

The

Link

Wednesday, December 5, 2001

HAPPY HOLIDAYS



Parents are helping less in
financing students' education

see page 3

AIDS: the devastation in the
developing world

see page 5

Films that can save you
over Christmas

see page 6

The Student Newspaper of the British Columbia Institute of Technology

The Link

is the student newspaper of the British Columbia Institute of Technology. Published bi-weekly by the BCIT Student Association, *The Link* circulates 3,500 copies to over 16,000 students and staff.

Contributors:

Bruce McTaggart,
Amy Lapsley,
Cameron Rankin,
Kim Choiniere,
Man-Kin Chan,
Todd Johnston
& Paul Dayson

Managing Editor
Paul Dayson

News Editor
vacant

Arts & Culture Editor
Melina Rousselle

Advertising Representative
Man-Kin Chan

Distribution Managers
Vacant

As a member of Canadian University Press (CUP), *The Link* adheres to CUP's Code of Ethics. To this end *The Link* will not publish material deemed by the editors or steering committee to be sexist, racist, homophobic or in poor taste.

The views in *The Link* are not necessarily those of BCIT, the Student Association, or the editorial collective.

3700 Willingdon Avenue
Burnaby, BC V5G 3H2
Tel: 432-8974
Fax: 431-7619



LINK LETTERS POLICY

The Link welcomes letters. Letters should be typed, double spaced, under 300 words and can be dropped off at *The Link* or SA offices and sent through campus or regular mail. Your name, affiliation with BCIT and a telephone number to contact you (which will not be published) must be included. Anonymity may be granted at the discretion of staff. Letters on disk, as a txt file, with a hard copy would be greatly appreciated. *The Link* reserves the right to edit for clarity and brevity.

Campus Events

This Calendar column is open for notices of events on all BCIT campuses. Submissions can be faxed to 431-7619, sent by campus mail or dropped off at *The Link* office in the SA Campus Centre (down the corridor between the video arcade and the SA copy centre)

Wednesday, December 5

Electronic Engineering Technology: Last day to withdraw and receive a 'W' on transcript for Term B courses.

BCIT Christian Club. Bible study & worship. 11:30am. SW1-2005. Contact Pastor Calvin 451-4568.

Thursday, December 6

Intramurals end.

Recreation Services Drop-In programs end.

Friday, December 7

Technology Entry: Last day of classes.

December 10-14

Examination week for most Technologies.

Friday, December 14

Electronic engineering Technology: Last day of classes before Christmas Break.

Group Fitness ends.

Last Day of operation for SA offices and services until January 2.

Saturday, December 22

Fall term technology grades available on the BCIT website.

Monday, December 24

Christmas Eve.

Tuesday, December 25

Christmas Day. BCIT Closed.

Wednesday, December 26

Boxing Day. BCIT closed.

Monday, December 31

New Year's Eve. BCIT Closed.

Tuesday, January 1

New Year's Day. BCIT Closed.

Wednesday, January 2

Classes begin for most programs.

Electronic Engineering Technology: Classes resume.

Technology Entry: Registration and Orientation.

Medical Radiography: Level 1 Student Orientation.

Thursday, January 3

Level 2, 4, 6 & 8 Fee Deadline for Winter Term.

Medical Radiography: Level 3 & 5 Fee Deadline.

January 7-11

Electronic Engineering Technology Exams.

Advertise in

The Link

Call 432-8974

for rates
or more information

Link call 432-8974 Unclassifieds

Bi-curious? Bi? Gay? Club Vancouver, Bathhouse for Bi and Gay Men. Rooms, lockers, steam, showers, snack bar, videos. 24hrs, 7 days. Students 1/2 price all the time with valid student ID. 339 West Pender St. 681-5719

Int. design texts & ref. books, all as new. Orig. to \$140, now \$2 to \$10ea. (604) 980-2845 eves.

Wanted: Used ping-pong table, folding, on wheels. Call 604-254-8507.

Workstudy positions are available with the Student Association



Drop by the SA Office or call 604-432-8549 for more information.

THIS WEEK'S CFML HOT 20



- 1 THE WATCHMEN
- 2 POWDERFINGE
- 3 TRAVIS
- 4 DAVID USHER
- 5 WEEZER
- 6 SMOOTHER
- 7 EVE 6
- 8 BETTER THEN EZRA
- 9 AMERICAN HI-FI
- 10 LONG BEACH ALLSTARS
- 11 CAKE
- 12 U2
- 13 LIVE
- 14 CRANBERRIES
- 15 GORILLAZ
- 16 DAVID USHER
- 17 POE
- 18 BARENAKED LADIES
- 19 LIFEHOUSE
- 20 GARBAGE

Absolutely Anytime
Waiting For The Sun
Side
Alone In The Universe
Jl Island In The Sun
East Side
Here's To The Night
Extra Ordinary
Another Perfect Day
Sunny Hours
Short Skirt/Long Jacket
Stuck in a Moment You Can't Get Overcome
Analyse
19-2000
Black Black Heart
Wild
Falling For The First Time
Sick Cycle Carosoul
Androgyn

TUNE US IN AT HOME... PICK UP YOUR *FREE* CABLE SPLITTER IN SE-10 (BROADCAST CENTER)

Happy Holidays

from *The Link* & your Student Association

See you in 2002!

