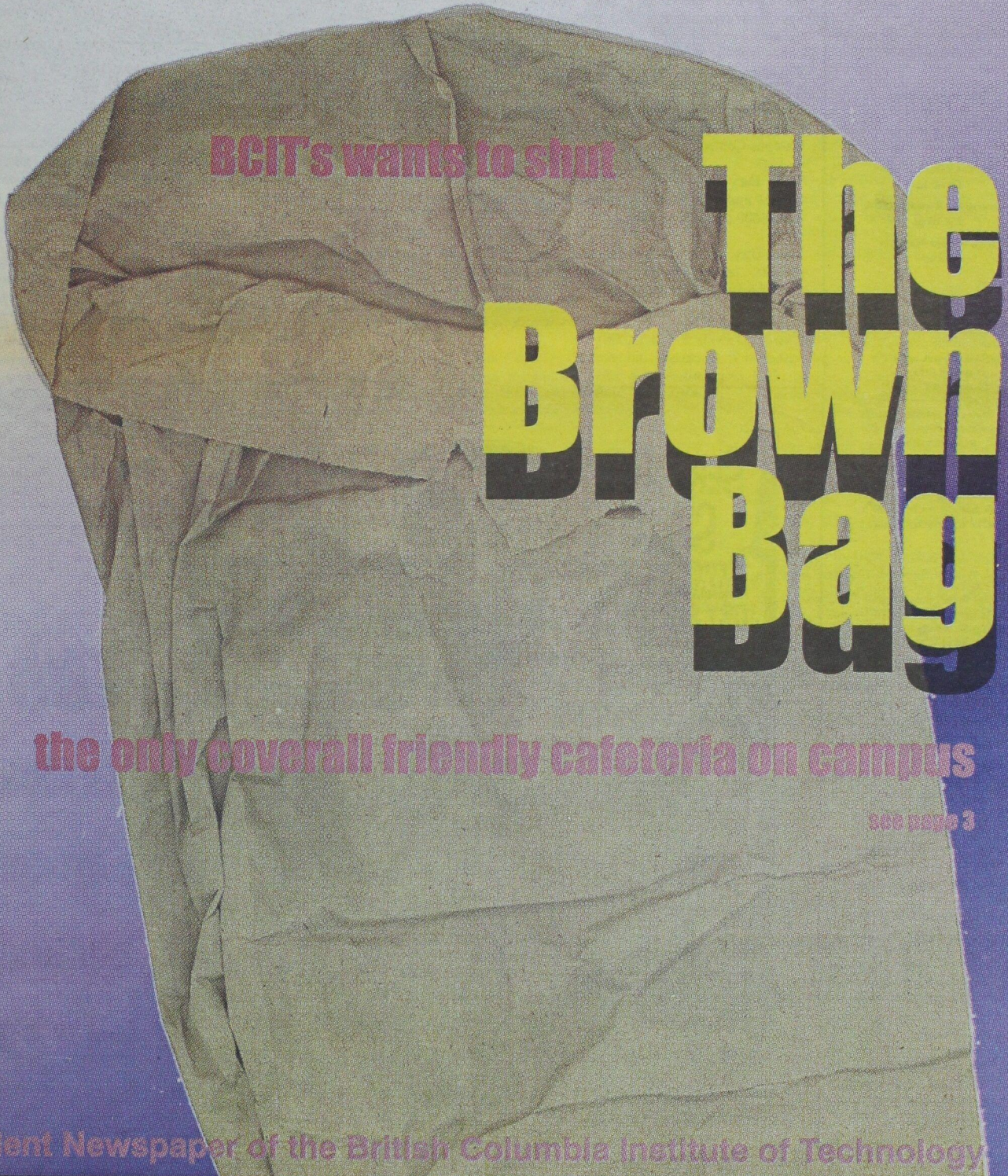


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Wednesday, January 13, 1999

The
Link



BCIT's wants to shut

The Brown Bag

the only coverall friendly cafeteria on campus

see page 3

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.

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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.

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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 Your name, affiliation with BCIT and a telephone number to contact you (which will not be published) must be included.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 vacant store)

January 11-15

Intramurals Registration Week.

Friday, January 15

Nursing Level 5: Fee deadline.

Recreation Council Social.

Monday, January 18

American Marketing Association Meeting. 7:00am. SA Boardroom, SA Campus Centre.

SA Council Meeting. 5:30pm. SA Boardroom, SA Campus Centre.

Tuesday, January 19

Toastmasters. Public speaking club. 7:00am. SA Boardroom, SA Campus Centre.

Last Day to withdraw from classes and receive a full refund (less \$200 commitment fee).

