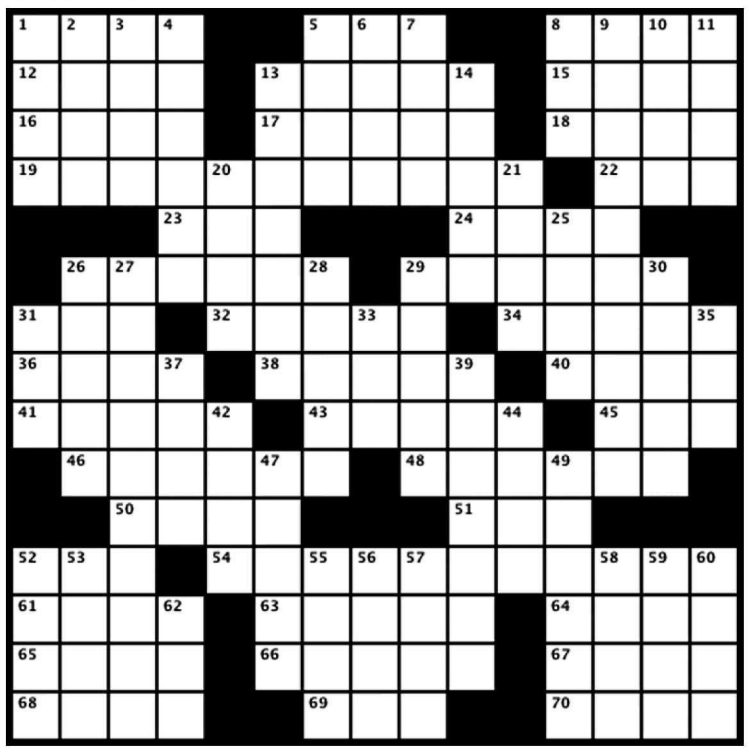

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ACROSS

1. Darn
5. Back talk
8. Water, abroad
12. Between ports
13. Swellings
15. Respiratory organ
16. Drops from the sky
17. New York city
18. "Venerable" English monk
19. Ancient language of Gaul
22. Aurora's counterpart
23. Cornerstone abbr.
24. Frond plant
26. Actress Mason
29. Anew
31. Darlin'
32. DuBois' "talented" group
34. Valleys
36. Baltic feeder
38. Ascends
40. Actress Turner
41. Humped ruminant
43. Chairs
45. Cpl., for one
46. Small lobe
48. Deceive
50. Former French colony of north-western Africa
51. Decoration at the top of a chair leg
52. Land in la mer
54. Imperturbable
61. Goes down
63. New Hampshire city
64. Person, place, or thing
65. Bottom of the barrel
66. Four-door
67. Cross inscription
68. Goes astray
69. Convened
70. Elderly, matured

DOWN

1. Sportscaster Albert
2. Biblical birthright seller
3. Singer Sedaka
4. Peril
5. Lounge
6. Brain wave
7. Heating fuel
8. Long-sleeved linen vestment
9. State in NE Australia
10. Go back, in a way
11. A long time
13. Arctic gale
14. Smell
20. Kind of prof.
21. Dweeb
25. Actual
26. Related to form
27. Wind speed measuring instrument
28. Licorice-like flavoring
29. In front
30. Therefore
31. Ad
33. Half a fly
35. Paulo, Brazil
37. First name in country
39. Raise a grade?
42. Corker
44. Hit with an open hand
47. Rings of a chain
49. The Muse of astronomy
52. Land in water
53. Lecherous look
55. Dues
56. Moon of Jupiter
57. Med school subj.
58. Dull resonant sound
59. Decoy
60. Children's author Blyton
62. Draft org.

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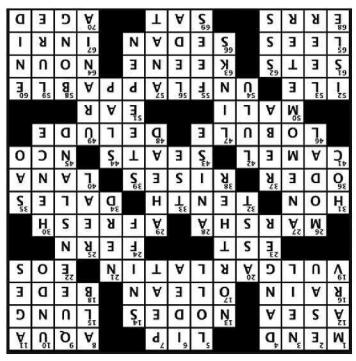

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- Commencement date for Secondary programs : January 2011.