Parents helping less with education, study finds

MARK KENNEDY
the Ontarian
Canadian University Press

OTTAWA
Up to one third of all post-secondary students in need of financial assistance are falling through the cracks of government student aid programs, a new study has found.

A report released on Monday by Ekos Research Associates, commissioned by the Canada Millennium Scholarship Foundation (CMSF), indicates that more than a third of all students under the age of 22 are not receiving financial assistance from their parents, while a significant number of students aged 22 or older are getting parental assistance.

The report suggests a problem exists because government assistance programs assume every post-secondary student receives financial help from their parents before the age of 22. After this age, student aid packages are reduced.

Furthermore, students older than 22 who apply for student aid can do so without reporting parental income and end up with

more money than they need, the report said.

"A large proportion of students under the age of 22 are not receiving support from their parents," said Sheamus Murphy, a communications official with the foundation. "This is notable because provincial student aid programs, like [the Ontario student loans program] for instance, assume that students under 22 are receiving a certain amount of support from their parents."

Student loans are often reduced based on this assumption, leaving many students with insufficient money for their schooling, Murphy noted.

As a part of a year-long study, 1,524 post-secondary students were surveyed nation-wide. The work is part of an initiative to gather information on how students manage their money on a monthly basis.

Murphy also acknowledged that the federal Millennium Scholarship grant — which the foundation is responsible for — will not be affected by the new data.

"Potentially in the future, we might have a better suggestion for [the government]," he said.



The report also found that four out of 10 students have accumulated debt on their credit cards, with 24 percent of those carrying credit card debt up to \$500, and 19 percent carrying credit card debts of over \$2,500.

The report also noted that the vast majority of students do not earn enough from summer jobs to pay for their education.

"This study shows that the needs assessment for the Canadian student loan program needs to be overhauled," said

Liam Arbuckle, national director of the Canadian Alliance of Student Associations (CASA).

"Too many students are coming out of university or college with so much debt to pay back that they cannot begin to participate in the economy for years," Arbuckle added.

As one possible debt-relief strategy, CASA advocates an income-contingent loan remission (ICLR) program — a hybrid of the income-contingent repayment program that was federally pro-

posed in 1995. The idea was abandoned, however, after widespread student opposition to the program.

CASA's proposal would work in much the same way the 1995 program was intended to work, in that a portion of a student's wage would go towards debt repayment. Under the revamped plan, the government would forgive a portion of a student's debt based on the amount the student earns after they graduate.

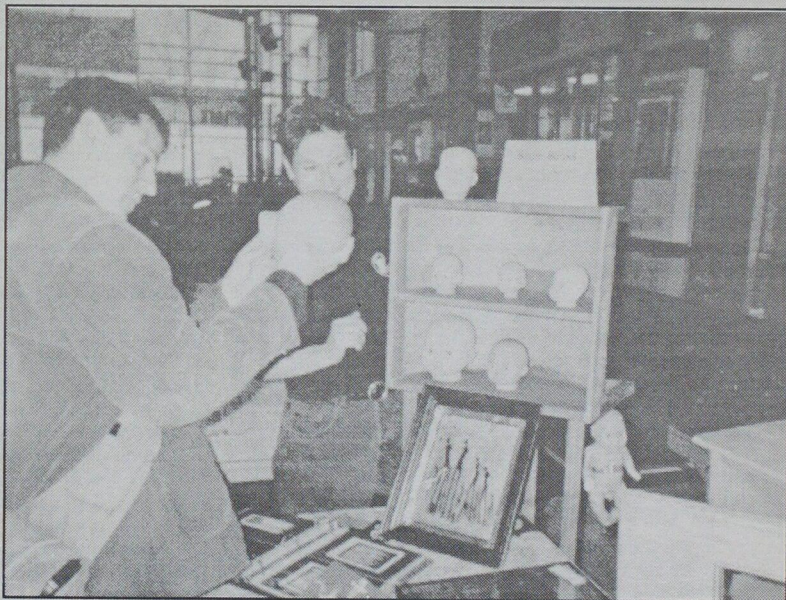
Other organizations have differing perspectives.

Unlike CASA, the Canadian Federation of Students argues in favour of a national grant system, and not a loan remissions program.

"The [CMSF] report strongly reinforces the Canadian Federation of Students' call for a national system of needs-based grants," said Ian Boyko, national chair of the federation.

"The debt resulting from loan programs the federal and provincial governments offer is staggering in and of itself, and I think this report demonstrates that there is a hidden debt, which is the student reliance on credit cards and lines of credit."

