

The background of the cover is a photograph of an amusement park. In the foreground, a teal classic car is parked, showing its front end and a license plate that reads "4299 HU". Behind the car is a chain-link fence. In the background, a roller coaster with a red and yellow track is visible against a clear sky. The roller coaster has a tall drop and several loops.

the link

student newspaper

Volume 44
Issue 14
April 9, 2009

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Mixed Martial Arts Ban a Mistake

Vancouver is once again waffling on a decision it should have made years ago: to allow mixed martial arts (MMA) fighting events to be held in the city.



By Laura Gallant
The Link

Vancouver city council has turned aside a request by the Vancouver Athletic Commission to permit MMA events, saying it wants more information about the

economic impact on the city before the sport is allowed in Vancouver. Talk about uninformed. Council has just passed on a decision that would have meant an influx of

millions of dollars to the local economy.

Yes, the sport can be dangerous, that is part of the draw. Boxing, football, and hockey can also be just as dangerous. There is hitting and fighting in hockey all the time and fans often see blood on the ice. Council has run away from legislating a sport that is so far from where it started. The city's ignorance has caused them to overlook a sport that is populated by individuals who truly are athletes. Those at city hall just don't get it.

What is also strange in this dispute is that Vancouver is perfectly set up to host MMA events. Vancouver has a boxing and wrestling commission already set up that can

regulate the sport. Council has to remember that just because a sport has been banned it doesn't necessarily go away, it goes underground. If it goes underground no one regulates it and that is when people get hurt. Unsanctioned fights would be more dangerous for the fighters, as doctors and drug testing would not likely be present.

MMA fans and officials are frustrated and angry, as they should be. Not allowing MMA fighting events to be held in Vancouver is a huge blunder. Hopefully someone doesn't get seriously injured or killed because of Vancouver city council's ignorance.

Hello,

Just wanted to drop a line saying that the article about Zipcars in the Mar 26 issue of The Link was great, but that Vancouver's Co-operative Auto Network actually provides the best hourly rate for car sharers in the city (\$2.50/hour). Also, the Car Co-op is a not-for-profit co-operative that's been operating in B.C. for 12 years. We have 5,000+ drivers and 224 cars. I hope that in researching car sharing in Vancouver, Ms. Ramirez came across our organization somewhere and we too could be thought of as "environmentally friendly and the best economical way of getting around a busy city with a car while without actually owning one."

Kind regards,
Bernadette

COVER: By Tara-Lee Novak

"This photo was taken at Old Orchard Beach in Maine. Its a beach town along the East Coast that feels very much like its stuck in the 50's. My mother and I took a week off work to do an East Coast road trip. We left our home town near Toronto, crossed the border into the States and continued up the coast through Main into New Brunswick. It was the first time we had ever taken a mother-daughter vacation. It was nice to finally see the Bay of Fundy - a place my mom spent her summers as a child. Old Orchard Beach was planned as a one night pit stop but walking along the beach at dusk with an ice cream in hand is a memory I will treasure forever."

The Link Newspaper has one more issue for the 2008-2009 School Year. Deadline for Issue 44-15 will be April 17th.

www.bcitsa.ca/blogs

**Have something to say or a story idea you'd like to share with us?
Email us at link@bcitsa.ca**

the link

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The Link is the student newspaper of the British Columbia Institute of Technology. Published bi-weekly by the BCIT Student Association (BCITSA), **The Link** circulates 3,000 copies

to over 16,000 students, faculty and staff.

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As a member of Canadian University Press (CUP), **The Link** adheres to the CUP code of ethics and will not publish any material deemed by the editors

to be sexist, racist, homo/hetero phobic or in poor taste.



News In Brief

By Laura Gallant
The Link

BCIT Marketing showing up the U.S.

BCIT was the only post-secondary institution in Canada to attend the 2009 international collegiate conference of the American Marketing Association. There were 18 BCIT marketing students amongst 1,300 delegates from universities and colleges across the United States who gathered to participate in a variety of educational and networking sessions as well as sales and marketing competitions. In the Kodak Gallery case study competition, BCIT earned a third place finish. In the SABRE Business Simulation competition, BCIT placed second.



BCIT documentary to be shown at a Toronto film festival

BCIT School of Business Television grad Justin Cousineau's new documentary "65_RedRoses" has been selected for HotDocs International Documentary Film Festival in Toronto. This film takes a peek into the lives of Eva Markvoort and her two online friends who are all battling Cystic Fibrosis (CF) - a fatal genetic disease affecting the lungs and digestive system. Unable to meet in person because of the spread of infections and super bugs, the girls have become each other's lifelines through the Internet, providing unconditional love, support, and understanding long after visiting hours are over. Taking place from April 30 to May 10, the HotDocs will showcase over 150 films from Canada and around the globe.

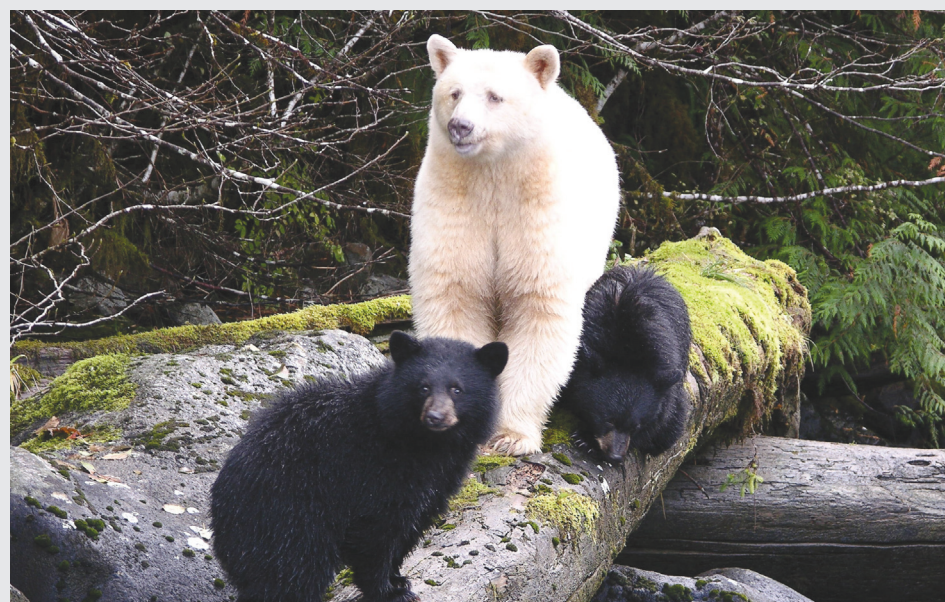
You touch, you buy: Shopping study

Students trying to save money are being encouraged not to touch items when shopping. A recently released study suggests if consumers want to avoid making impulse purchases, they should refrain from handling goods. The study finds that by merely touching an object, one is more likely to increase feelings of ownership. The research also found that touching an object, if the experience is pleasant or even neutral, increases how much money consumers would be willing to pay.



50% of the Great Bear Rainforest now protected

Gordon Campbell is finding out that doing the "Green" thing can be smart politics. The Liberal government has announced extensive plans to protect key areas and lessen damage to old growth watersheds along its West Coast that has been dubbed the Great Bear Rainforest. The protection will extend to much of Princess Royal Island, home to the Kermode or "spirit bear," a genetically unique subspecies of black bear that are white or cream-colored. Greenpeace, ForestEthics and Sierra Club B.C. are the three main environmental groups that have been lobbying the government Great Bear Rainforest protection. The agreement includes 2.1 million hectares protected, \$120 million set aside for First Nation communities to help kick-start a new conservation economy as an alternative to logging the rainforest. A new system of 'lighter touch' logging, which leaves behind 50 per cent of a logged area, has also been legislated. Campbell's popular green decision comes on the heels of B.C.'s provincial election to be held in May.



Willingdon Prison Blues

Students who get on and off the bus at the Willingdon Avenue stops might not know that right behind them is the proposed site for a future pre-trial prison facility that will house people accused of everything from shoplifting to murder.

By Jacob Barker
The Link

The Willingdon site, only 100 metres from the campus, is also surrounded by residential property, three elementary schools, and one high school.

Laurie Sheehan is the assistant chair on Cascade Heights Parent Advisory Council, one of four schools within 2 kilometres of the facility.

“They, (prisoners released from the facility into the surrounding area,) will be joining the busses you ride on, they will be on your campus”, she said after a recent presentation to Burnaby City Hall.

“We don’t need to draw an additional criminal element to our community. I’m sure BCIT students are already impacted by certain elements of crime on campus,” she added.

Sheehan is looking to enlist the support of BCIT stu-

dents in opposition to the project.

“We absolutely need the support of the BCIT student community to rally against this and we look forward to seeing how we can leverage both of our networks to send a message to the government that this is in the wrong location.”

Another blow to BCIT, as pointed out by Burnaby Mayor Derek Corrigan, is that BCIT and the city of Burnaby had, until the announcement of the remand facility, been working together to develop the Willingdon lands for student lands for potential student use such as a student village, sports facilities, or added student housing. Corrigan also pointed out that BCIT can’t officially come out and oppose the plan as they are funded by the province but they are probably extremely disappointed.