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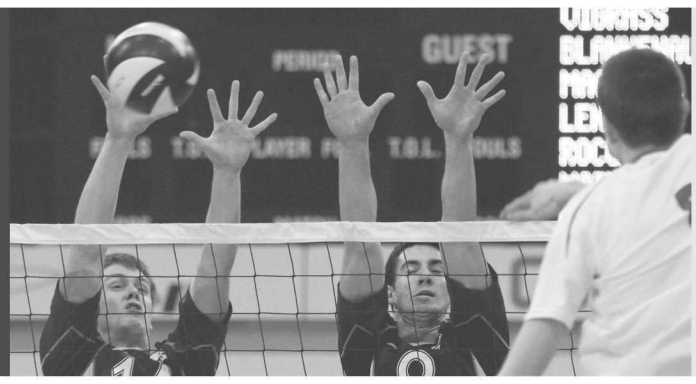
CRICOS 00233E

SPORTS



EDITOR JUSTIN McELROY » sports@ubyssey.ca

PHOTO CREDITS FOR THIS PAGE GO TO:

- Keegan Bursaw
- Gerald Deo
- Sol Kaufman (*The Martlet*)

The Ubyssey's T-Bird Awards

Celebrating the best on campus for 2009/2010

JUSTIN MCELROY
sports@ubyssey.ca

Another season in the books, another year of winners and losers in campus sports. And while UBC Athletics held their annual awards dinner last week, there's no reason we can't replicate that here, minus the banquet, trophies and pomp. Our esteemed panel of judges:

- Justin McElroy: *Ubyssey* Sports Editor.
- Gerald Deo: *Ubyssey* Photo Editor
- Keegan Bursaw: Head *Ubyssey* sports photographer
- Ian Turner: *Ubyssey* sportswriter
- Wilson Wong: Longtime CiTR Sports reporter
- Jason Wang: CiTR Sports reporter

And now, the categories. In honour of the Olympics, we'll be going gold-silver-bronze here.

TOP FEMALE ATHLETE

Gold: Liz Cordonier, Volleyball
Silver: Jaclyn Dunnett, Soccer
Bronze: Martha McCabe, Swimming

Martha McCabe dominated the women's swimming circut all year, and Jaclyn Dunnett finished her UBC career with another outstanding season in goal, giving up just 11 goals in 18 games. But Cordonier had a CIS MVP award, and was captain of an undefeated championship team—about as perfect a season as you can get.

TOP MALE ATHLETE

Gold: Josh Whyte, Basketball
Silver: Blair Bann, Volleyball
Bronze: Cory Renfrew, Golf
Honourable Mention: Graham Smith, Soccer

Smith got serious consideration for another solid year anchoring the defense of UBC's acclaimed men's soccer team. Renfrew dominated in the NAIA for a second straight year, and Blair Bann was the star on a disappointing volleyball team, bringing home his second straight Libero of the Year award. But Whyte (17.4 points, 4.0) was named MVP of men's basketball for the entire CIS—a heady feat when you consider how many quality university basketball teams there are.

BEST TEAM

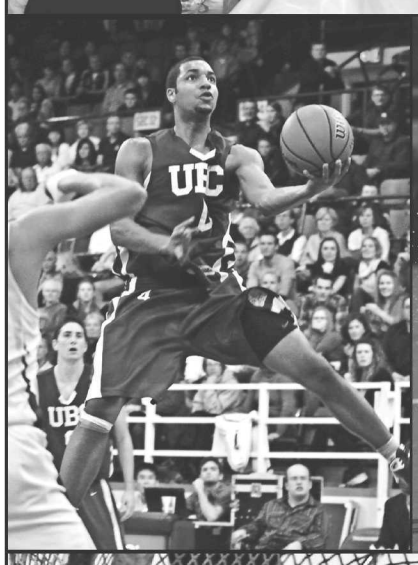
Gold: Women's Volleyball
Silver: Women's Field Hockey
Bronze: Men's Basketball

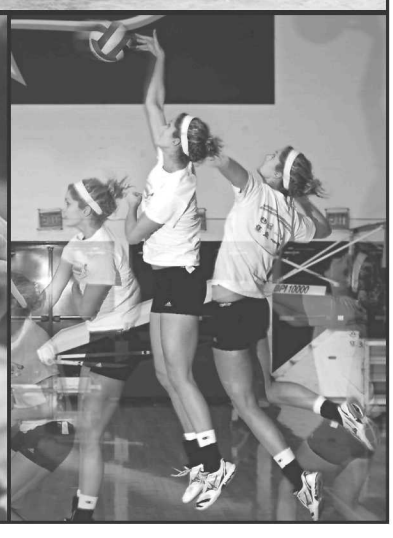
It doesn't take a rocket scientist to figure this one out. The men's basketball team finished second in the country, and the women's field hockey and volleyball teams finished first. But the women's volleyball team went 25-0 on the season, won every award they could, and ended the year with their third straight national championship. Any questions?