BCIT's Eco-X-Mas draws students to planet friendly gifts



Above: A Student examines a Brain Bank—a savings bank made from a doll's head watched by Ocean—the artist who created them.

Left: BCIT's Environmental Education coordinator Todd Johnson, organizer of the SA's EcoXmas event, holding a basket made from recycled telephone books—just one of the many projects demonstrated by Oliver. In the other hand Johnson holds another basket in progress.

PAUL DAYSON PHOTOS

Construction apprenticeships another form of higher education

SHAWN JEFFORDS
Ontario Bureau Chief
Canadian University Press

TORONTO

Jobs and apprenticeships in the construction industry may not be held in the highest regard, but last week the Ontario government and people throughout the sector tried to change that.

Future Building 2001, a three-day conference at the Metro Toronto Convention Centre, drew over 5,000 curious high school students who are considering pursuing apprenticeships in electrical and construction fields. The students tried their hand at wiring phone boxes, laying bricks or walking "high steel" with experts on hand to show them how.

Organizers are hoping to break down some of the common stereotypes associated with the jobs.

"The traditional stereotype is that these are dead-end jobs for people who can't do anything else," said Robyn Connolly, a construction career advisor for the Ontario Construction Secretariat. "Many people in this field already have college diplomas or university degrees. There is also constant upgrading involved."

Bob Hill says that educated workers are the life-blood of the industry. Hill, executive chairman of the Construction Council of Ontario, is eager to get students to consider apprenticing in a trade. However, he never says it's easy.

"We need experts," said Hill. "When they get into this field they are initiating themselves in a life-long learning process."

Hill added his job at the conference was to be a guidance counsellor as well.

"I tell all the kids, 'stick with your math and physics and you'll be ready,'" said Hill. "There are good career opportunities if they come out of high school prepared."

Toronto District School Board instructional leaders Joe Hogan and Carmen Camuti say it's hard to give the trades the attention they deserve because most teachers push students towards college and university first and foremost.

"We're dealing with parents and teachers who in most cases have an academic background," said Camuti. "It isn't what they're traditionally used to encouraging."

Hogan says he's happy with what students were able to take from the conference.

"They come here and they get the hard goods," said Hogan. "It gives students real goals to aim for. I need my grade 12, I need my math; these are things these students need."

Connolly says the conference included a direct attempt to speak to teachers who might have looked down on the industry.

"We're trying to show teachers what we have to offer them and their students," said Connolly. "Most of the time they see the big technology aspects of the show and are surprised."

Along with the sophisticated technology students got to play with, the salary ranges for each profession posted by each booth were surprising to a lot of people.

"A lot of people might think being a plumber is a dead-end job," said Hogan. "But when you have to dish out cash for him to fix something, it'll make you take notice."

Some students at the show appear to be getting the message.

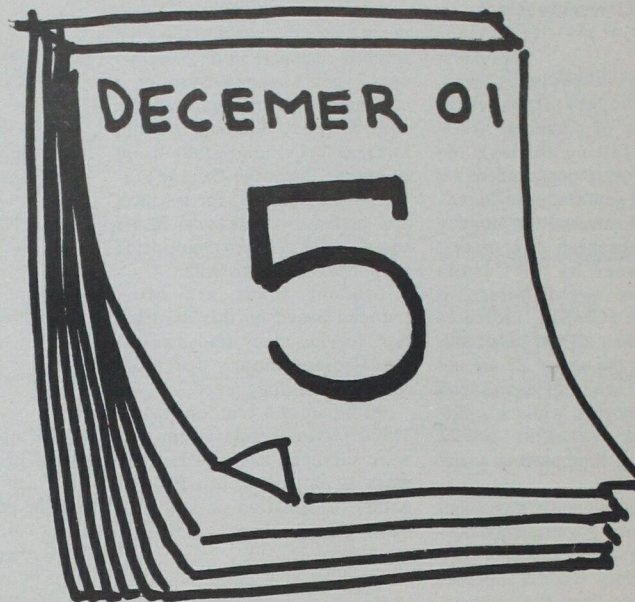
Karen Granados, a student at Toronto's Bloor Collegiate high school, was encouraged by what she saw.

"If you really try hard, you can do anything, that's what this show has taught me," said Granados. "You also learn more with people showing you how to do these things."

The show was also important to the industry itself. It's currently suffering one of the largest skilled worker shortages in decades.

Connolly said the goals of the show are two-fold: beat the stigma and drum up interest in the field.

"We just want people to realize that apprenticeship is another form of post-secondary education."



COUNT DOWN

U of A students call for education accord

Andra Olson
Gateway
Canadian University Press

EDMONTON

Student leaders from the University of Alberta presented a nationwide education proposal to provincial and federal governments this past month.

