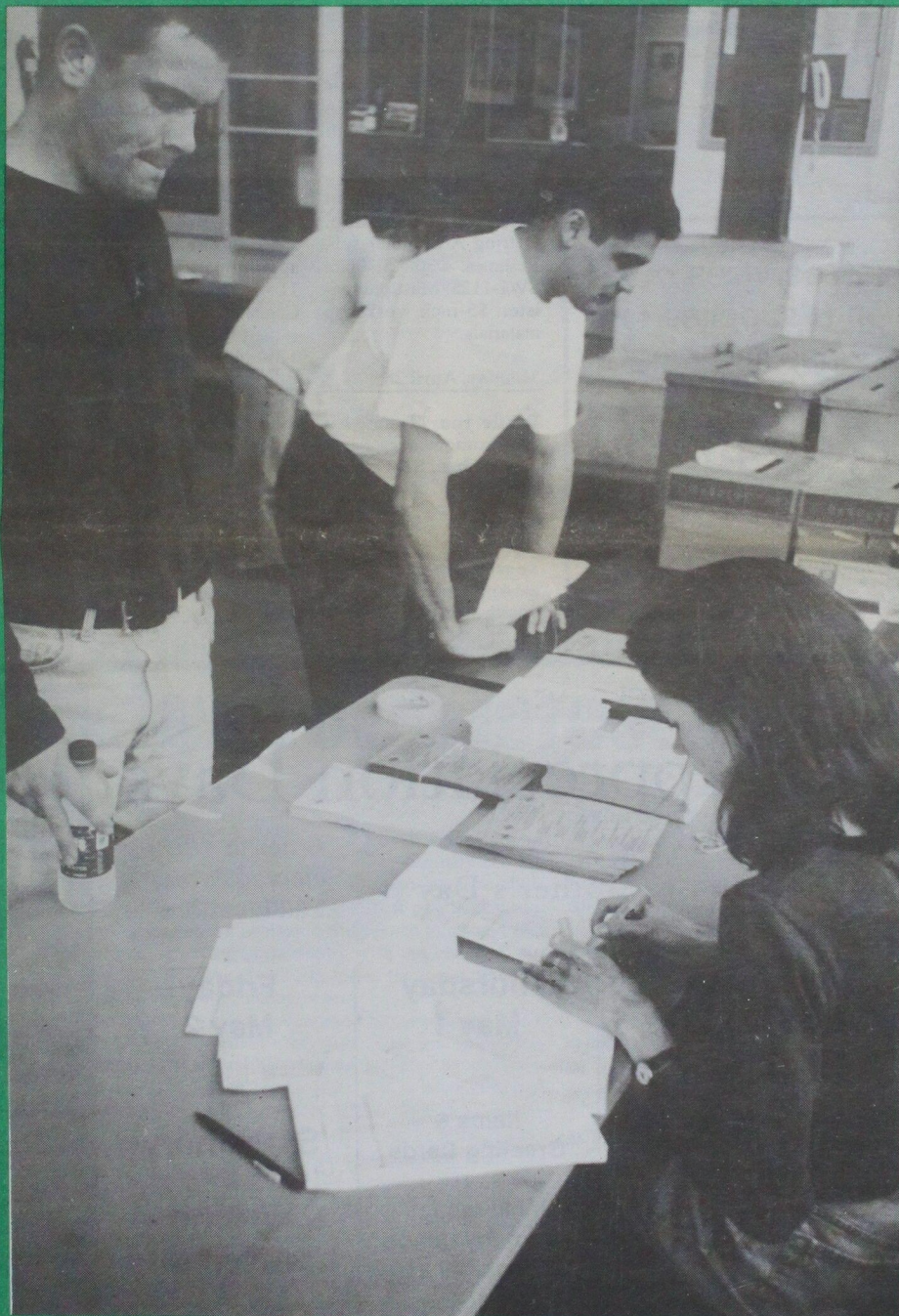


ARCHIVES



Wednesday, April 23, 1997

# the Link



# S A

## Election

## Results

## page 3

The Newspaper of the British Columbia Institute of Technology



## Summer Employment

The SA's Student Publications department is looking to hire a student to compile, update and edit copy for next year's Student Handbook & Daytimer

### Applicants must be:

- a returning BCIT student •
- an excellent writer • able to meet deadline •
- a self-starter • creative • able to work alone •
- willing to work longer than normal hours in June & July, but very little in August •

### Submit resume to:

Paul Dayson  
Managing Editor  
Student Handbook & Daytimer  
Link office or SA office  
SA Campus Centre

## Link Classifieds call 432-8974

### Services

**PERSONAL INCOME TAX**  
Campus Centre Building,  
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11 - 2:30  
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L. D. Sawatzky 985-3842

### Accommodations

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Call Joanne at  
291-6144 (after 1am)

## 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 computer store)

### Wednesday, April 23

**Campus Christian Club.**  
11:30am. SW1 - 2005. For  
more info 451-4568.

**BCIT Investment Club.**  
11:30 in SE6 122. If you  
are interested please call  
438-1442.

**E-File your Taxes.** No  
appointment necessary.  
11 - 2:30pm. SA Campus  
Centre.

### Thursday, April 24

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

**BCIT Employment  
Services Workshop.**  
Getting A Summer Job,  
Resumes. 4:30 - 5:30pm.  
SW1-1125. Must pre-reg-  
ister. \$5 incl. workshop  
materials.