MOST DISAPPOINTING TEAM

Gold: Men's Volleyball
Silver: Men's Football
Bronze: Men's Hockey

Both the hockey and football teams were expected to struggle during the year, as young teams that hadn't cracked .500 in a few seasons. But the volleyball team went from 10-8 in 2008/2009 to 4-4 this year.





ROOKIE OF THE YEAR

Gold: Abigail Raye, Field Hockey
Silver: Janine Frazao, Women's Soccer
Bronze: Luc Bruchet, Cross-Country

A cross-country runner, Bruchet had the second best showing by a Canadian at the World Junior Cross Country Championships last month, capping off an impressive season. Janine Frazao gets on the list by scoring four goals in a game not once, but twice in the same weekend, no less. Raye gets the nod for stepping in to become a key player on a championship team for UBC in her first year.

MOST UNDERRATED ATHLETE

Gold: Radha Jain, Women's Rugby
Silver: Jessica Von Schilling, Women's Volleyball
Bronze: Kamar Burke, Men's Basketball

Burke burst out of nowhere for the T-Birds this year, leading the team in rebounds. On a team full of stars, Von Schilling managed to get in the starting lineup in just her second year at UBC. But Radha Jain was a pillar of strength for the women's rugby team all year long, and had three tries in their final victory of the season, a 27-0 win over the Western Mustangs in the CIS Championships.

BIGGEST UPSET

Gold: Men's Basketball upset by Saskatchewan in Canada West semifinal.
Silver: Women's hockey shocks Alberta 2-0, their first ever loss to UBC in women's hockey.
Bronze: After struggling all year, the men's volleyball team defeat Calgary in five sets. Calgary goes on to win CIS championship.

WEIRDEST MOMENT

1) After scoring a basket, Lia St Pierre of the women's basketball team leaves the court in the middle of a live defensive possession in order to cope with an 'emergency digestive malfunction' at a trash bin behind her bench.

2) With UBC's football team well out of the playoff race, both Manitoba and SFU are discovered to have used ineligible players during the year, giving UBC retroactive wins. However, even after being bumped from one to three wins, the T-Birds are unable to make the playoffs, costing Ted Goveia his job as head coach.

3) Thunderbird Arena comes alive for the Games. It was more than a little weird seeing a UBC facility full of screaming fans, as it was for the duration of the Olympics and Paralympics. People flocked to the stadium, cheered their lungs out, and then walked down Wesbrook Mall, exchanging high-fives with strangers. And while there's little chance of that happening with UBC teams, we can dream, right?

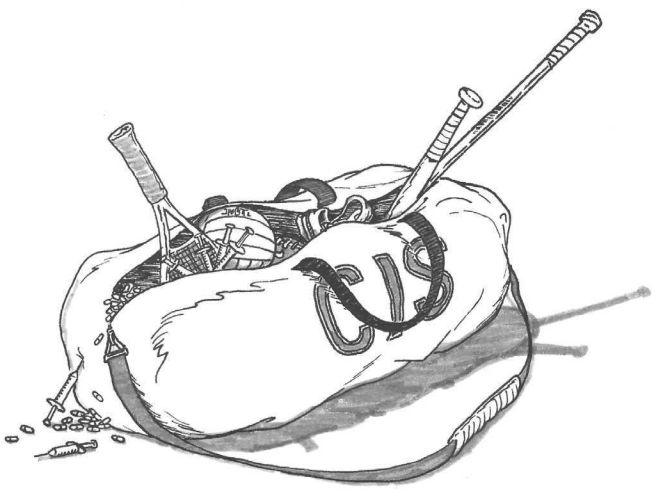
COACH OF THE YEAR

Gold: Doug Reimer, Women's Volleyball
Silver: Hash Kanjee, Field Hockey
Bronze: Kevin Hanson, Men's Basketball
Honourable Mention: Dick Mosher

Kanjee, in his 16th year, took a young UBC team to yet another national championship. Hanson and Reimer were both named CIS coaches of the year, but Reimer gets the edge due to his team finishing first and Hanson's team finishing second. But a special nod must be given to Mosher, who stepped down after 24 years and 9 national championships for the both the men's and women's soccer programs.