Meeting in Ottawa with federal leaders and in Alberta with Premier Ralph Klein, the university's graduate students' association president Brad Wuetherick and student union president Chris Samuel proposed a pan-Canadian accord on post-secondary education along with other education-related issues.

The union said the accord would unite provinces under a federal agreement, establishing a set of standards not unlike a similar healthcare accord devised during the last premiers' conference.

Specific expectations would be defined by each province and extra funding would be provided by Ottawa to ensure consistency throughout the country. The idea has been openly supported by the U of A administration.

Wuetherick said a boost in federal education funding would be preferred, although he says that's

not likely because education is a provincial responsibility.

"That's why we are pushing the pan-Canadian accord idea, because then provinces follow through with certain principles and the federal government gives money specifically for education. They might fund a program to help the indirect costs of research, deferred maintenance, like one-time infrastructure funding."

Meeting with Ralph Klein last Thursday, Samuel said the premier showed strong support for the idea. He said Klein was the champion of the healthcare accord during last year's premier's conference and could understand the logic behind such an agreement for education.

"We presented the idea to the premier, saying what we want to achieve in the post-secondary sector has already been achieved in the health sector. He liked it and gave strong support for the accord to the extent that he said that although in the next premier's meeting the agenda will be dominated by healthcare, education and the accord will definitely be introduced into the agenda for the meeting."

In Ottawa, Wuetherick and Samuel presented the accord and other educational concerns along-

side university administrators. Organized through the U of A Office of Governmental Affairs, the Ottawa trip is a yearly affair for U of A administrators to discuss issues affecting the university.

"Almost all of the people that we met with said that we were the first university to bring representatives from undergraduate, graduate students and administration to the table at the same time," said Wuetherick. "We were also one of the universities to have student government reps supporting the administration on issues like indirect costs and international strategies to help bring more students to campus."

Samuel said the information presented by the U of A contingent was well received.

Klein's sentiments were favourably echoed in a meeting with Minister of Inter-Governmental Affairs Stephane Dion, said Samuel.

"Basically we left Mr. Dion's meeting with a promise from the federal government that if the provinces were to come together and agree on major issues regarding education, then the federal government would look favourably on funding amending projects."

AIDS

AS WE MARK WORLD AIDS DAY THE DEVELOPING WORLD IS FACING DEVASTATION

BRUCE MCTAGGERT
Link News Reporter

As of 1998, approximately 30 million people worldwide were living with HIV/AIDS. In addition, 11.7 million people were estimated to have lost their lives to AIDS.

AIDS (Acquired Immune Deficiency Syndrome) was first seen in Africa in the late 1970s. The disease caused by HIV (Human Immunodeficiency Virus). First known as green monkey disease, it was thought to have originated in green monkeys in Africa and to have been transmitted to humans by monkey bites.

I first heard of the disease in 1980 when I was planning a trip overland from Egypt to South Africa. I read about it in a book about the Sudan, "African calliope: a journey to the Sudan" by Edward Hoagland, and the description of the mysterious epidemic was sufficient to convince me not to go. At that time no one knew what caused the disease, and it seemed like the best way to avoid catching it was to stay away.

AIDS is transmitted by HIV, virus that is transmitted between people by body fluids, primarily blood, milk, or sperm. Common methods of transmission are sex, needle sharing among drug addicts, breast feeding babies, and blood transfusions.

Transmission in different societies around the world varies according to local customs.

It is thought that it spread rapidly in many African societies because their sexual customs include having multiple partners. Once the epidemic was generalized, it was common for mothers to pass it to their children either in childbirth or by breastfeeding.

When the disease arrived in North America it was at first thought to be a disease that only homosexuals contracted. In fact it spread rapidly in the homosexual population because of the very promiscuous sexual activities of that group. I knew several men who frequented bath-houses in the early eighties to have sex with strangers and they had a huge number of partners. This was common behaviour at the time and many died because of it.

As time passed, the disease spread into the heroin addict population, transmitted by shared needles. Today in North America, addicts are the highest risk group for AIDS. The infection rate in the homosexual community declined due to a strong campaign to change their sexual habits and to use condoms. Unfortunately recent information suggests that the epidemic is reoccurring in the gay community as younger members are not conscious of the risk.

HIV/AIDS worldwide has adopted two patterns. In the industrialized world most of the people who get it are either drug addicts or homosexuals. In the developing world, most of the people who get it are engaged in heterosexual sex or are the children of those people.

In Africa AIDS has developed into a huge epidemic that threatens the continent. An estimated 21 million people in that region were suffering from HIV/AIDS as of 1998.

The next worse off areas were south and southeast Asia with 5.8 million sufferers and Latin America with 1.3 million sufferers.

HIV/AIDS is concentrated in the poorest regions of the world, mostly because they have the least resources to fight it. Educating people on safe sexual practices seems to be the best way of fighting the

epidemic, but this is particularly difficult in the developing world where illiteracy is common and the germ theory of disease is unknown. An example of this is the belief that has sprung up in parts of Africa that the way to get rid of HIV/AIDS is to sleep with a virgin. The unfortunate result is that it is common for young women to catch the disease from older men who are trying to get cured.