Last Day to apply for course credit (exemption) and/or change registration to audit status.

Nursing Levels 1-4: Last Day to withdraw from classes and receive a full refund (less \$200

commitment fee for level 1).

Nursing Level 5: Last day to apply for course credit (exemption)

Recreation Council Meeting.

Friday, January 22

Pajama Jammy Jam.

Deadline for submissions to the next issue of *The Link*.

Monday, January 25

American Marketing Association Meeting. 7:00am. SA Boardroom, SA Campus Centre.

Electronics: Registration/Orientation for level 1 students.

Electronics: Winter Term begins.

Tuesday, January 26

Toastmasters. Public speaking club. 7:00am. SA Boardroom, SA Campus Centre.

Nursing Level 5: Last day to withdraw and receive refund.

Wednesday, January 27

Faulty Towers. 11:30am - 2:30pm. Gym. Contact Recreation & Athletic Services for more info.

Next issue of *The Link* published.

Friday, January 29

Electronics: Last day to change sections for students on modified programs.

Electronics: Levels 2, 3, 4 and Co-Op fees due.

Monday, February 1

American Marketing Association Meeting. 7:00am. SA Boardroom, SA Campus Centre.

SA Council Meeting. 5:30pm. SA Boardroom, SA Campus Centre.

Tuesday, January 26

Groundhog's Day

Toastmasters. Public speaking club. 7:00am. SA Boardroom, SA Campus Centre.

Link all 432-8974 Unclassifieds

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SA Council Notes

Carlos Assuncao

SA Declares Campus Cleanliness Their New Years Resolution

SA president Stephen Diebolt opened the council meeting with a resounding "Happy New Year."

Campus Cleanliness started the week of January 4th, to be held once a week on Wednesdays. SA is having trouble rounding up a sufficient amount of volunteers. A minimum of 45 minutes and all black attire is all that is required to do your part in keeping the campus clean. Anyone interested should go to the SA Office and sign up for Campus Cleanliness.

- Preparations for Winterfest activities are near completion and promotion of the event begins next week. Dunk tank expenses are within budget so it looks as if council executives will be taking a dive (because no one else wants to). The Pajama Jammy Jam is planned for the 22nd of January. A duck race is going to take place in the creek running through campus—if affordable rubber ducks can be found in time. If any one has information on where inexpensive rubber ducks can be acquired please contact Steve Diebolt at the SA Office.

- SA executive director Stephen Miller made a motion for the SA to purchase a corporate pass to Science World. The pass would be a service available to all BCIT students. For \$500 the pass will entitle five people to enter Science World through the member's entrance free of charge, free admission to Omnimax and free admission to special events taking place at Science World. The purchase was authorized by the SA, although exactly how the pass will be available to all BCIT students was not arranged at the council meeting.

- Computer System Technologies (CST) students made a presentation to the SA requesting funding for their Career Day. Ed Finch, Anita Norman and Adrian Glover presented their case successfully and a motion to donate \$1,400 to CST was unanimously passed by the SA. BCIT's Administration promised to match the donation of the SA. The Career Day is primarily for students in computer technologies studies. The Career Day includes seminars and industry representatives searching for qualified individuals to join their ranks. It will take place at the Robson Square Conference Centre on March 23, 1999.

- Stephen Miller passed on a warning he received on his e-mail regarding needles being placed in pay phones. Apparently some deranged individuals are placing dirty needles in the change boxes of pay phones for unsuspecting callers to get poked. Anyone using a pay phone should use caution when retrieving their change.

- The SA is implementing an employee of the month program. This month's employee of the month is Wendy Lamott, one of the Childcare staff Wendy has the additional honor of being SA's first employee to attain this prestigious award.



The portable that has been home to the Brown Bag.

LYGDEL DE LEON PHOTO

Brown Bag's future in question

CARLOS ASSUNCAO
Link News Editor

BBCIT Administration wants to tear down the Brown Bag Cafe, a portable structure housing a cafe/diner primarily servicing trades students. However, the students, instructors and staff who are customers of the Brown Bag feel strongly about keeping facility and vow to fight any attempt to close it.

John and Vicky Vasiliadis lease the space and have been running the business since 1981. They have created a friendly and comfortable atmosphere for students which can't be found anywhere else on campus. Vicky recently received a letter from administration informing her of their intentions to demolish the structure in June. Their reasons as stated in the letter are the costs of repairing the aging structure.

"We were willing to negotiate to pay for some of the repairs," said Vicky.

"Why June? That's what I want to know. We have a two year option on our lease and it is unfair to us to tell us we have to close our business and start all over again,...with only a few months notice. We rely on this business as our livelihood and aren't young enough to start all over again just like that," added Vicky.