The provincial government stepped back from the plan, just before 600+ people showed up at a public hearing opposing the facility on March 24th. Mayor Corrigan thinks it is just a ploy by the liberal government to put the issue off until after the election. He said their plan to have all of the mayors in the lower mainland’s get together and decide on the best location for the prison was “comical”. He also noted that Solicitor-General John van Dongen is still promoting the Burnaby location as the best for the prison.



I SEE YOU & RAISE YOU

BCIT FACULTY AND STAFF CAMPAIGN 2009



Does your student club have interesting news for students? Do you know of any events that students should know about and attend? Let us know at link@bcitsa.ca

BCIT Faculty and Staff Campaign funds support student bursaries and library resources

The BCIT Foundation

In the last issue, the vice-president of Campus Life, Hui Hang reported that you, the students, raised \$6,100 during the “Toon In” Campaign in January. This was matched by the Institute to create the \$12,200 BCIT Toon In Endowment for student bursaries.

We have more good news for you. Following the outstanding example you set in the “Toon In” Campaign, in February, the BCIT Foundation launched an institute-wide I See You and Raise You Faculty and Staff Campaign. The initiative raised more than \$11,500 in support of student bursaries and library resources.

Yes, you inspire us with your creative energy, your hard work and your determination to succeed. You motivate us in our jobs at BCIT. We know that many of you struggle to meet your educational expenses or need access to better educational resources, and we want to make the journey easier for you.

Half of the Faculty and Staff Campaign proceeds went

towards increasing the Toon In Endowment to \$17,950. Interest from the endowment will forever provide bursaries to students in financial need. The remainder of the donations will be used to build library resources based on student needs.

A huge thanks to students Hui Hang, Amor Pedroso, and Brendan Link for their assistance during the Campaign.

The BCIT Foundation (bcit.ca/foundation) is committed to raising funds for student scholarships, bursaries and awards. We also secure gifts to ensure that your education continues to be current and empowers you to make an impact as soon as you enter the marketplace. Funds for student awards are disbursed by Student Financial Aid and Awards. For more information, please visit bcit.ca/finaid.

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FIVE STUDENTS NEEDED



We need your help! BCITSA is doing a student survey in April. \$10 an hour and we can work around your class schedule. Interested? Email your resume to Scott at outreach@bcitsa.ca or drop by the Student Association Main Office in SE2.

Elections Campaigns are underway!

Campaigning period closes:

Friday April 17th 2009 at 12:00pm.

There will be a couple of Great Hall Speeches on the following days:

- April 9th 10:45am and 12:45pm
- April 15th 10:45am and 12:45pm

Voting will take place between:

Thursday April 9, 2009 - 8:30am to Friday April 17th, 2009 - 12:00pm

Voting is available:

- Online via my.bcit
- Great Hall April 14-15-16 from 11am to 1pm
- NE1 April 14 & 16 from 10am to 11:30pm
- ATC April 14 & 15 from 11:30am to 12:30pm

Election nominations have been extended for the following two categories:

- Vice President Finance and Administration
- Chair School of Health Sciences

Nomination ends:

Wednesday April 15 at 12:00pm

Verification given to BCIT on April 15 afternoon to be returned by Friday April 17

Candidates meeting Friday April 17 at 5:30

Campaigning and voting opens:

Wednesday April 22 until Friday May 1

Special General Meeting

May 4th at 5:30pm in Council Chambers.

The meeting will address changes to the by-laws. For further information and to view changes to the by-laws, visit www.bcitsa.ca





A Conversation with the President

BCITMA's woman in charge talks about her inspirations, challenges, and guilty pleasures

By Eddy Tan
VP of Communications | BCITMA

Even at first sight, it's clear that Alicia Fruhm is not just your average college student. Standing 6'1" with golden hair and an unmistakable air of confidence, Alicia is a strong, intelligent businesswoman-in-training. All she needs to do now is graduate, which will happen by the end of this semester.

Alicia Fruhm is also the President of BCITMA, and there may be no better time to hold that title. BCITMA just returned home from the American Marketing Association Collegiate Conference in New Orleans with five distinct

honours. Besides a fantastic third place finish in the Case Study Competition and an award for Outstanding Communications, BCITMA was honoured as being among the AMA's top 24 outstanding chapters, out of 141 overall. Add these accolades to the several successes BCITMA has experienced throughout the year, and it's easy to see that Alicia has plenty of reason to smile.

With the BCITMA executive elections coming up on April 30th, next year's executive members can learn from Alicia's leadership, charisma, and attitude. I had the opportunity to chat with the woman behind BCITMA. So if you're running for an executive position, you'd better pay attention.

EDDY: What motivated you to run for President of BCITMA?

ALICIA: I wanted to bring BCITMA back to the top at the AMA International Collegiate Conference and get the new students pumped about marketing!

EDDY: What have been the year's biggest challenges?

ALICIA: Keeping my spirits up to help motivate my team – especially when everyone is overloaded with assignments and all the other extra-curricular activities they are involved in.

EDDY: If you could have lunch with anyone in the world, living or not, who would it be?

ALICIA: Barack Obama – I really think he is going to change the world. He is a person who will go down in history and I would love to have the experience of meeting with him to just chat, not about politics, but everything else: his likes and dislikes, favourite colours, movies, and foods. I'd like to see his other side and learn about the real Barack.

EDDY: What is your biggest guilty pleasure?

ALICIA: America's Next Top Model – I'm a sucker for that show, and Disney music – you should hear my iPod.

EDDY: If your life had a theme song, what would it be?

ALICIA: "The Perfect Day" by Hoku. It's the opening song to Legally Blonde.

EDDY: What are three things you could not live without?

ALICIA: Music, my computer, and pets. My pets are members of the family and I think life would be a much sadder place without them.

EDDY: What inspires you?

ALICIA: My family and friends. I want to make them proud by accomplishing my goals.

EDDY: How do you define success?

ALICIA: Doing what I love and getting paid for it.

EDDY: What is it about marketing that speaks to you?

ALICIA: I like that it gives me the opportunity to work on my strengths in many areas. I can highlight my creative skills, while using my organizational and management skills to execute a campaign.

EDDY: As we both know, the BCITMA elections are coming up soon. What are some key qualities that are important to have for anyone interested in running for President?

ALICIA: Anyone interested in running for President must be patient, driven, honest, and above all, approachable. You are the face of the organization, and with that comes certain responsibilities. Students need someone who can lead by example, but also someone who they feel comfortable approaching.

EDDY: Any words of advice or encouragement for the future members of next year's BCITMA?

ALICIA: Use your resources. Teachers and peers are there to help you. You are not alone, so make sure you make the most of it.



Sick Prospective Immigrants Barred from Canada

Peter Coyte, professor of health and economics at the University of Toronto, has found that immigrants are being denied into Canada based on their medical burden.

By Chelsea Howard
The Muse (Memorial University)

Canada's Immigration Act outlines three major reasons why a person would be deemed medically inadmissible to the country.

Coyte's research deals with the reason that the immigrant might cause excessive demands on health and social services.

Immigration Canada's definition of excessive demand is \$4,867.40 per year. If an immigrant could potentially incur more than this amount, he or she won't be permitted to enter the country.

The study was designed to address whether or not Immigration Canada's current cost threshold is reasonable, and if it isn't, what would be a more appropriate threshold.

"We want to look at factors that would yield a HIV positive immigrant admissible if a new threshold was invoked," said Coyte.

Coyte, a chair in health services research, focuses primarily on research, education, linkage, and exchange activities within Canada's healthcare community.

This particular project has been ongoing over the past year, and is in the final stages of research. They're working toward finalizing research that assesses Canadian immi-

gration decisions that deal with immigrants who are suffering from health conditions.

Based upon these consultations, Coyte and the other researchers involved constructed a statistical test to measure the amount of cost before a prospective immigrant's healthcare burden is deemed to be excessive, or statistically different from that of Canadians.

The study shows that the current cost threshold is too low and that it should be almost three times higher, at around \$15,000. This conclusion was reached based upon the distribution factor involved in health-care costs.

Research has shown that while average health-care costs are known, neither the variance nor the cost distribution is known with any certainty.

Heartbreak, Heartache, or Just Plain Heart?

What could be in store for the Canucks this playoff season

By Birdie Hamilton
The Link

With the playoffs just around the corner and the Canucks assuring themselves a spot in the march for Lord Stanley's Mug, what should local fans realistically expect from their team this spring? Should they expect their team to win the Cup? Should they prepare themselves for a long run only to be disappointed again? Or will the locals go down earlier than expected, prompting the usual questions of who should stay and who should go?

Let's take a look at what the casual fan might see in the weeks (and hopefully months) to come. The Canucks are currently in a dogfight for first place in the Northwest Division, having come back from the dark side of the moon to position themselves where they control their own destiny. In other words, if the Canucks win their remaining games they will finish in top spot in the division, assuring themselves of home ice advantage in at least the first round of the playoffs. While this ensures the owners extra revenue, it is also very desirable to the team that has been next to unbeatable on home ice as of late.

The team that wins the Stanley Cup each year has a makeup of skill, grit, determination, and character. It takes 16 wins to hoist the Cup, and during that time players are expected to play with injuries. There are stories down

through the years of heroic performances, most notably the Leafs Bob Baun, who played in game six of the finals with a broken leg and scored the winner in overtime.