Uganda has had success in combating the epidemic through education. By mobilizing religious and traditional leaders the country has set out to change the nation's sexual customs. Community groups have been set up to counsel adults and youths on safe sex and the results are starting to show.

Unfortunately this country is an exception. Until last year South Africa's president Mbeki was denying there was a link between HIV and AIDS. It was only the embarrassment of hosting a world congress, the 13th International AIDS Conference which forced his government to acknowledge the link.

In 1998 it was estimated that 2.9 million South Africans were living with HIV/AIDS. Many of these were children as the country has a high birth rate and the infection is transmitted through breast milk.

Southern Africa is facing huge social turmoil because of this epidemic. Various countries have rates of 25 percent infection amongst the population. Because it takes about 10 years from infection to death, and infections commonly happen amongst young adults, these adults often have children who they infect. The progress of the disease removes these young adults from the work force and deprives their countries of their labour. In addition, when they die they leave orphans, many of whom are also infected with HIV/AIDS.

It appears that the disease which had a huge impact on Africa in the 1990s will now have a similar impact in Asia. Asian governments including China, India, and Thailand were slow in reacting to the disease and the result is that large numbers of people are infected and the potential for huge epidemics looms.

The government of China estimated at the end of 1998 400,000 people were infected but Chinese government estimates are notorious for being inaccurate. As well as sexual transmission and drug needle sharing, China has had a problem with blood collection companies who bought blood in rural villages were not sterilizing their collection equipment and whole villages were being infected.

India was estimated to have about a million people infected by 1998. Thailand had 800,000, about 2.3 percent of the population. Thailand's rate of infection is showing signs of falling as the government has had a concerted campaign to curb the sex trade.

Despite the large amounts of money being poured into finding a cure for AIDS, the best that has happened is that drugs have been created that prolong the lives of those stricken. Unfortunately these drugs are very expensive, and only readily available in industrialized nations. Some nations have proposed to ignore international patent law in order to produce inexpensive versions of these drugs, but they are being opposed by the drug companies who stand to lose revenue.

The one thing that is clear is that the main impact of AIDS is going to be in the developing world, and that the impact will be huge.

Writers and Photographers Needed

contact The Link to gain some hands-on experience call 604-432-8974 or drop by our office (behind the Copy Centre in SE2) or email: paul_dayson@bcit.ca

Christmas flicks can save you from seasonal torture

ERIKA THORKELSON
Gateway
Canadian University Press

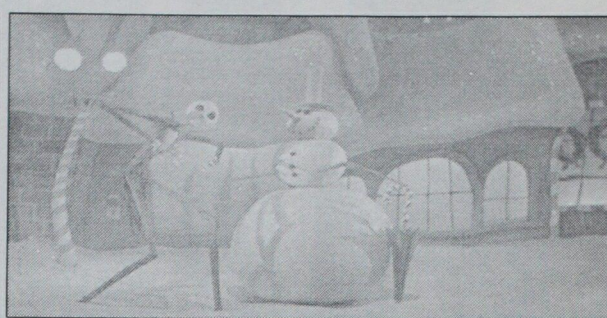
Don't let all the lovely, fluffy snow and whirlwind of Coca Cola advertisements fool you: Christmas is torture.

If your family is like mine and you discovered long ago that you don't have much to say to each other once the yelling goes away, you may have already discovered the wonderful escapist power of movies at Christmas. These gems of the past have saved me time and again from painful discussions about who will be doing the dishes and successive abortive attempts to explain why I don't eat turkey.

It's a Wonderful Life (1946): This movie is a bench-mark for cheese. That being said, if the story of how kind-hearted George Bailey discovers his self-worth with the help of a junior angel named Clarence doesn't break the ice in your cold heart, you might as well give up now and hang yourself with some Christmas lights.

Frank Capra may not have been a deep thinker, but he sure did know how to make the world seem better than it really is. This movie might be just the thing to trick you into thinking you love the people around you for a couple of hours after its touching finale.

A Christmas Carol (1951): Alastair Sim's flawless portrayal of Scrooge in this British production shaped the way we look at the Charles Dickens novel. The scenes with Jacob Marley's ghost rattling his chains continue to be genuinely frightening



Left: Alastair Sims as Ebenezer Scrooge in 'A Christmas Carol.'

Above: Jack Skellington learns a few things about Christmas.

Below: Frank Capra's Heart Warming 'It's A Wonderful Life.'

almost 50 years after they were filmed.

I also have to include a necessary nod for 1992's *The Muppet Christmas Carol* because, truthfully, my first love was Kermit the Frog. If he can have kids with Ms Piggy without any serious genetic problems then maybe I've got a chance.