The Drug Testing Debate

Is the CIS doing enough to deter varsity athletes from doping?



ANTHONY GOERTZ GRAPHIC/THE UBYSSEY

HENRY LEBARD & ASHLEY WHILLANS
awhillans@ubyssey.ca

In the 21st century, you can't mention sports without bringing up performance-enhancing drugs. They serve as an ever-present threat to the integrity and credibility of sports around the world.

Canadian universities are no exception. Last year, four varsity athletes in Canadian Interuniversity Sport (CIS) tested positive for banned substances: three for marijuana use and one for steroids.

Normally a side of the CIS that gets little attention, last week the issue exploded with the arrest of Nathan Zettler, a University of Waterloo football player who was not only using, but also trafficking, performance-enhancing anabolic steroids.

According to UBC Human Kinetics Assistant professor James Rupert, an anti-doping expert, the problem of performance enhancers in university sports isn't about to go away anytime soon.

"The problem is that it escalates. If I take a little bit I go a little bit faster, then you take a little more...eventually one of us is going to start taking a dangerous level and take unnecessary risks," he said.

As drugs become easier to obtain, harder to detect, and competition increases, a question presents itself to the university athletic system and its varsity players: Just how effective is drug testing? Is the Canadian Interuniversity Sport (CIS), the largest multi-sport organization in Canada, doing enough to prevent young athletes from diving into the dangerous and tempting world of doping?

THE CCES'S DOPING CONTROL PROGRAM

To keep athletes in check when it comes to drug use, the CIS collaborates with the Canadian Centre for Ethics in Sport (CCES) to create and maintain a doping control program. It aims to ensure athletes comply with the rules of the Canadian Anti-Doping program.

Tom Huisman, Director of CIS operations, said the CCES are crucial for the legitimacy of their efforts. "You need to work through them if you want to have a doping program that is recognized and respected," he argued.

Yet the question still remains of how respected the CIS drug testing program is. Huisman said that on average 300 to 450 student athletes are tested per year. In the 2008/2009 academic year, only 2.69 per cent of varsity athletes were tested.

"The number needs to balance the resources that are available [from the CCES] and the objectives of the program itself," said Huisman. "With that number, it comes to about 1 in 20 to 1 in 25 student athletes...the odds are that one athlete can be tested from each team."

Although one member from every team *can* be tested, in reality drug tests are administered in certain sports than others. In 2009, 108 tests were administered in football. Swimming, soccer, rugby and other sports had ten tests or less administered to players nationwide.

With the cost of each test estimated at $500, Huisman said it is necessary for the CIS to test certain sports more than others based on their history of drug use. "You want to put your resources in an area where you might have issues," he said.

Despite the financial necessity of selective drug testing, these uneven procedures have caused apathy in players from less frequently tested sports.

Chloe O'Neill, a member of the UBC rowing team, said, "I've never been tested. I don't know of anyone on the rowing team that's been tested."

"If you win gold at Nationals, you don't get tested. I doubt I would ever get tested. Ever!"

INTELLIGENT TESTING

The drug testing policies in place in the CIS not only focus on specific sports, but also focus on specific athletes.

The CIS' drug control program states that all CIS athletes are eligible to be tested both in-competition and out of competition, through either random or targeted testing.

One of the criteria that increases a player's chances of being tested is the position they play. Certain positions are more likely to be tested because of the higher benefit that drugs have to these players.

CCES more frequently tests individuals who have a history of failed drug tests or who have gained a considerable amount of weight within a relatively short period of time. They also take tips from other coaches and players in attempts to catch players doping. These not-so-random drug tests have a mixed reaction with athletes.

Justin Belzile, a member of the UBC football team in 2009, said that he definitely noticed the difference between athletes who were tested and those who were not.