So what of the Canucks chances? It starts in goal, where the home team has arguably the best in the business in Roberto Luongo. He is capable of stealing a game or even a series by himself. On the blueline, the 'Nucks ice a veteran defense that isn't flashy but very steady. They can play it any way the opponent wants, grind it out tough physical play or a fluid skating style. They are an experienced group who are steady one to six, with capable replacements at the ready should injuries occur. Up front, the Canucks have two very strong offensive lines which means opposing teams can only designate their checkers to one or the other. Should the opposition play their checkers against the Sedins and Burrows, the RPM line of Kesler, Demitra and Sundin will be able to freewheel and provide ample offense for the team. Throw in the very capable third line and the gritty fourth line, and you have a very capable group up front.

On special teams the Canucks have the potential to make a difference in any given game, what with their two power play units and stellar checkers on the penalty kill. These units often make the difference in games, particularly in the playoffs. The area that the Canucks have made the greatest strides in is something called character. This is an intangible that gets tested on a regular basis. Many



teams have suffered melt-downs over the years due to an inability to control emotion. The home team has demonstrated a penchant this season for not succumbing to this malady, with the recent Chicago game a glowing example. The players seem genuinely interested in each other. They care about what happens to their teammates. This ingredient will not show up on the score sheet at the end of the night, but is perhaps as important as any of the others skills over the long grind that is the playoffs.

Should the fans expect a Stanley Cup win this season? Perhaps not, but they certainly have a contender to cheer on. All things will have to fall into place for the Canucks, but they have demonstrated this year that they can conquer adversity. There are very good reasons to be optimistic.

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Sports News In Brief

By Patrick O'Shaughnessy
The Link

Hockey

The Canucks are in first place, and peaking at the right time for the play-offs. But Vancouver Canuck Taylor Pyatt is home in Thunder Bay, Ont., after his fiancée Carly Bragnalo was killed in a car accident last week while on vacation in Jamaica. Bragnalo was 27, and the two were to be married this summer. There is no set timetable for Pyatt's return, as Vigneault said that he can take all the time that he needs. The Canucks will be on the road in Colorado to square-off against the Avalanche on April, 11.

Soccer

Not only is Vancouver the home of Major League Soccer's 17th team, as Major League Soccer Commissioner Don Garber announced back in March, but we are probably the only city who can field a team with home-grown players. The Vancouver MLS team will begin play in 2011 at the newly-renovated BC Place Stadium in the city's downtown entertainment district. How hot is this team going to be? Tickets are already sold-out for phase one. To secure your seat, or for info on Whitecaps 2009 ticket packages, call 604-669-WAVE(9283). But don't wait too long.

Local amateur soccer is also getting ready to kick-off on May 9th when the Pacific Coast Soccer League gets under way. The PCSL is one of the best professional development leagues in North America considering the size and scope of its budget. This should be of interest to students because BCIT should consider putting a club team into the

league. There are so many coaches that would jump at the chance to coach a club-team from BCIT in such a well known league. BCIT has so many great soccer players: we need to show everyone just what we can do. Check out the web site at www.pcsl.org.

Baseball

The Vancouver Canadians Baseball Club is gearing up for another season in the Northwest Baseball League. Anticlimatic considering Vancouver used to be a triple-A city back in the day. Nonetheless, the team is still because it is still Canada's only Major League affiliated team. The other reason the Canadians are relevant is because every summer there are a bunch of job opportunities available through them to BCIT students. Check out www.canadiansbaseball.com for more info. The season opener is June 20th, so now is the time to get your resumes up-to-date and submitted.

Golf

For any BCIT business students out there who are wondering if learning to golf can help their career, the answer is yes. There are opportunities out there for you to get involved in professional golf and see first hand just how all those big-dollar deals are made in terms of marketing and sponsorships. Best of all, one of the best events in golf is back and better than ever now that The Vancouver Board of Parks and Recreation and Vancouver Parks Golf along with the Vancouver Golf Tour announced a partnership to revitalize the Vancouver City Open. The tournament will be conducted September 13th - 15th, 2009 and feature a 54 hole stroke play competition to determine the Champion.



All three Vancouver Parks Golf Courses, Fraserview, McCleery and Langara, will play host to one round of the Championship.

The Vancouver City Open is open to all golf professionals and amateurs with an RCGA Handicap Factor of 18 or less. A full field of 220 competitors is expected to play and based on a sold out event. The pros will play for a cash purse of \$25,000 and the amateurs will compete for a share of \$25,000 in prizes. Day one kicks off with a Pro-Am featuring some of the best professionals in the province playing with a foursome of amateurs who only want to play in the Pro-Am portion of the event and have a Handicap Factor of 36 or less.

BCIT should also really enter a team into this event. Are there four students out there ready to make their mark in the golf business? Here is your chance. Fraser Mullholland, Commissioner of the Vancouver Golf Tour, is looking for volunteers for just about anything to do with golf. Imagine how great it will look on your resume to say you interned for a summer with a professional golf tour. For more info at www.vancouvergolftour.com

Michael "Pipes" Walker

The Link's Latest Intramural Superstar

By Laura Gallant
The Link

Team: The Anchormen - floor hockey

Superstition: I have a lot of quirks. On game day I drive the same route to school, I put my goalie pads on in the same order, and I stretch in the same order.

Do you feel pressure to bulk up your arms to live up to your nickname, Pipes? There is no need for any more bulk.

Have you ever had a brawl with another goal tender, a la Garth Snow and Steve Shields? I haven't yet been involved in any fisticuffs but I've come pretty close.

What do you and Roberto Luongo have in common? Deadly good looks. Without my goal tending our team is nothing.

Who is your favourite Anchorman? Kyle Richardson, he carries my hockey bag for me.

Shout outs: Amanda (I officially endorse Amanda Eyolfson for VP of Public Relations and Marketing). And to the rest of the Anchormen it's time to make a run for the cup... or free playoff t-shirts.



Photo courtesy of Laura Gallant

Music News In Brief

By Kristina Mameli
 The Link

FINALLY! Rancid's 7th studio album has a release date.

The long overdue *Let the Dominos Fall* will hit shelves June 2nd. A special edition will include 2 CDs, one featuring *Let the Dominos Fall* acoustic plus a bonus track, as well as a DVD detailing the making of the album.

RIP Stereolab?

The London alt pop band is apparently taking a break after its 19 years of going strong to work on other projects; this according to the band's manager, **Martin Pike**, in a note posted on the band's website. He says not to fear however, *Chemical Records 2* should be released shortly. The 31 tracks are currently being mixed. An actual breakup wasn't mentioned, but **Pike** says that the band doesn't plan to record anything further. Sounds a little ominous...

April Foolery: bands get cruel...

April Fools Day seemed to be the perfect opportunity for bands to screw with their loyal fans. Some of the highlights/ best pranks/best rumours are as follows:

After quite the struggle to replace **Robert Plant** (yes, I am referring to that guy from **Alter Bridge**), **Led Zeppelin** finally found a new singer! You guessed it **Björk!** The only logical choice.

Toronto punkers **Fucked Up** are following the **Bare-naked Ladies** example and releasing a children's album. Funny, you'd think that wouldn't work out so well, what with the name and all...that one courtesy of CBC Radio 3.

Make sure you pick up **Timbaland's** latest production masterpiece---the brand new full-length **Nine Inch Nails!** **Trent Reznor** apparently saw fit to spread this well, heinous rumour via Twitter. **Kanye** sunglasses included on the fake cover.

Mr. Reznor, for this epic prank, you officially win.



Evolving 20 Countdown For April 4, 2009

1. Metric - Help I'm Alive
2. Eagles of Death Metal - Cheap Thrills
3. Beast - Mr.Hurricane
4. AC Newman - There Are Maybe 10 or 12
5. Lily Allen - The Fear
6. Islands - The Arm
7. The Decemberists - The Rake's Song
8. Franz Ferdinand - Ulysses
9. Bon Iver - Blood Bank
10. Like a Martyr - Elizabeth
11. Kings of Leon - Use Somebody
12. The Handsome Furs - I'm Confused
13. Wolf Parade - California Dreamer
14. A.R. Rahman/M.I.A - O Saya
15. Coconut Records - Microphone
16. Elliot Brood - Without Again
17. Wintermitts - DANS
18. Yeah Yeah Yeahs - Zero
19. Heartless Bastards - The Mountain
20. Arkells - Pulling Punches

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Christine Ramage
President

I am running to be your Student President. My goals for my time in office are to:

- Be a VOICE for the student body
- Create a sense of COMMUNITY within BCIT
- Build upon the FOUNDATION between BCIT and the Student Association
- Strengthen the RELATIONSHIP between the student body and the Student Association

Next year will be my third and final year and BCIT; I want to create positive CHANGE and share my EXPERIENCES during that time. Please use your VOICE to VOTE and I will advocate for that voice while I am your Student President!