White Christmas (1954): I'm probably the only person under 50 who was a) heart-broken and b) surprised when she found out that Danny Kaye was gay. Nevertheless, this 1954 classic about how two WW II veterans bring joy to their beloved ex-commander and find love along the way continues to be one of the best musicals of all time. Kaye is hilarious as usual beside Bing

Crosby's stone-faced straight man (in the classical Hollywood sense) and Rosemary Clooney (that's George's aunt)

and Vera-Ellen Westmeyer Rohe are charming as the sisters who catch the guys' eyes. The romance might be enough to distract you from your younger siblings' pleas to open their presents early.

Rudolph, the Red-Nosed Reindeer (1964): Lovably roly-poly Burl Ives narrates this tale of a group of misfits who make good in Christmas Town. Through the magic of stop motion animation, we are shown how the most famous reindeer of all rocketed from obscurity to fame with the help of an obscure genetic defect in



the form of a nose-like-a-light-bulb. I still giggle when I hear the bleep-bleep noise the nose makes when it flares up.

The Nightmare Before Christmas (1993): Tim Burton proves that there is someone out there with an even more fucked up view of Christmas than mine. An animated musical about one skeleton's search for the meaning of Christmas, it features an eerie score by Danny Elfman (who also does the voice of the Pumpkin King, Jack Skellington, among others) that makes it the most chilling Christmas movie ever made. Not to mention that the morbid aesthetic will look pretty cool through the haze of the drugs you take to survive the holidays.

So as you suffer through the cruelties of maintaining family cheer, just remember that I will be smugly hidden in a dark movie theatre beside my thankfully incommunicado mother and brother, taking in *Lord of the Rings*. It may not be a holiday film, but at least it keeps 'em quiet. Merry fuckin' Christmas.

Stinking up prime-time

The Simpsons lost their edge and have been getting worse ever since

ADAM HOUSTON
Gateway
Canadian University Press

Of all the ways for the nerdier denizens of the world to dot the Webscape with their territorial pissings, it doesn't get much easier than spewing something about just how sucky some element of pop culture is.

Actually, it is also the easiest way to fill up a student newspaper. But that isn't so much the point. The point, for now, is that amidst bookmarking all the Britney-sucks Dweeb pages and all the Britney-sucks porno pages, these very same misfits will defend to the death those rare aspects of the cultural landscape that do not offend them to their very cores.

The pocket-protected hordes who actually bought *The Phantom Menace* on DVD are an ample demonstration.

But George "I'm Wasting Valuable Indiana Jones Time" Lucas is not the issue here. The issue, dear friends, is more akin to when Michelangelo, depressed over his inability to create another "David," was reduced to some variety of reptilian crime fighter.

I'm talkin' 'bout my generation's Woodstock, that little cultural revolution that happens every Sunday, except without all the killing and big Mao posters, that being *The Simpsons*.

The point is that ever since Matt Groening jimmied open the secret vault of humor and absconded to Futurama, *The Simpsons* has sunk to disturbingly Suddenly Susan-esque levels. There's hardly even any jokes worth stealing for a student newspaper article.

Anyway here's a list: of problems: with colon use: but that's very personal: and also: some stuff about: *The Simpsons*.

1) Guest appearances. Sideshow Luke Perry once had a place on the show as well as in our hearts. Then appearances started becoming extraneous about the time of the *Hullabalooza* episode. Sure it was a rock concert, but aside from ridiculing Peter Frampton, it seemed an exercise to showcase those "bands the kids like." Now guests are either completely pointless "that's right, I'm hip" cameos or the ill-advised focus of some shoddy tailor-made adventure. Really, what has Mark Hamill done to deserve an episode? Oh. Star

Wars. If I weren't writing this a long time before you read it, I'd tell you to shut the hell up.

2) "Wacky" situations. The appeal used to be in *The Simpsons*' subversion of the sitcom. When Mr. Burns hired ringers for the softball team, or the family went to Australia, it still made contextual sense. But recent episodes focus on the aforementioned craziness, an ill-planned springboard for Homer buying/joining ... Hilarity ensues? No.

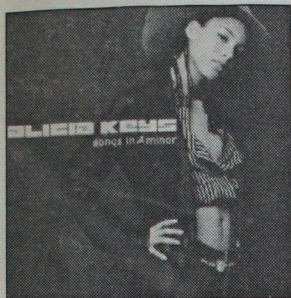
3) Minor characters promoted to the majors. When an episode explores the multi-faceted foibles of *The Comic Shop Guy*, Ethiopian infants die. That's not a cause and effect relationship, but it is true. These are vignette characters only, people. These episodes play like Will-Ferrell Saturday Night Live movies. That's a bad thing.

4) The Simpsons themselves. For a few years, *The Simpsons* was not only the funniest, but the most poignant show on television. There was always a genuine heart behind the scads of chuckles. Now their

cartoonity has been upped at the expense of their humanity. The family members have been reduced to being "the stupid one," "the nagging one," "the brainy one," "the deviant one," and, um, "the baby one." They're just mindless automatons programmed to blurt out something vaguely along the lines of that program. Well, not so much the baby one.