"I can't really say anything, because I have no idea, I only have assumptions. But I can tell you that I made those assumptions by knowing who got tested—people who obviously look like they [took] steroids," he said.

Women's volleyball team star Liz Cordonier, who was recently named CIS MVP in her sport for the 2009/2010 season, has been tested by the CCES three times.

During one incident she was approached by two testers while sunbathing at her home in Winnipeg. She was also tested after nationals alongside her teammate.

When asked if she felt being tested so frequently was fair practice, she replied, "Yeah, what's the point of testing if you're just wasting everybody's time?"

EDUCATION

In addition to tests, the CIS also attempts to control the use of doping through education. In 2008 an online education program on doping was created. This program consists of an online test that is now mandatory for every athlete to complete to play at the CIS level and teaches players of their rights and responsibilities.

While players have to print out a certificate after taking the test and send it to their athletic department, Huisman admitted that the CIS doesn't actually look at these records.

"CIS does not require schools to provide proof that their student-athletes have been administered the educational program," he explained.

However, Huisman didn't seem too worried. "I believe, and am confident, that the schools are pretty diligent to make sure that their athletes are well-educated on it."

O'Neill, who was never required to complete an anti-doping education program, said, "Our coach doesn't talk to us about it....There was some kind of meeting for it, but I don't think any of us went to it."

Although the CIS contends that their drug-testing program is effective, the limited size and scope of the CIS and CCES drug-testing program has often been criticized.

Now with the recent discovery of performance enhancing drug trafficking at Waterloo University, the question remains—is the CIS truly doing enough to

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IDEAS

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EDITOR TREVOR RECORD » ideas@ubyssey.ca

YOU SAID IT

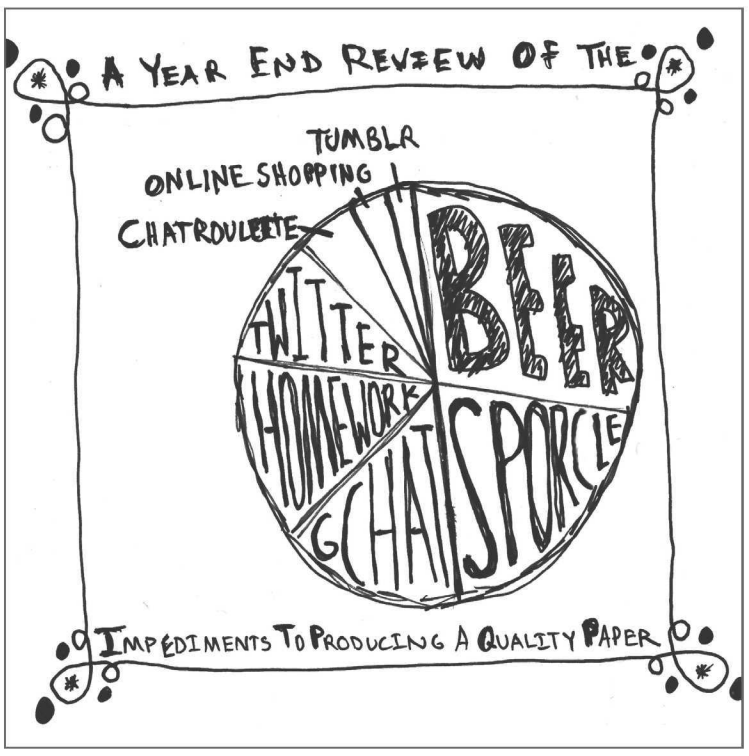
IN RESPONSE TO "COUNCIL CUTS EQUITY PROGRAM [APRIL 8, 2010]":

Of course we do not want any discrimation or harassment at the AMS. However Blake and Stefanie Ratjin-I understand you are trying to get a spot in the NDP party by pulling these stunts on the backs of students.Very sad.

—Mr. Cool [April 15]

What are you referring to by "these stunts" anonymous? If you believe that standing up for equity is a stunt, then it is not true that we all want to eliminate discrimination and harassment in the AMS.