Christopher Peacock
VP Student Affairs

Do you have a problem and don't know who to turn to? Well look no further, as the VPSA I will be your go to person. As the Chair of the School of Manufacturing, Electronics, and Industrial Processes for the last two years I have had the opportunity to really affect change. Some of the many things I have been part of include the creation of the EhPod, after hours classroom

access, and a new \$100,000.00 endowment fund to provide entrance awards and bursaries for BCIT students. School should be about interacting with your environment and empowering students to affect change. This is why I am seeking election. If I am elected I will strive to create a sense of community within the student body, and be an open mind for students to bounce ideas off. So come on out and vote, and let your voice be heard.



Amanda Eyolfson
VP Public Relations

I am running for this position because of my passion for the public and exciting, worthwhile events. What better place to exercise this but BCIT? I spent most of my high school years on student council. After a break from running while at the University of Saskatchewan, I now wish to be part of a student association again.

My experience in dealing with the public and event planning extends beyond student council, however. I have worked within a university's communications department and have learned the inner workings of a major institution. I know what it takes to organize over 3,000 people, promote a school's image, and build relations within the community.

I want BCIT students to be proud of their school and have the most memorable time of their life while here. That is why I am asking you to consider me as a better choice for a better BCIT.



Peter Smith
VP Campus Life

Running for Vice-President of Campus Life, I'm extremely excited about the possibility of being able to represent BCIT's student body and facilitate its involvement in the many great initiatives this school has to offer. The 2008-2009 school year played host to such unique and successful promotions as the 'Toon In' initiative for financial assistance and the 2009 Eco Fair

promoting environmental sustainability, and I will look to use this momentum in organizing even more events in the coming year. I am also eager to promote growth and activity within school clubs like the BCITMA and SIFE BCIT, which have been awarded top honors within their respective fields, and I aim to increase cohesion and awareness of these educational, experience-rich organizations for the benefit of the student body. It's my goal to facilitate these values to my fellow students, so that BCIT's Campus Life experience may rival its academic one.

VP Administration & Finance

By-election
See www.bcitsa.ca for details
Nominations close April 15th at 12pm



Aman Khangura
VP Student Affairs

In the duration of this school year I have been fortunate enough to meet and interact with many students at BCIT. Through several conversations I can confidently say that there are students who are uncomfortable and unsure with their future. Many students are unaware of the career options and support that is available for them. My involvement with the SA and FMA

has made me aware of resources that are accessible for students. This knowledge is my ultimate reason for running in the election; I WANT student to KNOW what is available. More importantly BCIT needs to know what students WANT available. BCIT invests in valuable resources for its students and these resources need a VOICE, my voice. If you want to be heard, vote Aman Khangura as your Vice President of Student Affairs.



Marc Edgett
VP Public Relations

How many times do you see things at this school that seem ridiculous? Everyone you know agrees with you, but for some reason, nothing seems to change. I'm not trying to tell you that this school is overrun by bureaucrats, but even over the two short years I've been here, I've noticed a decline in this school's responsiveness to student opinion. I believe that this is

what originally made this school great for a lot of students. Students that needed jobs were seeking somewhere that would give them the education they required and BCIT responded by offering condensed, high-intensity programs that provided job-ready skills and practical knowledge. This is what we need to get back to and because I believe this is what is best for you, the BCIT student, this is the motivating principle that will guide me, should you choose to elect me. Thank you.

Chair, Health Sciences

By-election
See www.bcitsa.ca for details
Nominations close April 15th at 12pm



Billy Moore
Chair, School of Business

I'd like to thank BCIT Students for giving me the experience of representing BC's most unique and proactive School of Business this past year. The Institute's enhanced leadership team has developed a new vision for BCIT. Next year, we'll see improved facilities, more up-to-date technology, and new specialized programs.

As a BCIT Student Association Executive, I attend weekly meetings with fellow executives, Council, and BCIT Administration. If there are problems amongst the student population, I take these issues to the source to assure immediate results.

I'm part of the Services, Business, Transportation, and Lounge committees. Our goal for next year is to maintain strong Set/Tech Representative initiatives, tackle the provincial ministry for improved transit services, improve our environmental stewardship, and to begin constructing new student lounge space.



Christian Gotengco
Chair, School of Business

Students from BCIT's School of Business are well regarded in industry because of our proven skills and abilities that we bring to the table.

The School of Business provides students with hands-on learning opportunities in the classroom that are directly transferable to our future careers.

I value this enriched education and want to give back to students as the Chair of the School of Business. In the upcoming 2009-2010 school year, I will plan to improve communication between students and the Student Association to ensure students' ideas and opinions are equally represented, raise awareness about available resources at BCIT that support student success, work with SA Executives on joint initiatives that enhance students' experiences at BCIT.

Your opinions are important and need to be heard. With your support, I can make a difference going beyond the classroom to create a brighter future together.



Robby Basi
Chair, School of Transportation, Construction & the Environment

Life for a student can be very challenging and I believe there are things that can be done to make campus life a better experience. Past members have done an excellent job, but I believe there is much more work to be done. I want to be able to leave BCIT knowing that I have made a positive contribution. One

of my goals will be to help students save costs wherever possible. I will go above and beyond to find those places. A students' focus should be on their education and they should not have to worry about their finances.



Tim De Volder
Chair, Aerospace Technology

One of the main reasons I am running is because it is a great opportunity to demonstrate good leadership and have a great experience doing it. Some things I would like to bring to the campus include activities that would help students to get to know one another. One example is having intramurals or other competitions. The office supplies airplane glider build off is

something I am looking forward to having again. Another great addition to this campus would be having speakers come in from the industry to talk to the students. This would really give us some valuable insight into the field we are preparing for. Overall, my goal is to try to bring as many opportunities and fun to the students as possible for a successful year.



Jobin Dehdari
Chair, School of Business

Nothing submitted.



Mat Brownell
Chair, School of Manufacturing, Electronics & Industrial Processes

For the past year I have been involved in the student association as a counsellor. Over this time I have had the opportunity to further understand the role of the Student Association within BCIT. This position will allow me to further my involvement with the SA by becoming an active representative of our school.

Over the past year I have spent most of my time in SW9, and I have heard many complaints. Complaints such as security and the state of the lounge have been ongoing issues. You can expect to see these issues addressed over the next year with me as your chairman. I look forward to being your representative in the coming school year.



Upkar Rai
Chair, School of Computing & Academic Studies

I have been at BCIT for 2 years and during this time I have had the opportunity to serve BCIT and its students on various occasions. I have been a Set-rep for the last 4 semesters, counsellor representing school of computing in Student Association for 2 semesters and a Lab Procter working in ITS(BCIT) for 2 months. As the "Chair" I plan to establish a system that helps keep

the current and future students, up to date and in contact with all that's around them. It is my goal to establish a strong professional network. I will do this by organising events for student-student interaction from different semesters and courses. holding fun and informative sessions and invite companies to let student experience their work place, conducting student-instructor sessions before events (e.g. Job-Fair) to increase student awareness and discuss Do's and Don'ts, completing the "Research Room" project.



Lester Wong
Chair, Aerospace Technology

My reasons for seeking election are to meet new people, get involved and to make changes to make new students feel more welcome.

My campaign goals are to promote student's awareness on recycling properties around the campus (one-time use, biodegradable, utensils shall be replaced), to promote and provide a fun, enthusiastic environment for our students (barbeques, bake sales and more), to promote and arrange extracurricular activities and social events (table tennis tournaments, foosball tournament, bingo nights, language nights), to renew facilities (replace old equipment), to promote communication between all students within BCIT, to encourage cultural exchange, and to coordinate with Burnaby Campus to promote special function or events.

Ozomatli



By Alicia Agarrabeitia
 The Link

Don't be shy, say it: O-zo-mat-li. It's really not that daunting, especially when you learn that it represents a little monkey. Apparently Ozomatli was an Aztec god and astrological symbol associated with music, dance, fire, and new harvest. It's one of the band members' astrological symbols. One day he suggested it thinking it was cool, and well, it stuck. The Link sat down with the band's percussionist/backing vocals, Jiro Yamaguchi, to find out what they're about.

The multi-cultural, eight-member band mixes Latin rhythms from salsa, samba and the like, with hip hop, rock, reggae, funk, and so on. With that many people involved in the song writing process, it can't be easy sticking to a specific genre. Fusions are much more interesting anyway.

With that many people, it's also hard to keep track of everyone. Jiro states that although they do their best to

keep organized, it's not unlikely to get a phone call after departing from a pit-stop from one of his band members saying, "you left me back here at the truck stop!"

Despite the occasional chaos of being in a marching band-like band, it's how Ozomatli work together to bring out the best in each other's cultures that probably appealed to the Bush administration. By 2007, the band was known worldwide and was widely popular. Despite their success however, they weren't sure what to do, think, or say when the U.S. State Department asked them to serve as Cultural Ambassadors, touring and performing around the world.

"We were surprised. We were against war, very against George Bush and very vocal about it. So when they asked us we were like, do you know who we are? Do you know what we represent? Have you been to our website? Do you know what we do?"