The portable housing the Brown Bag is owned by BCIT which leases the space to the SA. Brown Bag managers John and Vicky Vasiliadis in turn have their contract with the SA.

Among the defenders of the Brown Bag is Richard Macintosh, a Trades instructor at BCIT.

"The Brown Bag is the only cafeteria where students can wear their coveralls, it is also the only place that opens at 5 am for the convenience of trade students,"

explained Richard.

As an instructor, Richard worries students will have to take their coffee and lunch breaks at another cafeteria. The added time of changing out of their coveralls and the longer walk to other cafeterias will take away from his time instructing the students. Boilermaker, Heavy Welding, Piping and Automotive are among the trades whose students and staff (500 full and part time students) rely on the Brown Bag.

Tamara Kurbatoff, an automotive student, is eager to show her support for the cafe.

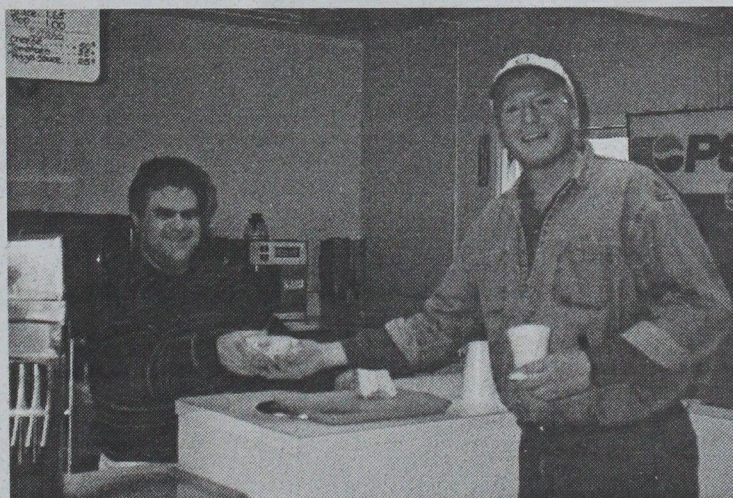
"We (trade students) don't feel comfortable in the other cafeterias. People here are friendly, they'll sit down and talk with you. Another reason is the Brown Bag is cheaper than anywhere else on campus," said Tamara.

Administration has scheduled meetings for January 18 to discuss the future of the Brown Bag cafe. SA president Stephen Diebolt and executive director Stephen Miller will be meeting with representatives of BCIT administration Terry Milligan and Amanda Hill.

"Administration is meeting with representatives from the Student Association on the 18 of January to discuss the issue," was the only comment Milligan was willing to make.

According to Miller, one reason for administration's desire to demolish the cafe is their directive to rid the campus of portable structures.

As information becomes available from the administration on this subject The Link will update the story.



Brown Bag operator John Vasiliadis and Trades instructor Richard Macintosh.

LYGDEL DE LEON PHOTO

Nutcracker a bland reflection of Russia's woes

The Nutcracker, a Christmas story known to all. For the last few years, The Moscow Classical Ballet troupe from Russia has come to perform the tale. And with each passing year, it gets increasingly worse. But this year in particular, was the worst.; The Nutcracker has lost its luster with this company.

Ballet
The Nutcracker
QE Theatre
Dec. 9-13, 1998

Russia's economic and political crisis has definitely affected the arts. All the dancers in this company look famished and grave, with the exception of one whose energy lit up the stage. Alexy Borzov, who played Fritz, was like sunshine in a dark room. His boyish charm and excellent technique really stood him out. Everyone paled in comparison—even the International Competition Laureates, Natalia Ogneva and Konstantin Osin. Ogneva and Osin, the leads in the Nutcracker were not all that bad, but perhaps their lack of enthusiasm hindered their performance.

And who could blame them? The choreography was bland and repetitive. It was an absolute chore to sit through the whole performance. There didn't seem to be enough going on to keep the interest up. If anything, there was a lot of posing and recycled moves. 'Tis a pity.

There were however, two very good elements to this production. The first being the elaborate sets. Those were beautiful and well presented. They were not overbearing at all; in fact, it was the only thing that kept me alive during the performance! Another ounce of brilliance was of course the music. No matter how unworthy the production was, nothing could hamper the timeless composition of Tchaikovsky.

It's too bad this production wasn't more successful. This company has potential; it just needs a lot of new direction. So sadly, if the Moscow Classical Ballet Company should never rear its head again in this city, she not be missed.

Narnia's magic comes alive on the stage

ERIN GARLICK
Link Theatre Reporter

It's a magical mythical land just beyond the wardrobe. The coats turn to trees and the wooden floorboards to snow as the children in Uncle Digory's spare room make their way through to Narnia.