—Blake Frederick [April 15]



BRENDAN ALBANO GRAPHIC/THE UBYSSEY

EDITORIAL

THE OBLIGATORY YEAR-END EDITORIAL

Much to the chagrin of regular students and navel-gazing hacks, this is *The Ubyssey*'s last issue for this semester. We'll resume printing near the end of August, but until then you'll have to rely on our web updates if you want the latest about Stephen Toope's surprisingly crummy car, which concert on campus was underwhelming and what Bijan Ahmadian had for breakfast.

The past year at UBC was eventful, to say the least. You can read our top stories from the last year on page 4, if you're into that sort of thing. More generally, this was a year of old eras ending and new ones beginning.

Tuition increased again this year, and the upward trend shows no signs of stopping in the near future. However, compared to schools in other provinces and in the US, these increases were modest, especially considering the university's deficit and loss of hundreds of millions of its endowment during the recession.

We haven't exactly dodged the bullet, but it looks like we're a lot better off than many students. What is more alarming is that the new Sauder building will be financed by a hefty student fee, setting a precedent for the university to finance ongoing upgrades via backdoor charges.

Speaking of Sauder, in the student political sphere the campus left-wing fell apart and campus conservatives seized power. The largest number of students in recent history voted in a group of AMS politicians made largely of fraternity members and Commerce students, replacing the old group that had begun their careers after slates were banned.

This new group has already begun alienating a wide variety of students on some key issues such as tuition and social services. At the risk of sounding like ambulance-chasing vultures, we're excited to see what sort of reaction this will solicit. However, until someone steps out from the wreckage that Tim Chu and Blake Frederick created for progressive students on campus, they'll be left voiceless.

The Olympics finally came and, frankly, had less of an impact on campus than we were anticipating. One of the most massive events to occur in the city didn't mean too much more for UBC than a sports facility upgrade, some inconvenient traffic along Wesbrook Mall and a major dip in sales for campus food services. Whether you were looking to soak in the atmosphere or to protest it, you really had to go downtown to see the splash made by the Games.

As we said before, *The Ubyssey* will be publishing stories on our web site for the remainder of the summer until we begin printing again. After that, without making any promises, we can say that we have shifted a lot of our resources towards continuing to improve the quality and quantity of our online and multimedia content.

After you pass through the two excruciating weeks of exams that are coming up, we'd like to encourage you all to make the most of your time off. You've spent all year busting your back over school, and now is the time to reward yourself. Take road trips with friends, go to parties, get involved in a tragically doomed romance, or whatever else you can do to really get the most out of life.

Believe it or not, after university is over you'll be confronted with a terrifying "real world" in which spontaneous border-hopping missions for Jack and the Box and cheap beer suddenly become a lot more rare.

For those of you that have to continue school or work during the summer... well, looks like you're already living partially outside of that stupendous fantasy land we call higher education. Sorry about that, welcome to the club.

Thanks for reading, and if you're graduating, good luck out there. If not, we'll see you in September.

TOO SEXY

KASHA CHANG
& AUSTIN HOLM
toosexy@ubyssey.ca

DEAR TOO SEXY,

I am a guy who doesn't really get into flings often. When I have sex, I usually do it with a partner, and not generally right away. I've never been anti-fling, generally, but it just doesn't happen. Except last weekend, when it happened.

I slept with a girl I only really knew by sight. Afterwards, I felt like it was only meant to be a fling and treated it like it. I felt like we both knew what we were in for. But every once in a while I'll think about it, you know? Browse her Facebook profile and wonder if she's expecting me to add her, or what will happen the next time we run into each other at a party. The worst is that although I feel that way, I'm still not sure I would date her if the opportunity arose. Am I just bad at flings, or is this a normal adjustment period?

Yours truly,
—Ambiguous In Retrospect

HEY AIR,

One of the worst things in the world of sex and relationships is not knowing where you stand. Flings are notorious for their insecurity, conflict and amorphous definition, so clarity is really important.

Decide what you want, ask yourself if you're ready for a relationship, and if you are find out more about this girl to determine if you'd want a relationship with her. Don't lead her on if you're not sure, because that's how people get hurt. Make sure you're not browsing her profile out of boredom, loneliness or horniness rather than actual interest. You might be surprised at how much boredom can feel like romantic interest.