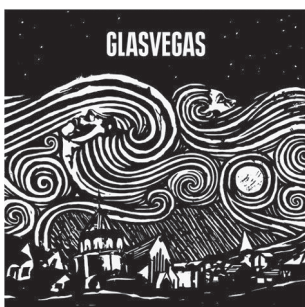
The decided to team up with Bush's administration because they saw it was an opportunity to rebuild the reputation of the U.S.A; "We wanted to go to these places and

meet people face-to-face and break down stereotypes and see firsthand for ourselves what was going on out there in the world." Jiro adds, "For me, I see what I see on TV and I go with that; you would think that the whole world is out to get everybody, but people aren't evil. If you believe what's on the TV, you'd believe that people are evil but they're not you know, people are good."

Ozomatli has toured all over the world offering free public concerts, musical workshops, and one-on-one time at summer camps, youth centres, and even refugee camps. According to Jiro, the touring won't be ending any time soon as they'll be on and off of the road until around the end of the year. So make sure to catch one of their shows while they're on the road as I'm sure when they're tour is over, they'll want to take a nice long break.

They're playing April 17th at the Commodore so be sure to check them out online at www.ozomatli.com.

Cd Reviews



Glasvegas raises the bets with self-titled debut album

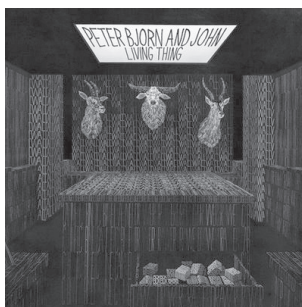
By Kendra Hart

The Link

Grit, grandeur and ultimately, substance is delivered by Glasgow's own Glasvegas in their highly anticipated self-titled debut album. The quartet has come a long way since their original line-up back in 2003. Glasvegas feels like a lesson in rock infused depth. Lead singer James Allan isn't afraid to let his raw Scottish brogue highlight his vocals; instead he embraces it fully.

The album's lyrics have a tangible realness to them; they're raucous and drenched in emotion. Standouts include starter single "Daddy's Gone," rich in solid guitar riffs and flowing melodic elements, and "Stabbed" slowing down a bit with a darker, haunting tone backed by Beethoven's "Moonlight Sonata."

Overall, Glasvegas treats every song with the same all encompassing sense of importance, and intensity. They wander away from the popularized synth breakdowns and play real instruments. And this element of realness is what makes this album a living-breathing feast for the ears. Glasvegas play the Commodore Ballroom April 12th.



Peter Bjorn and John have nothing to worry about

By Alicia Agarrabeitia

The Link

Still riding the high of their 2007 album *Writer's Block*, Peter Bjorn and John are back with *Living Thing*, featuring "Nothing to Worry About".

Sidenote: Does it bother anyone else that there isn't any punctuation between Peter and Bjorn? It sounds like Peter Bjorn is one person and that John just doesn't want to use his surname.

The album is said to reflect their personalities more so than any of their previous albums. Personally, I think *Writer's Block* is much better than *Living Thing*.

Living Thing is pretty mellow and a little less uplifting than most of the trio's songs that we're accustomed to. Although probably wanting to meet the expectations they set with their popular Indie pop album *Writer's Block*, *Living Thing* is more about exploring their darker, experimental side. I find myself favouring the more upbeat songs like "It Don't Move Me", "Nothing to Worry About", and "Lay it Down". Actually, I just like "Lay it Down" because of the chorus: "Shut the fuck up boy. You are starting to piss me off."



Mishka: Music you'll hear during the Summer of 2009

By Alicia Agarrabeitia

The Link

Imagine Bob Marley, but white, and a pirate. That's kind of what Mishka is like. His album *Above the Bones* is a mix of reggae, singer/songwriter folk-rock, and soul.

He was raised on a boat in the Caribbean because his parents were ocean-folk (his momma is Canadian). Sailing through the deep blue seas, he learnt a lot of life lessons at every port they docked at. His lyrics speak of his seafaring experiences and his faith in our world's people and their ability to love. There are also a few songs in the mix that speak of his distrust of authority and his dislike for corruption.

He's actually the first artist to sign with Matthew McConaughey's label j.k. livin' Records. I know...who knew that McConaughey had a record label? McConaughey heard Mishka playing live from afar one day and went out of his way to find out who the artist was. Ever since then they've been working together and Mishka's been McConaughey's protege.

Favourite tracks include: Train Again, Above the Bones, Coastline Journey, and Long Road.

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Destruction

German Thrash Legends

By Kristina Mameli
The Link

It's one of those fluke moments that you live for. One of those moments you absolutely can't foresee happening, but one that you're sure glad did.

The first time I was lucky enough to see **Destruction** was at the largest metal festival in the world, *Wacken Open Air 2007* in Germany. That show in front of upwards of 70,000 people was absolutely earth shattering, setting the bar pretty high for all future shows. It happened to be the band's 25th anniversary featuring members from throughout their storied history; including the infamous **Mad Butcher**. Beginning in 1982, **Destruction** have made their way to legendary status, boasting a loyal fan base worldwide.

On their tour bus in front of the *Red Room* on a rainy Vancouver evening, I got a chance to catch up with **Destruction's** lead singer and bassist **Schmier**.

Schmier was unexpectedly soft spoken and sweet, a far cry from what I had expected of the brutal band's frontman.

With a heavy German accent, he starts by saying that **Destruction's** reception in Canada has been good so far, with the exception of one show. "The show in Calgary

was kind of a disaster," laments **Schmier**, "we couldn't play there because the equipment wasn't there. So that was kind of a sad thing. But so far it was really nice."

Destruction are a band with undeniable longevity, perhaps even more so than fellow thrash pioneers **Sodom** and **Kreator**, particularly given the underground nature of their music. **Schmier** says there's no real secret to their success. "We always did what we do best. We never listened to any other bands. I mean, we had our problems when we split up at the end of the 80's because we'd been listening to other people. So when the band went without me for several years they also learnt their lesson. Now we're back together we know what we want, and we know what we don't want. And that makes us unbreakable somehow."

Schmier prefers intimate gigs at smaller venues as opposed to large crowds such as those at *Wacken*. "A big crowd can be very, not so much thrilling. They're more anonymous this way," he explains. "If someone is very close to you and is staring at you from two meters or one meter, it's more intimate, it's totally different. So I think small clubs are always great to play. The atmosphere is more close; it's more of a rock and roll atmosphere." He continues that that certainly doesn't rule out playing to larger crowds. "The big shows are great of course because the audiences have a fantastic goose bump feeling. But the more intimate shows for metal are still a great feeling; and the small venues just usually sound better."



Separated at birth, Kristina Mameli and Schmier from Destruction

The burly bassist loves to tour, and admits that he would likely go insane if not in constant motion. "We play a lot of shows every year because we need to be on the road to survive, but we also love to tour. When I'm home for more than three weeks I'm getting bored," he laughs. "So being home for two weeks, on tour for four or five; that's the perfect thing."

I was surprised to discover that quiet, but opinionated thrasher owes a debt of gratitude to the king of rock

and roll. "The first rock and roll experience was definitely "Jailhouse Rock" from **Elvis Presley**," **Schmier** reflects. "My father had all these rock and roll singles and I listened to them and they were not bad...but then this **Elvis** song, "Jailhouse Rock," was just so much better than the rest. And from that point on I was looking for rock and roll."

That was the beginning of the end for the young **Schmier**. "Then I bought my first **Status Quo** live album and then it started to be rock and roll, **AC/DC** and all that. Without the **Elvis** though, I wouldn't be sitting here. For me, **Elvis** was the start of everything that came afterwards; the rebellion. **Elvis** was a rebel for his time."

Thrash is one of the most extreme subgenres of metal, faster than most others and heavily rooted in punk and hardcore. To draw a few parallels, the big four of American thrash includes **Anthrax**, **Megadeth**, **Metallica** and of course, **Slayer**. **Schmier** says that that he and many fellow thrashers are indeed indebted to punk.

"Without punk...for us when we started we had the fastness of punk rock mixed up with the new wave of British heavy metal. In metal there were solos and the guitars were better played, but we wanted to keep the energy from **GBH**, **the Exploited**, **Dead Kennedys**...bring that into the metal, and that's how we started the band basically."

As they progressed, both scenes became heavily influenced by each other, bands even crossing the boundaries of genre to play together. "We played with the **Exploited** back in the day; 1985. It was the first maybe ever punk and metal show together. It was kind of difficult, because the punks are not very tolerant. The **Exploited** show wasn't that great, there were a lot of fights and shit."

And **Destruction** had the same problem playing with hardcore bands such as the **Cromags** for many of the same reasons. "When I was growing up there wasn't even one of those genres, it was just metal. And for me it'll always be like that."

"I always try to be open minded with the scene," he continues. "We're all fucking underground and we need to stick together. It's one metal scene, and I've been through all the ups and downs in the last 25 years, so I have a lot of respect. For me, metal's a lifestyle, not just listening to music."

What can one expect from a **Destruction** show? **Schmier** smiles, "well, we're named **Destruction** so we're going to leave a destructed crowd for sure."

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The Nicest Guys From Scotland

Scottish band Travis was in town April 4th, and they represented their homeland extremely well

By Birdie Hamilton
 The Link

Travis played an amazing show on April 4 at the *Commodore*. And no, it wasn't raining.

I got to chat with the rhythm section – bassist **Dougie Payne**, and drummer **Neil Primrose**. They are two nice, levelheaded rockers, and from what I saw at the show, it seems like the rest of the band is as well. After being together for over ten years, the band can still have fun, and appear to still love each other and be friends.