Play Review
The Lion, the Witch and the Wardrobe
At the Pacific Theatre

Sound familiar? You probably hear this C.S. Lewis story as a child, the classic piece of English literature, "The Lion the Witch and the Wardrobe".

Narnia is the magical land where the White Witch has cast a spell that makes the season always winter, but never Christmas. It is up to Lucy and her two brothers and sister to overthrow the evil Queen with the help of many unique Narnian creatures and the good lion King Aslan.

This timeless tale has been told and retold to generations of wide-eyed children, and has been revisited as a play by the Pacific Theatre in Vancouver this December.

I was very familiar with this story, the second in the C.S. Lewis series, the Chronicles of Narnia. This was probably because it was the first theatrical experience I had as a child, playing the lead part of Lucy when I was 12 years old. I was looking forward to revisiting the adventurous land of Narnia, complete with its talking fauns, evil white Witch and

heroic lion king Aslan.

My first impressions were a bit concerning as I compared my experience with the new format I was about to witness. Instead of around 45 actors, as was the case with my childhood play, Pacific theatre presented only two. Miriam Brown as Lucy and Anthony F. Ingram as Peter. Now if you know this story,



Anthony F. Ingram and Miriam Brown in *The Lion, the Witch and the Wardrobe* at Pacific Theatre.
DEBRA SEARS PHOTO

you know how many dozens of characters are represented. My friend and I were wary that the full story could not be told with only two participants. We were wrong.

Miriam performed expertly as Lucy, convincing us she was a young English schoolgirl, and a number of other Narnians including the white witch, Aslan, and even her own sister Susan.

Anthony was also very well spoken as Peter, his brother Edmund, Mr. & Mrs. Beaver, etc. So how did they do it? With the help of Director Ron Reed, these two thespians retold the story as their older selves, Peter and Lucy as college students now reminiscing about their adventure through the wardrobe and getting so involved in their storytelling that they reenact the story as the true characters. Expert costume design helped our imaginations believe the characters through simple coat and cape designations. For example, we knew Aslan was on stage when the gold cloak was worn, and later on it only needed to be held for us to believe the character was present. It sounds confusing, but with cleverly simple stage design, subtle costume and sound cues, the audience

was easily led into the adventure. Their were only minor errors with the actors tripping over a few lines, but with almost two hours of dialogue and opening night jitters, this was to be expected, and easily forgiven. The show was well thought out and presented in a delightfully entertaining fashion.

Legendary Deftone's new wave metal sweeps crowd to a frenzy

SHANNON LENTZ
Link Reporter

Deftones are a "New Wave" Hardcore Metal band from Sacramento. Their career consists of two incredibly solid albums, a couple movie soundtracks and contributions to tribute albums of artists like Depeche Mode, Duran Duran and the Smiths. Along with their studio achievements comes hundreds of legendary live shows. This band has been to Vancouver alone five or six times since '95 and anyone who has experienced a Deftones show will tell you there is nothing but.

Deftones
with Quicksand and Snapcase
at the Croatian Cultural Center
Friday, December 11, 1998

There is a notion that comes along with a Deftones show as well. A 'tones show is like really good food or even really good sex. While the act is occurring, all you want is more. You think that after this song, or this helping, or etc.....you want more. However, these guys deliver such

a powerful show and pummel you with every chord that at the end, you're too tired and beat for any more.

The Deftones have moved on to another phase of their slow rise to popularity. Gone are the small club shows, now they're playing to 800+ screaming kids. I thought that something might become lost in this transition but alas they still delivered and harder than I've ever seen them before.

Opening first tonight was Snapcase out of South California who delivered a solid set slightly reminiscent of Fugazi but more straight ahead. Quicksand followed and were familiar to Deftones fans as they toured with them in '95. Out of New York this four piece carried the city's hard and distinctive sound with them and got the crowd worked up for more to follow. On the downside, both of the bands' sound suffered from the dank confines of the venue. One thought hung in my mind during the evening performance, "Man, this show would be just perfect if it was in The Commodore".