Having said all that, one of the other big problems with sex and relationships is our drive to define the hell out them. We compartmentalize people and our relationships with them so we don't have to deal with the uncertainty they bring. Some we label "friend," others "relationship material," still more "random impersonal sex fling" and so on. But sometimes, doing that can keep us from seeing the possibilities you might have with a person, and finding aspects of your relationship with them that are new, unexpected and interesting.

You say you "felt like it was only meant to be a fling," but you also tell us you barely knew the first thing about this woman. How do you know you wouldn't be interested in her if you got to know her better? You're the one who gets to define what your relationships are meant to be. They're not predetermined by some sort of mystic contextual force. Relationships with people evolve as we get to know them, and sometimes that evolution goes places we didn't foresee when we met them.

If you're not in a good place for a relationship right now, that's one thing. If you put the question to her and she isn't into it, that's another. But not making a move or at least finding out more out of fear of uncharted territory, or that things wouldn't work out, is just silly.

Relationships—all relationships, even purely sexual ones—involve an element of risk, in which you have to put yourself out there to make anything happen at all. Sometimes, "it was only meant to be a fling" is actually code for "I'm not sure if she's interested and I'm too insecure to give up my plausible deniability."

The fact that you're still thinking about this girl tells us that you're at least somewhat interested. True flings don't generally have a normal adjustment period.

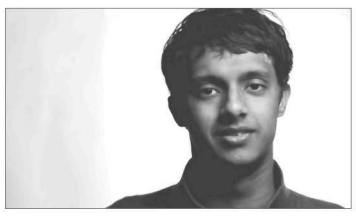
So proceed with the appropriate amount of caution and have some fun. If nothing comes of it, you haven't lost much. The opportunity to find the answers here is worth a little trouble in our *Too Sexy* opinon.

Anyways, that's it for this week, and semester. Send your letters, blah blah blah, and we'll get to them many months from now.

And one last thing: having read last week's "Sorta Sexy," this writer feels obligated to answer the question of why our reply wasn't simply "don't let your cat watch." The simple answer to this is that it's fun to write about perverted cats and their naïve owners. These are the letters that make this column fun to write.

PERSPECTIVE

INTERNATIONAL STUDENTS NEED LEADERS AT UBC



ADEEB TAWSEEF
Contributor

It's no lie that international students here at UBC face various unique problems. Many complain about the university's lack of proper support for international students, or how they have experienced many hurdles with their study permit application and other legal issues. Others complain about the infamous Language Proficiency Index (LPI) test, which many argue to be biased and unfair towards non-native English speakers. I have met many international students who can fluently speak English, yet struggled to pass that test.

A large portion of the international student body is disappointed and frustrated by the ever-increasing tuition here at UBC, which hits us far harder than domestic students. Some say that they may not be able to continue their studies due to the rising costs. But out of all complaints or disappointments I hear from the vibrant and diverse international student body, one stands out: Why isn't anyone doing anything about our problems? Why don't we see more solutions to our problems than promises?

The university has tried to listen to the problems of international students, and does want solutions to the problems we face—good news for us. In the past it has often been difficult for the university to properly liaison with the international student body for various reasons. International House and other interested bodies have tried to work with the International Student Association (ISA). The ISA is perhaps the closest international students have to a body that represents us in the university community—and it's not enough.

It is high time for us international students to unite and fight for ourselves. We can't complain and hope for the university to just take care of us. We can't wait for the AMS to create "dialogue" or "work" with us. Only international students understand the struggles of other international students. Unless you are in the shoes of an international student you have few reasons to fight for them.

I believe the greatest problem for international students at UBC is the lack of proper leaders who represent us. There has been much talk to unite and work as a group to address the issues of international students. There are various student associations that are designed to represent students' home countries or ethic groups, but there has been little or no united representation for international students.

Naysayers may claim that there isn't anyone who can represent all of us, or that we, the international students, are too lazy to stand up for ourselves. I beg to differ. We have leaders—it's only matter of identifying them and letting them know they have support.

We need leaders who can be our voice and fight for long-term solutions. Now is the time where we should start to change things. I am confident that if international students start taking up roles and portraying themselves as a united group there will be positive change. This university has been good, in recent memory, at listening to students when they unite in numbers and are clear about what they want. But none of this will happen if leaders do not start being leaders.