The bands' most recent album, "Ode to J. Smith" took five weeks to write, and two weeks to record. That's a difference from their last album, which took three years to create. **Payne** says it was the most enjoyable. "It was just a really enjoyable, quick, painless, easy time in the studio. When you get to the point that we've got to experience wise, it's tempting to get sucked into trying to make things perfect. Whereas when you perform live, you want to make things better; you enjoy the dynamics more, and you learn to accept the simplest way of doing it, and it's usually the best and most honest way."

Neil Primrose also enjoyed making the newest record, and says it's the flaws that make things interesting. "The bad edits are actually the soul of the record, with the little glitches in there. And with the way technology is at the moment, as far as recording goes, you have the opportunity to make everything perfect and everything absolutely in time and in tune; and it's just not interesting."

Travis has been linked to being responsible for the coming of bands like **Coldplay** and **Snow Patrol**. But, for **Primrose**, he laughed and asked, "Do we take the blame for that?" He went on to say, "Back when the music business was actually still successful, and still functioning (in



Birdie Hamilton with Dougie Payne and Neil Primrose

the '90's); we sort of inadvertently struck upon a business model, which the record companies then decided, "this is good, this makes money, let's make our own version of it?"

Primrose says he feels lucky to have grown up with younger parents, who greatly affected his musical influences. He says he likes good music, like classic rock, and older folk and punk music, as well as soul or **Motown** music that his mom was into. **Payne** on the other hand, thanks his sister for his musical upbringing, and for influences like **David Bowie**, **Roxy Music**, and **T-Rex**. Both bandmates agreed that their early influences shaped the kind of musicians they are now. **Payne** adds, "Like **Neil** said, the first ten years of your life – the music you're exposed to stays with you, in a more profound way than anything else."

Payne shared a fond memory of a recent show in Korea. "Suddenly, as the chorus of 'Closer' hit, probably about 600 multi-coloured paper airplanes came from the crowd, and it just looked amazing. That really was quite something – we've never experienced anything like that

before. It makes you realize how in big cities, especially in the west; you're kind of spoiled because you get bands through every night and you get kind of blasé about it. It made you realize (this show) was something special."

Travis will be playing a few upcoming European festivals and **Primrose** says he doesn't think people in North America really understand what festivals are. "Festivals are about all kinds of music, and all kinds of people, getting together. It's a cross-ventilation of ideas, and seeing music you would otherwise never buy a ticket for. Most American festivals are held in a car park somewhere, generally with about 12 thrashing skate-punk bands, one after the f**king other."

If you haven't heard **Travis**, I suggest listening to them. Not only did they put on a great live show, and really showed the heart in their music; the music itself is really enjoyable melodic rock. They remind me a bit of **Keane**; but better. They are a band that can still rock out and exude fun, and they seem to understand the grittiness and organics of making music real.

The Songwriters Circle

The Centre In Vancouver For the Performing Arts
 March 29th 2009

By Kristina Mameli
 The Link

The *Songwriter's Circle* is an extremely unique opportunity for fans to sit down in front of their favourite Canadian songwriters, just before the main event, and gain an understanding and appreciation for why and how their favourite songs were written.

Starting at noon, the intimate event at the *Centre In Vancouver For the Performing Arts* was broadcast live and unscripted on *CBC Radio 2*, hosted by **Rich Terfy**, aka **Buck 65**. The man who kept everything moving along however, was the incomparable **Hawksley Workman**.

The first half of the event saw heartfelt performances from **Hawksley** (featuring Mr. Lonely on the piano), **Chris** and **Dave from Doc Walker**, **Jacob Hoggard** from locals **Hedley**, and **Sarah Slean**. Each artist revealed extremely

personal stories and the inspiration behind each track, performing right after in a stripped down manner.

In part two, **Hawksley** continued with support from Canadian Music Hall Of Famer **Buffy Sainte-Marie**, local **Ndidi Onukwulu**, and **Blue Rodeo's Jim Cuddy**. During one of **Cuddy's** tracks, **Mr. Lonely** began softly free styling behind him. **Cuddy** returned the favour, adding to one of **Sainte-Marie's** tracks with the harmonica.

The event closed with **Sainte-Marie** starting off, each artist left on stage joining in for a jam session of sorts.

In talking to **Hawksley Workman** briefly post awards show, his appreciation for events such as these and the opportunity to dissect each song became glaringly apparent. He appreciated the attendance as much as those present appreciated the performances.



Chris and Mr. Lonely from Hawksley Workman
 Photo by Kristina Mameli

Life on the Red Carpet

2009 Juno Awards



Mana Mansour looking fabulous at the 2009 Juno Awards

By Mana Mansour

The Link

In January 2009, I was interning at CTV news in Vancouver when I ran into none other than **Miss Lainey Gossip**. After proclaiming my desire to be in her shoes one day, she advised me to jump at the chance to work

on the *Juno Awards*, as they were coming to Vancouver in a few months.

A light bulb went off in my head somewhere and as fast as I could physically get to a computer, I began the process of applying for media accreditation to cover the event. A month or so later I get word that I was accepted and...this is the best part...I get a place on the red carpet! Finally, a chance to run into **Ben-my-hair-is-shellacked-to-my-head-Mulroney** and prove that the little underdogs have chops to be out there too.

On the big day, after getting all beautified and my hair did (a girl's got to look good), I arrived at the GM place media sign-in an hour before the red carpet was to get underway. I met up with my fantastic cameraman Adam Nasif to go over our plan of action. Having only what we've seen of red carpets on TV as our education (newsflash: they don't teach you this in Broadcast Journalism school), we decided to tackle the celebrities the old fashioned way: by frantically calling out their names from our red carpet spot for an interview.

Now I'll let you in on a little secret, the red carpet isn't as action-packed as one would think. There's a lot of waiting around until the people worth your time arrive, and the amount of behind-the-scenes people walking around everywhere seems endless. I'm referring to all those people you see in the background of say the *Oscar* or *Grammy* red carpet, that just seem to just stand behind the celebs and take up space. Well this peanut gallery is made up of publicists, band managers, dress tweekers, and more publicists.

Even the nobodies walk down with at least one publicist or manager!

Vancouver R&B singer **Elise Estrada** even included her jeweler in the mix, who we concluded was probably there to make sure she didn't steal all the ice on her neck.

Each broadcaster/station had a pre-designated spot on the red carpet, and we were sandwiched between *City TV* and *Urban Rush*. While talking to **Fiona Forbes**, I noticed an overwhelming trend with both the ladies and gents of the red carpet: a thick multi-layer of caked on make-up. Up close, our beloved **Michael Buble** was a shade of orange, achieved by a layer of foundation and sketchy mystic tan.

In the end, all the waiting and franticness was worthwhile, as Adam and I got some great interviews with people we both really admire. **Feist**, **Deborah Cox**, and the **Barenaked Ladies** were the highlights. They were all such nice, talkative people. There were also people I could have done without (**Hedley**, cough, cough), who made lots of wise-crack comments and were just plain disrespectful to the journalists standing out there in the cold. However, in a way, I was expecting more of that kind of behaviour and was pleasantly surprised when it turned out to be of a minimum.

The 2009 *Juno's* will always go down as my first foray onto the red carpet, but the amount of excitement and sense of celebration it brought to the city of Vancouver is what I always remember. And Lainey, if you're reading this...thank you.

The Juno Gala Dinner and Awards

The real Junos: March 28th

By Kristina Mameli

The Link

As I arrived at the Westin Bayshore Hotel for the *Juno Gala Dinner and Awards*, I couldn't help but be a little excited. The small red carpet at the entrance was a little intimidating, but I managed. Standing in the lobby I watched the who's who of the Canadian music industry file in; everyone from **Dallas Green** and **Jim Cuddy** to well, **Loverboy**.

Before letting everyone into the main ballroom, the guests were packed into a small reception area where they had the opportunity to rub shoulders with the likes of **Sam Roberts** and **Hawksley Workman**. It was almost surreal how accessible all of your favourite *Juno* nominated musicians were in this setting.

As the 1200 guests were seated, **Beast** kicked things off with their hit single "Mr. Hurricane" which was also used in much of the *Juno* promotional material. It was an extremely fitting track to start off the night, extremely grandiose, a choir joining the band just in front of the stage.

From there, as the first course was served, the awards started to be dolled out. The Gala Dinner is where the *Junos* really happen, all 32 awards presented. The televised event the next night is a much more condensed version of what transpired at the Gala, featuring performances by much more recognizable acts such as **Sam Roberts** and **Great Big Sea**.

Some of the highlights of the star studded event include **Sarah McLachlan** being presented the Allan Waters Humanitarian Award by **Terry McBride**. She was extremely gracious and reflective while accepting the much deserved honour.



Heather, Hawksley, and Kristina



Strombo being creepy

Many awards were presented and accepted with that Canadian wit that we're famous for fully in tact, **Wally Oppal** making cracks about how he treasures **Bruce Allan's** input regarding immigration policies.

The legendary **Buffy Sainte-Marie** won Aboriginal Album Of the Year, for *Running For the Drum*, her words as she accepted the award very humble and encouraging.