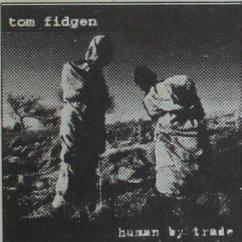


'Chino of the Deftones at the Triple "C" December 11
ANDREW DENNISON PHOTO



TRUMYSTIC Sound System
Product Three
(Mutant Sound System)
Hip-hop, jungle, urban groove and breakbeats, are what make most of the sounds of Trumystic. Executive producers, Tommy Silver, Dr. Israel and Soothsayer are a real cool trio, combining their diverse talents of reggae, urban rap and conscious-hip-hop. Their lyrics make sense and are easy to listen to. Jungle, dub, roots, world-beat, all in Brooklyn style, these New York sound scientists are experimenting with a radical mixology of 'electroculturalized' elements of the '90's and roots from our ancestors. They're considered a cross-cultural collective of artists sharing a common vision of world enlightenment through beat culture and soundwaves. The selection of artists compiled here have extensive recordings on labels from Wordsound to Axiom. Check out Trumystic for a wider sense of dub world music and conscious electrolyzed jungle hip-hop.

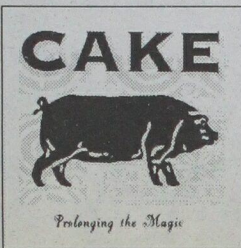
david lai



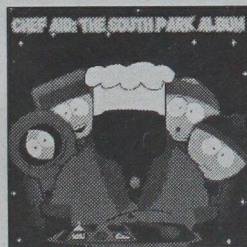
TOM FIDGEN
Human By Trade
(BPP100)

Tom Fidgen is the former lead vocalist of a group called "Sunfish." The group has played with well known bands including Our Lady Peace and The Tea Party. This album, however, sounds nothing like the aforementioned bands. A very folksy sounding album but not very interesting. Fidgen, a 26 year old Cape Breton native is has strong lyrical content but the music is too "thin" sounding. Not enough there to hold the lyrics above water and instead the music discredits the strong words.
Janet Yu

Spinnin' the disks



CAKE
Prolonging the Magic
(Capricorn)
"Prolonging the Magic" is the third album from this Sacramento group. It follows the album, "Fashion Nugget" that had the radio friendly song, "The Distance." The opening track, "Satan is My Motor," focuses simple music behind the unmistakable voice of vocalist, John McCrea. And I think they've pulled off exactly what they wanted to do and that is to "focus on keeping things simple." Cake's trumpet player Vince DiFiore says, "We would lose our creative edge if we let things steamroll into some grandiose oblivion." Well put and a lot of bands try to do the same thing but few pull it off successfully. Probably a good album for up and coming bands to get their hands on. Janet Yu



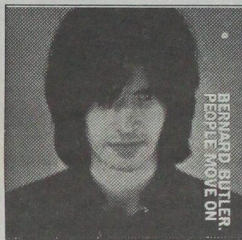
CHEF AID: The South Park Album
(American)
I have to say this is much more musical than the Simpsons CD. The (perverted) Chef (Issac Hayes),

and with many others, including Ozzy Osbourne, Primus, Rancid and the Dirty Bastard, they have combined their talents and generated a very entertaining and ridiculous album based on a twisted cartoon. Aside from the voices of Stan, Cartman, and Kyle (which can get annoying), this album is not the worst to hear, the artists presented are able to really pull off some creative or at least interesting playing and most of all have fun. A favorite of mine is "Chocolate Salty Balls (P.S. I love you)" played by the Chef (Isaac Hayes), it is very demented, perverted and sick. Most songs are demented, like "Kenny's Dead" an twisted cover of Curtis Mayfield's classic "Freddie's Dead", "Hot Lava" (Perry Farrell), "Nowhere to Run" (Crystal Method, Ozzy, DMX, Ol' Dirty Bastard), "The Rainbow" (Ween), "Come Sail Away" (cover of Styx) and "Huboon Stomp" (Devo). So if you are in for a cheap laugh this is the one that'll spin until you lose your lunch or give it away. david lai



THE SIMPSONS
The Yellow Album
(Geffen)
Here you have a majority of the crew, the cover resembling the Beatle's album. "Sgt. Pepper's Lonely Hearts Club Band". The Simpsons really know how to poke fun at the

Beatle's, by calling it the "Yellow Album", instead of the "White Album". With all these references to the Beatles from the outside, on the inside it's a whole different story. Musically it should stay on TV, I don't need to hear Bart or Lisa's whining voices over stereo. The graphics are great and humorous, but the music just doesn't cut it for me, this one I think is only for the die-hard, severe Simpsons fanatics. There is one interesting guest who appears with Lisa, singing "She's Comin' Out Swingin'" (track 7), it's the P-Funk All Stars, featuring George Clinton, but it ain't enough warrant to run out and procure this, unless you are truly a Simpsons addict.
david lai



BERNARD BUTLER
People Move On
(Creation/Columbia)
The former guitarist of Suede, Benard Butler, tries to do it on his own with this debut album and unfortunately it falls flat. The album starts off with a melodic song, "Woman I Know," but it doesn't fare very well after that. The title track is extremely slow...veeery slow, boring almost, as it lacks any sort of emotion. His vocal range isn't very wide or demonstrated. He doesn't seem to do anything but "whisper-sing" and after a while it really starts to get a bit annoying. My recommendation is to stick with Brett Anderson and Suede, unless you like "whisper-singing." Janet Yu

ON THE OUTSIDE...