I think it's point number four I regret the most. Futurama still has it, thank deity; that episode with Fry's brother? Couldn't you feel the tears welling up behind your coke-bottle glasses? The torch of notable quotables has been passed: *The Simpsons* needs to end before it tears us apart, setting non-gender-specific brother against brother in needlessly gruesome confrontations over whether it's still funny (remember: it isn't) or merely another cultural icon that just kinda sits there, like, say, the Queen.

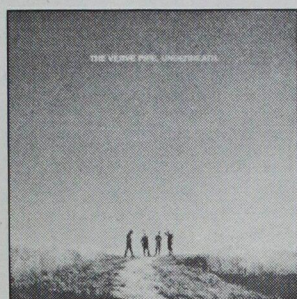
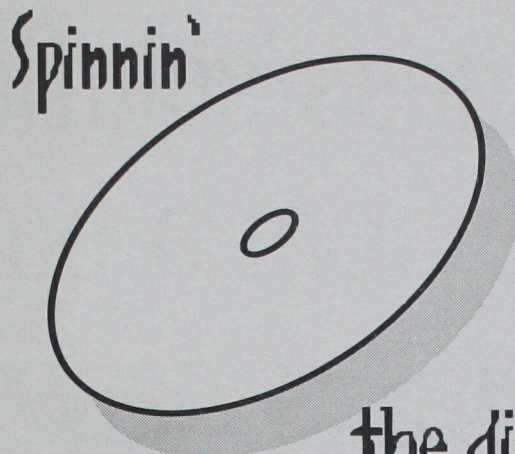
To end with some pointless abstract figurativeness, I'll liken *The Simpsons* to tasty, tasty yogurt; it can be real entertaining and prevent osteoporosis, but after over ten years, tossing yet another box of baking soda in the fridge won't make the stench go away.



Alicia Keys
Songs in A Minor
j-records

You've got to give Alicia Keys credit — it's not everyday we see a female performer playing an instrument, in this case a piano. Yes, she has boobs, a gross necessity for any young women worried about making it; but she can play the piano. Hell, playing any instrument makes a woman both sexy and intelligent — at least intelligent about musical composition. A classically trained pianist, and at the tender age of nineteen, Keys could actually have a career based on something other than looks or boobs. Plus, if the track "Butterflyz" is any indication, she's a very good singer. Let's hope she pays attention to the lessons of Madonna, Alanis Morissette and Laura Hill — maintain control over your image or you'll be forgotten. Quickly.

Monique Harvey



The Verve Pipe
Underneath
BMG

"The new disc showcases the literate lyrics, accomplished musicianship and unforgettable

vocals that have established The Verve Pipe in the vanguard of contemporary, powerful pop." Say that ten time fast and perhaps you will eventually believe it. Or better yet, listen to the album — far more enjoyable. And I didn't think I would give thanks to the promotional flack that just had to use the word "vanguard". Yeesh, it's a good album, boys, but not The Beatles.

May George Harrison rest in peace and make beautiful music with Roy Orbison in the next, good life.

Monique Harvey

the disks



Chin
Day-Dreaming
Hansome Boy

While I appreciate what Chin Injeti has to offer, it's not for me; its for someone else. Someone interested in hip-hop, techno, jive and r&b sensibilities. Day-Dreaming has a lot to offer such a music lover. While there is a dreaminess to the music that is refreshing — a cool glass of water — I will return this CD to The Link so it may receive a new and better home than mine. First come, first served, comprende? Beautiful.

Monique Harvey

Faithless
Outrospective
BMG

Sweet, sweet lovely music. Chocolate bar tenderness with a creamy centre of smooth lyrics and delectable nougat. Yum.

Monique Harvey

Sloan
Pretty Together
Murderecords

The band's sixth studio album, is a pop masterpiece that combines all the elements of 1960's and 1970's pop and rock with today's lyric sensibilities and 90's radio friendly hooks. The song writing on this album is split between the four band members, and with their different influences, there is something for everyone. With enough hooks to make an agent weep with joy, the album should receive heavy rotation. While radio stations and Much music conspire to repeat "If It Feels Good Do It" over and over again — which is bad, by the way, but who's going to stop them — a space on Frosh 10 (or whatever number we're at now) is virtually guaranteed.