The *CBC's* **Jian Ghomeshi**, who currently manages popstress **Lights**, presented the much deserved award for Rock Album Of the Year to **Sam Roberts** for *Love At the End Of the World*, making a lengthy speech regarding Earth Hour which was scheduled to take place during the show.

The Stills, surprisingly, took home New Group Of the Year, joking "when we started this band six months ago..." The brand new band was also awarded Alternative Album Of the Year for *Oceans Will Rise*.

Single Of the Year went to **Kardinal Official**, for "dangerous." He joined the multitudes of artists unable to make it to the Gala; however, he did send a video from Europe, part two of which was aired Sunday.

A heavyweight in broadcasting, **Fred Sherrat** was

awarded the Walt Grealis Special Achievement Award for his extremely important work in the industry.

Children's Record Of the Year went to the **Barenaked Ladies** sans **Steven Page** for *Snacktime!*

And Music DVD went to **Blue Rodeo** for *Blue Road*. The band accepted the award without **Jim Cuddy** who didn't make it to the stage following an earlier moment of embarrassment on the big screen...

There were also performances by students sponsored by **MusiCounts** as well as the **Trews**.

The dinner provided somewhat of an insiders look at the music industry and a preview of Sunday night; artists and well known figures in the industry all in attendance and all more than willing to stop and take a picture.

Kristina has more great photos from the gala dinner. Check them out on the blog: www.bcitsa.ca/blogs

The Juno Awards – The Actual Show

The show itself, winners, presenters, and bands

By Birdie Hamilton

The Link

Aside from all the *Juno* parties, after-parties, galas, concerts, and red carpet shindigs that I didn't get to go to, I got to the opportunity to represent the Link at the actual awards show;

and I'm glad I went. I sat in the River Rock Casino club section of GM Place for the first time, which also meant I was about 15 rows behind stars like **Elvis Costello** and **Bryan Adams**.

Russell Peters was the host, and although I haven't seen a whole lot of his stuff in the past, I thought he was hilari-

ous. He opened in the midst of a group of dancers, true to his self-proclaimed "Anglo-Indian" heritage, and he was great. His jokes were funny, and I was surprised at how quick and witty he was – yes there was a teleprompter, but he made a few great jokes up on the fly.

Being a broadcast student where I'm taught about "behind-the-scenes", I noticed all the people working behind what the cameras could see, or working the cameras themselves – and I found it amazing how they made it happen so perfectly, right before my eyes (and yours if you watched it).

There was a sea of performances, but unfortunately I think the Canadian music scene was not embodied properly. The *Juno's* represented the portion of Canadian music that gets air play, and neglected the vast array of talented Canadian musicians who may not be on the top 40 charts. In other words, **Nickelback** stole the show. Although some might think that's a good thing.

Notable performances include those by **Sam Roberts**, **Sarah McLachlan**, and a sexy performance by **Bryan Adams** and **Kathleen Edwards**, which had me surprised they weren't kissing by the end.

Now the awards themselves – I was relieved that **Sam Roberts** won best artist of the year, despite being up against bigwig **Bryan Adams**, and teenage heart throb **City and Colour**. **Loverboy** was inducted into the Canadian Music Hall of Fame, **Nickelback** won three awards, and **Dallas Green of City and Colour** won Songwriter of the Year, and began his speech thanking his new wife, *Much Music's Leah Miller*.

The one bad thing about the show was what people didn't see on TV – **Jonathan Torrens** of **Jonovision** was doing standup and some interviews during the commercial breaks, and he was brutal. He would mention people's names and wait for people to applaud, and he was not funny whatsoever; the only funny thing was how bad he was. And I used to love **Jonovision**.

Otherwise, the show was a great experience, and I hope the awards come back to Vancouver soon, so I can relive the experience.

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2009 Vancouver International Auto Show

Theo Birkner
 BCIT Link

Get your drive on! In an eco-friendly fashion... That's the clear message at the 2009 Vancouver International Auto Show, the annual glitz and glamour exhibition of the latest on offer from the world's automakers. Vancouver's production obviously pales in comparison to the monster shows of Geneva, Frankfurt, Tokyo and L.A., but it still attracts some cool machinery, and it's our little way of keeping in touch with the automotive world.

As you meander down the causeway from the ticket booth, glossy posters featuring exotic marques like Ferrari, Lamborghini, Lotus, and even Spyker whet the appetite. The 2nd level walkway starts you off with "Classic Alley", "Tuner Alley", and – new this year – the Motorcycle Expo. With the intertwined history of cars and bikes it makes sense to put the two together, and it just feels right that the show's producers finally have. Other years were like having hot dogs without ketchup, or nachos without beer: good, but not quite complete...

But I digress. As mentioned, level 2 is fantastic. Vintage machinery abounds in the form of wood-framed Morgan's, a barrel-chested AC Cobra 427, and a number of beautiful Indians and Harley-Davidsons, courtesy of the B.C. Classic Motorcycle Club. Further on, your senses are assaulted by enough neon lights and pounding techno beats to make you think you've walked straight into a German nightclub. Rest assured, it's only the tuner gallery. Filled with tricked out Scions, Porsches, Hummers, and one of the scariest Lamborghini Gallardo's the world has seen (flat black and

badass), it's a fun place to see what local outfits like the SR Autogroup and Designo Auto House can do to your car.

The remaining exhibits in the breezeway hold interest of a different kind. Mostly focused on environmental movements and electric vehicle technology, there are a lot of concepts to admire and interesting people to talk to.

The main floor beckons though, as that's where the big boys play, and you can almost taste the new-car smell as you wander down the lower ramp.

Germany, Italy, Britain, Holland, Korea, Japan, Sweden, and America are all represented, with Porsche being the most notable absentee of the big-name brands. The US manufacturers have brought an almost embarrassing amount of cars to the show (no less than 26 vehicles on the Chrysler stand), most likely confirmation of the fact that they're not selling any cars, and have to display them all instead. To be fair, some of the homegrown metal is pretty darn cool, with the redesigned 2010 Ford Mustang, the new (and unapologetically huge) F-150, and the 2009 Dodge Charger – ahem – leading the charge.

Asia puts a large foot forward this year as well, with econo-brands Kia and Hyundai showcasing some brilliant models, all ridiculously fuel-efficient and some covered by almost unheard of 10-year warranties. Also, Mazda and Nissan are better than ever, with the latter displaying what is undoubtedly the best bang-for-buck offering in motor-



ing today: the 2010 Nissan Skyline GT-R.

Moving on, the "supercar" booth is an exercise in ironic juxtaposition. Putting Ferraris, Aston Martins, and Maseratis next to the Mazda, Nissan and VW booths is just plain funny, and I'm quite sure the Lamborghini Gallardo could eat a Volkswagen Golf or two for breakfast. No matter, they're brilliant machines, and no car show would be complete without a little taste of the ridiculous.

Lastly, the rest of the European contingent has shown up in fine style as well. The new Audi R8 makes you weak at the knees, and if you are able tear yourself away, the 5th-generation 7-series from BMW, the Mercedes AMG C63, and a number of cute and cuddly Mini Coopers and Smart cars wait to poke fun at your lack of financial prowess.

Luckily, most of us will eventually graduate, and some might even get decent jobs. Regardless, if and when the time comes, and we suddenly find ourselves the unexpected holder of some liquid assets, the Vancouver International Auto Show will beckon in April; that dear, familiar dream-catcher, back year after year to show us the way.

Atrocious Classroom Conditions: Case Opened

Administration Responds

By Manny Sangha
 The Link

The Student Services Acting Vice President Val Karpinsky is very appreciative to the information brought forward in the article Atrocious Classroom Conditions. In speaking with Mr. Karpinsky he said that Student Services is "researching the problem, seeing

what went wrong and looking for solutions." He adds, "in the future, if any students feel they have similar problems, they should contact their Instructor, Program Head, Chief Instructor, or Associate Dean." He is also available to handle any student concerns.

Students who do not feel comfortable with this approach can also contact the Student Association with any concerns they may have. It should be noted that the Student Executive & BCIT Executive meet once a month to address issues, concerns, and problems that students are

having.

The administration wishes to make a pleasant atmosphere for the students to learn in. The concerns of the Geomatics Engineering students should not go into a filing cabinet and collect dust. The Link will be reporting on the progress of the administration and will keep students informed.

Email us at link@bcitsa.ca if you have any concerns or would like to bring a matter to our attention.



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PRINCE GEORGE

Life in perfect balance

Science Industries...

...and their black and white effect on people

Melissa Werkema
The Link

As we begin another day, woken up by our alarm clocks, we slowly make our way out of bed and eventually to the washroom to begin brushing our teeth. We continue to gather the essentials of our day; lunch, stored in the well-known Tupperware container or enveloped inside seran wrap. To make our way to our desired destination, we begin by putting on our shoes, then either driving in our cars or taking transit. If you're the athletic type, you may take bound on your bike and enjoy a refreshing exercise to prepare you for the day.

When your school/work day is over, you'll most likely relax, maybe while listening to music or watching TV. We also need to have some supper; so we embark on cooking some food using our oven or the stovetop. Before we cook

our food, there is of course the food preparation in which you would use a frying pan and a knife.