Rewards for your studying...

- Jan. 21
New Radicals
At the Starfish Room
- Jan. 25
King's X with Galactic Cowboys
At the Starfish Room
- Feb. 11
Johnny Favorite Swing Orchestra
At the Gate
- Mar. 11/12
The Tragically Hip
At the G.M. Place

The LINK to Winning

FEAR FACTORY

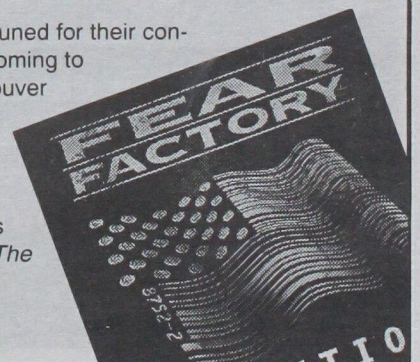
CONTEST CD Prizes!!!


Simply drop off your doodles, random thoughts, drawings, cartoons, creative writings, etc., at *The Link* office. Include the class that your piece was created in, the time, date, your name and a way of contacting you to pick up prizes. (tel., pager, email).

Two draws will be made and Fear Factory CD prizes will be given away.

All submissions become the property of *The Link*, winners will have their piece published, please indicate if you wish to remain anonymous when published.

Stay tuned for their concert coming to Vancouver soon and more give-aways from *The Link*.



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Student Rush

vs. Edmonton
Oilers

Thurs., Jan. 14th @ 7pm

VS



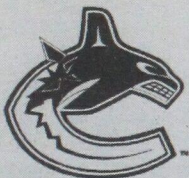
vs. St. Louis
Blues

Thurs., Jan. 28th @ 7pm

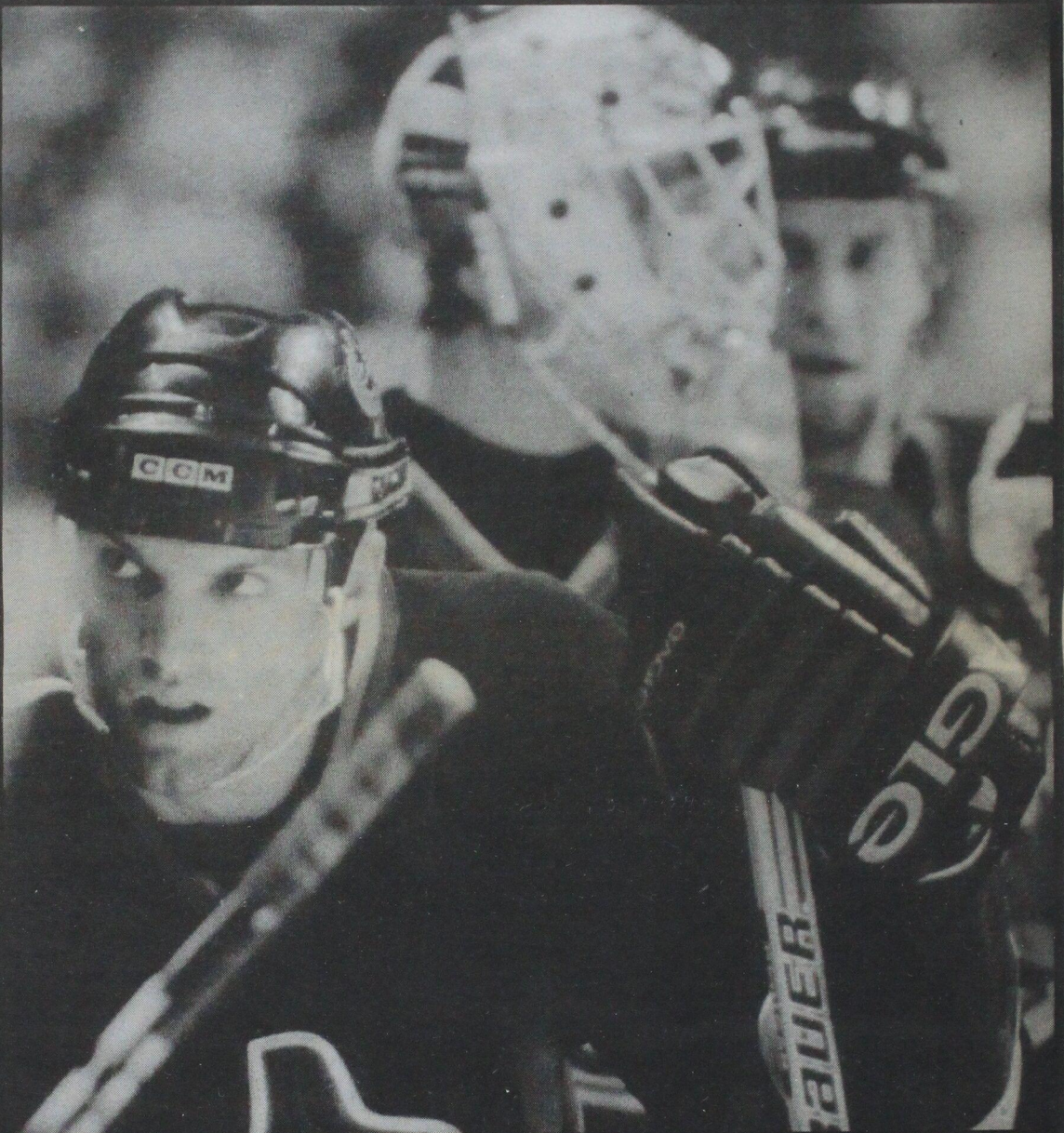
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Jerome Hutin (left) in the everglades and one of the trees he has photographed in Palermo, Sicily.