Res Advisor's comments land him in hot water

Place Vanier RA Alex Van Drunen said he was told to send parties to Totem

JENNY TSUNDU
Contributor

Place Vanier Residence Advisor (RA) Alex Van Drunen has come under criticism from his supervisors for comments he made in an interview with *The Ubyssey*.

In the February 8 article, "Totem vs Vanier," Van Drunen revealed to *The Ubyssey* that a Vanier staff manager had told advisors to send rowdy parties to Totem Park Residence.

Van Drunen was called in to meet with his Residence Life Manager and the Assistant Director of Residence Life, Kate Ferguson, who informed him that he had breached a clause in his employment contract regarding communication with the media. A file documenting the violation is now in his record.

Only a day after the article was published, angry commenters who claimed to be Totem Park RAs posted remarks such as, "Alex is an idiot" and "Alex better not get re-hired if he plans on returning" on *The Ubyssey*'s website.

Van Drunen said he was taken aback. "I was surprised at how quickly [the comments] came up, and the nature of them," he said. "I honestly thought that if there were going to be complaints, they would have been from people who work above me in Vanier, but most of the complaints came from Totem."

"Based on the quotes that I said, it sounded more or less like I was badmouthing Totem RAs, and saying that they weren't doing their jobs, which wasn't what I was trying to get across at all," he said. "If anything, my intention was to criticize how puritanical Vanier RAs are. I like the way Totem RAs do business."

After the meeting, Van Drunen was informed he had breached his contract by speaking to a media outlet without receiving permission from Residence Life administration. While he recalled that this part of his contract was explained to him during his training, he claimed that it had slipped his mind at the time of his interview with *The Ubyssey*.

"If we are to represent Residence Life, then we are to ask permission beforehand," he said, "but if we are just being interviewed as individuals then that's okay. It wasn't like I set out with the intention of screwing the system; it just honestly didn't come to me."

Van Drunen said that his comments to *The Ubyssey* are not representative of Residence Life's stance for this article.

One of Van Drunen's residents, first-year Arts student Ryan Thompson, defended his RA and said he feels that Residence Life's policies are hypocritical. "It sounds like it violates free speech...it's probably not a great idea, considering UBC sees itself as a liberal university."

When asked whether he will be allowed to re-apply to his RA position next year, Van Drunen said he doesn't know. "I had no intention of coming back, so I never asked [about it]."

Van Drunen maintains that his comments in the original article are true, but also praised the administration on the professionalism of its response.

"[They] presented it to me in a very serious, professional manner, but everybody was really good about it," he said. "I think I got more respect from the administration...and for the administration because of the whole thing." U

—With files from Larisa Karr and Arshy Mann

RA Alex Van Drunen maintains Totem is rowdier than Place Vanier. **ANTHONY GOERTZ GRAPHIC**/THE UBYSSEY

LETTERS

TO THE EDITOR, In her March 25 letter, Justine Spencer is correct to argue that "Abortion is simply not genocide." However, she fails to recognize that there is an analogy between genocide—the selective killing of certain people-groups—and the widespread practice of using abortion to prevent the existence of females or people with mental disabilities. According to the 2009 CIA World Factbook, six countries including China and India have a male:female sex ratio of above 1.10, which is caused by sex-selective abortion and infanticide. As for mental disabilities, in the 1990s fetuses with Down's Syndrome were being aborted at rates ranging from 86 per cent in Boston to 92 per cent in the U.K. and up to 100 per cent in continental Europe, which suggests that in the near future people with Down's will be almost extinct. Perhaps worst of all is that this targeted reduction of women and the disabled is primarily the result of individual choices, not government-run eugenics programs. Therefore, as upsetting as it will be, we need to openly discuss these issues.

—Michael Buttrey

DEAR SIR, What's going on with our universities? Yet another university WOOZY FANATIC provost Francis Huel of Ottawa University out to kill democracy under the guise of offering security for campus speakers! Huel's forcefully exposed gigantic affair re: public speaker Ann Coulter proved to the world that Canada is NOT a DEMOCRACY. Canada is a warfare state. Government out of our lives. OUT. No one voted for communism out. Government IMPOSED censorship = HATE SPEECH. FREE SPEECH=LOVE SPEECH. Houel's usurping power tactic was grotesque. Shame....He should be booted out of there.

—Mary Prinz

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