Last but not least, at some point in your day you may want to sit, relax, and read.

As we live through a whirlwind of activities, we are constantly using things produced by industries such as mining and pulp and paper.

Without mining, we would not be woken up by our alarm clocks. We wouldn't have other essentials such as toothbrushes, Tupperware containers, saran wrap, shoes, cars, buses, bikes, TV's, music systems, cooking amenities, etc. Even the Link newspaper that you are gaining insightful knowledge from right now, which first started out as a wood chip that was cooked in a digester, followed by several tests performed on the pulp, would be unavailable to you without the pulp and paper industry.

As industries continue to develop and grow, people's opinions grow as well. Industries such as mining seem to

have such black and white effects on people. How would we live without the by-products of these industries? However, in regards to the environment, people protest against slashing down trees for our own convenience.

Until the rather inquisitive eye comes along, pieces of the puzzle are matched together, and most comforting of all, you begin to understand why and how such historical operations have continued throughout all these years. A person of understanding is capable of adhering to any adverse effects to those rather opinionated facts. With understanding comes appreciation, and it is something to take note of that our accomplishments and future goals in this lifetime will consist largely of relying on what only industries such as pulp and paper and mining provide. Productions, from which the Chemical Sciences program encompasses, unravel a sequence of events that add up to more than the sum of its parts, which continue to provide the essentials that we all use on a day-to-day basis.

April 20: The "Cool Uncle" of the Month

Taking a crack, no pun intended, at solving the theory behind 4/20

By Bob Kreut,
The Link

It's ironic that a relatively new holiday which celebrates a drug known for its short term memory loss has such an incredibly hazy history, but that is exactly the case with 4/20.

4/20 is a relatively recent phenomenon, yet its origins are more obscure than most ancient holidays. Everybody knows that Christmas is celebrated on December 25th, because that's when Jesus was born, and Easter is always on a Sunday because that's what some Jewish dude told me once, but why is 4/20 called "4/20", and not "4/30" or "5/20" or "6/60"?

I know what you're thinking, "Because nobody gets high on June 60th, you morron." But you're missing the point. And if I'm the moron, why did you spell it with two R's you idiot? I wanted to know the origins of this magical number. Why is this digit even associated with marijuana culture? After extensive research/napping, I was able to find the 7 main theories behind this magical number. Here they are, in no particular order, other than reverse alphabetical:

God invented marijuana on 420 A.D.: This theory relies on the "If you can't disprove it, it must be true" method of fact-finding. Or at least it did. Then I looked up the history of marijuana and realized that cannabis has been used as a medicinal herb for 4,800 years. Dammit.

I really thought this one was true. All right, we might as well keep going.

The Birthday Effect: Yes, April 20th is Adolph Hitler's birthday, and yes Hitler was a known marijuana enthusiast, but I think he was best known for other things (like his cute mustache). However, April 20th is also Snoop Dogg's half birthday. It's still unclear whether or not Snoop Dogg smokes marijuana because smoking marijuana is illegal and Snoop Dogg, last I heard, was not in jail. However, perhaps this rap star's pro-cannabis persona is enough to inspire such a drug related celebration. I'll leave it up to you to decide. Moving on.

A group of teens used to smoke at 4:20pm: Many believe the origin of 4/20 is due in large part to a group of teenagers at San Rafael High School in California in the 1970's used to get high every day after school at 4:20pm. This theory is obviously not true because if these "teenagers" did in fact "smoke pot" every day at "4:20" in the "70's" then they probably died in the early 80's from overdosing on apathy. Next theory please!

Do The Math: If every letter of the alphabet was assigned a number with A - 1 and Z - 26, the 420th would be... ummm. Can you hold on a second, actually? Dammit, I wrote this down yesterday. When my friend explained this to me it made so much sense. Shit. How did it spell out "WEED?" Maybe it was the Chinese alphabet? God. Now I don't even remember if it was a math alphabet thing at all. I think he just spelled "Weed" with his finger in dust on the back of some car. I'm so confused. Okay, moving on.

fun and games for the first couple hundred pounds, is potentially very dangerous.

4-20 is the police code for smoking marijuana: So I looked into this one. It seems that 4-20 is not the police code for smoking marijuana. It also seems police officers do not like being called on their private cell phones to be asked such questions. He informed me that we don't even have a 4-20 code for Vancouver and that if I called his number again, I'd be arrested for harassment. To me, this conspiracy-like denial seems to strengthen this theory, but I didn't want to push it, what with my two strikes already (Why oh why is stealing ducks from the park so much fun...)

At 4:20pm the clock looks like it's smoking a joint: This one is kind of true. The only problem with it is that you already need to be high to see it. So by the time you light up at 4:20, the time would have changed a few minutes and now all it looks like is a pair of really skinny legs running around the inside of the clock.

Obviously there are more, but those are the seven main theories behind the origin of "4/20." I'm not here to choose an answer, or to tell you which one is right. That wouldn't be fair (it's number three). I'm just here to present choices, options. Think of it as a menu. Each theory is like a deep fried appetizer... so delicious... you don't wanna eat just one... Oh god, delicious theory jalapeno poppers... chicken theory fingers... Dollar thirty-nine Jr. Bacon Theory Cheeseburger...



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Smoking 420 pounds of marijuana will kill you: This is one theory that is actually, scientifically true. Ask any medical doctor or drug tradesman and he will agree. But why would marijuana-enthusiasts cling on to such a morbid number? Perhaps it is to remind everybody, that smoking pot, while

| MONDAY | TUESDAY | WEDNESDAY | THURSDAY | FRIDAY | SATURDAY | SUNDAY | |
|---------------------|--|--|--|--|--|--|--|
| <p>APRIL</p> | | | <p>9</p> <p>Student Elections Speeches @ 10:45 and 11:45</p> <p>Link Newspaper Issue 14</p> | <p>10</p> <p>Good Friday BCIT CLOSED</p> <p>The Gaslight Anthem @ the Plaza Club</p> | <p>11</p> <p>Fall Out Boy @ UBC Thunderbird Arena</p> <p>The Ting Tings @ the Commodore</p>  | <p>12</p> <p>Glasvegas @ the Commodore</p> <p>Under the Sea 3D</p>  | |
| | <p>13</p> <p>Easter Monday BCIT CLOSED</p> | <p>14</p> <p>Student Elections VOTE</p> <p>Turbonegro @ the Commodore</p>  | <p>15</p> <p>Student Elections Speeches @ 10:45 and 11:45</p> <p>Student Elections VOTE</p> <p>Night at the Indies @ 8:30pm @ Cafe Deux Soleils</p> | <p>16</p> <p>Student Elections VOTE</p> <p>Arts Club Theatre Presents Age of Arousal until May 9</p>  | <p>17</p> <p>Student Elections VOTE</p> <p>A visit with Craig Henschel in Town Square D @ 12pm</p> <p>Gavin Rossdale @ Red Robinson Show Theatre</p> | <p>18</p> <p>B.C. Book and Magazine Week</p> | <p>19</p> <p>B.C. Book and Magazine Week</p> |
| | <p>20</p> <p>B.C. Book and Magazine Week</p> <p>BCITSA Student Council Meeting @ 5:30pm</p>  | <p>21</p> <p>B.C. Book and Magazine Week</p> <p>AMP Your Game-National Gaming (\$100K Rock Band Tournament) Tour in the Great Hall from 9am to 6pm</p> | <p>22</p> <p>Earth Day</p> <p>B.C. Book and Magazine Week</p> <p>Education Council Meeting @ 2:30pm</p> <p>Romeo and Juliet (in Beverly Hills) @ Pacific Theatre</p> | <p>23</p> <p>B.C. Book and Magazine Week</p> <p>Link Newspaper Issue 15</p> <p>Mastodon @ the Commodore</p> | <p>24</p> <p>B.C. Book and Magazine Week</p> <p>The Killers @ UBC Thunderbird Arena</p>  | <p>25</p> <p>B.C. Book and Magazine Week</p> <p>Student Initiative Business Showdown @ 1pm in Town Square D</p> <p>White Caps vs. Portland Timbers @ Swangard Stadium</p> | <p>26</p> <p>Wildlife Rescue's Earth Fest 10-3pm</p> <p>Bloc Party @ the Commodore</p>  |
| | <p>27</p> <p>Bloc Party @ the Commodore</p> | <p>28</p> <p>Chris Cornell @ the Commodore</p>  | <p>29</p> <p>Set and Tech Rep Meeting @ 2:45pm in Council Chambers</p> | <p>30</p> <p>Crash Course Cookin</p> | <p>1</p> <p>Monster Madness @ Prospera Centre</p> <p>MAY</p> | <p>2</p> <p>Papa Roach, Buckcherry, The Trews @ UBC Thunderbird Arena</p>  | <p>3</p> <p>Ladytron and the Faint @ the Commodore</p>  |

Link Newspaper Survey

Over the next couple of weeks we will be out and about at all of the different BCIT campuses conducting a survey. We want to know what we can do to better the paper and what you want to read about. If you see us and want to participate, let us know! Don't be shy people!

theLinkBlog

Check us out at:

<http://www.bcitsa.ca/blogs>