French tree searcher records the Big Ones in life-size

GREG HELTEN
SA Environmental
Education

Jerome Hutin is a classic photographer with a dream. Actually, two dreams.

He wants to document the world's largest and oldest trees, and next year he wants to plant a tree for every child born to mark the millennium. He's on a one-year odyssey to take pictures of the Old Trees of the Earth and then share them in real size with the world. He stopped in Vancouver last month on his tour.

Jerome is from France, and he's traveling the world with a big camera and black photographer's sheet to make his dream come true. His millennium project is to see images of the old trees, some that are three to four thousand years old, projected onto giant inflated screens on or alongside the world's tallest manmade structures. In order to focus attention on preserving the few ancient trees and forests left, he wants to create a life-size photographic spectacle spotlighting the oldest trees of the earth, accompanied by three-dimensional laser shows.

Right now, Hutin is traveling the world from France to Canada, the US to Mexico, India, South Africa, Spain and other countries to take big-frame photos of trees as old as the Huon Pine in Tasmania at over 20,000 years and as young as the 200 year-old

Banyan tree in Calcutta, India that measures 25 meters around and 115 meters tall.

Hutin says that, "For thousands of years, humanity has contemplated and regarded trees as sacred objects all over the planet. But in our lifetime, trees have come to be trivialized and demystified for the sake of the profit of the world economy. Rooted for generations at the center square of a village, commemorating a person or an historic event, the coat-of-arms of a family, or situated at the outer limits of some thousand year old forest, the tree generously offers us food, fuel, shelter, comfort, coolness, joys, sadness, hopes, oxygen, and the desire to live in harmony. Yet, how do we express our gratitude?"

According to the World Resources Institute in Washington, D.C., just 40 percent of the world's ancient forest cover remains intact. About 10 percent of the world's remaining known tree species are in now danger of extinction. An estimated 50,000 species of plants and animals are disappearing from the planet each year, caused mostly by the rapid destruction of the world's forests. The United Nations (UN) estimates that 1.3 per cent of our forests have been lost each year to logging, slash-and-burn farming and development between 1980 and 1990. World wood use

is projected to climb by 34 per cent from 1990 levels to 4.7 billion cubic metres by 2010. Fifty per cent of that will be used as fuel, mostly in developing countries. Over 7,300 tree species are documented as globally threatened including three in BC. Every fourth tree in Europe's 1.6 million sq. km of forest is sick or dying. Among the chief culprits in the death of Europe's forests are pollutants such as sulfur dioxide and nitrogen oxide from car exhaust and industrial emissions, which create acid rain.

Hutin believes that humankind shouldn't ravage the planet for personal profit, but rather preserve it for the children of the entire world, who need nature in order to bloom and grow.

He's looking for additional sponsors to cover the production of his 'grande spectacle'. So far, he has garnered an agreement by French publisher, J.C. LATTES, to publish his book about the famous trees of the world. GEFCO-TOUR, a French travel agency has covered his air-plane ticket around the world. French oil company, Elf Aquitaine, gave him US\$10,000 US, and Fujifilm France donated all the film he needs.