Monique Harvey

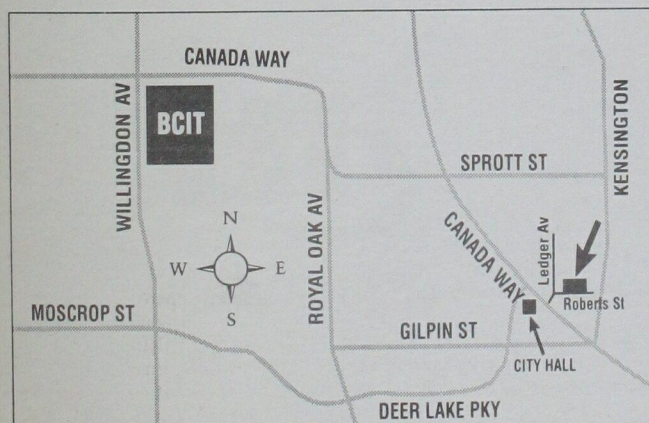


Special BCIT Student Rate

We provide a wide range of dental services to every aspect of your dental needs from cleaning to wisdom teeth extraction . . . and we perform our dentistry with gentleness, experience and skill, and most importantly with your budget in mind. All BCIT Students and Staff receive a 10% discount (with this ad).

- White fillings
- Orthodontics
- Dental Implant
- Sedation
- Whitening
- Wisdom Teeth Extraction
- Root Canal
- Dental Hygiene
- Low Radiation Digital X-ray
- OSHA Sterilization Procedures
- 30 Years Experience

**Emergency
exam worth \$85
at no charge!**



METRODENTAL
CENTRAL PARK • BURNABY CENTRAL

HEALTH ♦ LIFE ♦ QUALITY DENTISTRY

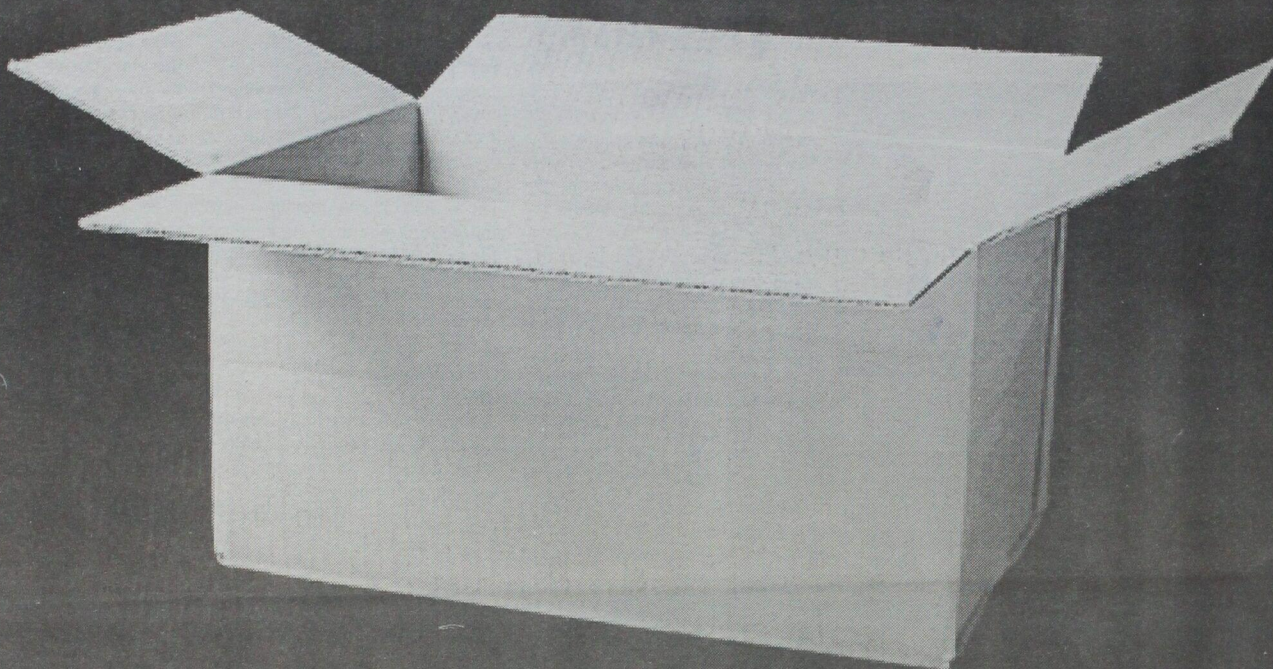
#175 Roberts Street, Burnaby, B.C. V5G 4E1

(604) 43-FLOSS (356777)

We are just down the street from you.

Ample Parking. Reserved Stalls 60, 61, 62
Bus 12 & 123 (Stops at Door)

Today's business solutions don't come from a box.



They come from ITI graduates.

In this competitive market, our graduates have the skills to provide business with technology solutions that work. So if you have a bachelor's degree in any discipline and you want to learn how to become an asset to business, step outside of the box and into ITI.

We educate the people who make business and technology work.

Classes begin January 28, 2002.

Call toll-free

1.866.374.8062

ITI Vancouver

**1090 West Georgia Street, Suite 700
Vancouver, British Columbia**



www.iti.com

Vancouver, Toronto, and Halifax

©2001 by ITI™ 8453 12/01