Jerome can be reached by email at: jeromehutin@hotmail.com Check out his webpage at: <http://www.jhutin-arbor2000.com>

Maquinna Residence is looking for Residence Advisors for Sept 1999 to May 2000

Are you interested in applying ?

RESIDENCE ADVISORS ARE:

- Residence leaders
- Mature, resourceful and perceptive
- Building "Managers"
- Actively involved with residence life

WHO'S ELIGIBLE?

- ➔ Students
- ➔ Alumni

WHAT DO YOU GET BACK?

- * Rent free private apartment
- * Excellent personal growth and leadership opportunity

Application and Information Packages available from the Housing Office, located in Maquinna Residence 5W-11, or call 432-8677

A GENERAL INFORMATION SESSION
WILL BE HELD TUESDAY, FEBRUARY 11
AT 7:00PM
HOUSING OFFICE (5W-11).

APPLICATION DEADLINE IS TUESDAY,
FEBRUARY 19, 1999 @ 4:00 PM

Safe drivers challenge worth getting up for

Chuck Dietrich
Marketing Management
Student

What would pull 120 students from BCIT, SFU and UBC out of bed on a miserable weekend to participate in an outdoor activity they knew nothing about?

Try free Tim Horton's coffee and donuts, a chance to drive a Dodge Viper, the opportunity to meet race car driver Ross Bentley, and rip around in new pre-production Chrysler 300M's. The whole package was a part of the Labatt Road Scholarship's "Hands-On, Heads-UP Driver Challenge" held in BCIT's parking lot on November 28 and 29.

The travelling roadshow started last September in Halifax and is wrapping up this month at Camsun College in Victoria. On the Saturday morning, more than 20 BCIT students kicked off the first of six weekend sessions by viewing a five minute video on the dangers of drinking and driving and the one-second advantage drivers need to prevent hundreds of thousands of crashes, injuries and deaths annually in Canada.

The video was great and got us pumped up to test the make-shift course and get behind the wheel of the 300M's to show what great drivers we were. We were quickly humbled when they

jumped into the cars with their instructors at the wheel, each of whom woke us up with a movie-like stunt of driving backwards at 60kmh, sending the car into a 180 degree spin and pointing the car forward—without ever stopping.

For the next couple of hours, we did things they only dreamed of doing to their own vehicles and on the streets of Greater Vancouver. However, driving was done under the close supervision of five instructors who taught various tips and techniques on steering, accident avoidance, and proper handling to give us the one-second advantage which could ultimately save our lives. And given the festive season, we also got the point about the one-second advantage evaporating after just one drink at the pub.

We thought we were good drivers before we took the Challenge program. But after observing the instructors and gaining first-hand professional instruction, I for one recognize how little I knew. Now I can truly point at Vancouver's bad drivers from an educated perspective.

If Ross and his team return next fall for the Labatt Road Scholarship "Hands-On, Heads-Up" Drivers Challenge, jump at the chance to sign up. It's definitely worth getting up for.



Youth Crew visits BCIT to see Environmental Technologies.

SA hosts Environmental Youth on BCIT campus

A group of youths aged 16-23 years old visited BCIT last month to see environmental technologies firsthand as part of their Environmental Youth Team training.

With SA Environmental Education Coordinator Greg Helten, they got a close-up look at our worm-composting bins (one of the largest in Canada), the photovoltaic lab at the Technology Centre and a look at the greenhouse where the Eco-Tek Solar Aquatic Wastewater Treatment Project will be housed.

According to Helen Dewar, team leader on the BCIT tour, their visit "was the highlight of the three-day session".

The EcoWorks program is part of a BC Ministry of Environment pilot project that has run ten pilot Environmental

Awareness workshops from June until December with about 15 participants in each session under the BC Environmental Youth Team program in the Lower Mainland and on Vancouver Island.

The workshops were designed by the Harmony Foundation and based on their Building Sustainable Societies Program. The workshops focused on examining values and how they relate to the environment, role playing to understand and respect the diversity of views that are often involved in resolving environmental problems, and designing an action plan to resolve an environmental problem identified as a concern by each crew.

Tricia Loewen from the government's EcoWorks program said about the tour, "I received a lot of positive feedback about it.

Our young people were at the end of three days of environmental training when they went on the tour, so it allowed them a very tangible look at what they had been discussing in theory."

The EcoWorks program has been around for 5 or 6 years working with unemployed youth with a focus on helping them gain work experience and training. The crews do work like trail building, bridge building, stream restoration and tree planting mostly in BC Parks but also in a few GVRD parks.

At any given time they have up to a dozen crews across the Lower Mainland with each crew made up five crew members and a crew supervisor.

The majority of the crews run for 10 weeks and receive a minimum of 10 days of training.