### Monday, April 28

**E-File your Taxes.** No  
appointment necessary.  
11 - 2:30pm. SA Campus  
Centre.

### Tuesday, April 29

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

Centre.

**Planned Parenthood  
Clinic.** 7:00pm to 9:00pm  
Medical Services, SE16.

### Wednesday, April 30

**Campus Christian Club.**  
11:30am. SW1 - 2005. For  
more info 451-4568.

**BCIT Investment Club.**  
11:30 in SE6 122. If you  
are interested please call  
438-1442.

**Take Pride at the Pub.**  
11:30am -1:30pm, SW1 -  
2004. For more informa-  
tion or just to talk call  
Gordon Handford at 451-  
6922 or Mark Miller at  
432-8964.

**E-File your Taxes.** No  
appointment necessary.  
11 - 2:30pm. SA Campus  
Centre.

### Thursday, April 30

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

**BCIT Employment  
Services Workshop.**  
Getting A Summer Job,  
Resumes. 4:30 - 5:30pm.  
SW1-1125. Must pre-reg-  
ister. \$5 incl. workshop

materials.

### Monday, May 5

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

### Tuesday, May 6

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

**Planned Parenthood  
Clinic.** 7:00pm to 9:00pm  
Medical Services, SE16.

### Wednesday, May 7

**Campus Christian Club.**  
11:30am. SW1 - 2005. For  
more info 451-4568.

**BCIT Investment Club.**  
11:30 in SE6 122. If you  
are interested please call  
438-1442.

**Take Pride Planning &  
Advocacy Meeting.**  
11:30am -1:30pm, SW1 -  
2004. For more informa-  
tion or just to talk call  
Gordon Handford at 451-  
6922 or Mark Miller at  
432-8964.

- Confidential • Physician services •
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Students casting their votes at polling station in the SA Campus Centre. PAUL DAYSON PHOTO

## BC's forests site for summer showdown over forest use

Kevin Batdorf  
SA Environmental Education

Protests are being planned this summer all over the province, reported The Vancouver Sun, April 9, despite new logging rules that will help reinforce the Forest Practices Code.

The provincial government is responding to a report by the Sierra Legal Defence Fund that claims 83 percent of fish-bearing streams were logged right to the water line. Under the code, a green belt must be left between these streams and any logging.

The provincial government has conducted an investigation and is considering laying charges of non-compliance in 9 of the 63 forests they checked.

The government says that the new changes are in direct response to their findings. Some of the changes include: companies will have to review any cut-blocks that were previously approved but have not yet been harvested to make sure that no fish streams of importance are included, staff will have to undergo further training to allow themselves to classify fish-bearing streams, "consistent mapping and stream labeling practices" will have to be adopted by logging com-

panies.

The Minister of Forests will also have an audit team, from his ministry and the Environment Ministry to evaluate compliance with the forest practices code. The Sierra Legal Defence Fund said that they were happy with the changes, but would still like to see the forest practices code strengthened.

But Greenpeace has announced that a coalition of environmental groups is planning protests for over 10 different sites this summer. The protesters would demonstrate at all the sites concurrently, rather than at only one at a time. This could potentially be the largest protest ever in BC. The protesters have undergone training to help themselves defy police. The group has publicly stated that they are willing to break the law.

One of the planned sites for protest is the Stoltmann Wilderness. The April 12 issue of the Sun, reports on a plan to help save the Stoltmann and minimize the economic impact. The Western Canada Wilderness Committee says that protecting the 634,000 cubic meters of timber per year will only cost 60 forestry jobs.

The WCWC's argument is that by turning the wilderness into a park, the loss of forestry jobs could be offset by

tourism. The group also says that while the provincial government claims to have protected 14 percent of the regions land base, including 20 percent of the Stoltmann Wilderness.

The WCWC says that this figure is misleading. They claim that less than six percent of the land base is productive, low-elevation rainforest.

International Forest Products Ltd., whose Empire division is in Squamish, disagrees with the report. They claim that the plan would reduce their allowable cut of 263,000 cubic meters of wood per year by one third. And that means laying off one third of their 150-175 employees.

The company argues that the economic impact won't be made up by tourism, because logging jobs pay better. And the company says that tourism already successfully shares the area with logging.

They say that on the average sunny weekend, up to 500 tourists visit the Stoltmann, using logging roads for access. Interfor says that the 30 percent of the Soon region which is used as parks or is classified as protected, is more than enough for conservation efforts.

### SA ELECTION RESULTS

#### President

Brent Bradshaw	366
Nitin Kohli	205
James Hernandez	275

#### VP Admin. & Finance

Chris Weston	232
Mirek Novak	345
Graham Facer	239

#### VP of Public Relations

Laura Kleinsteuber-Kohli	309
Sean Constable	243
Diana Davidson	266

#### VP of Student Affairs

Ron Rego	257
Andrea Remcke	541

#### Campus Life Coordinator

Rich Cindric	Yes 711
	No 96

#### Computer Systems Councillor

Steven Kamm	Yes 76
	No 11

#### Health Chair

Jason Pratt	Yes 61
	No 5

#### Business Chair

Nicole Porter	358
Ilana Winter	193

#### Technical Sciences Chair

Alex Mahon	5
Mona Benjamintz	132
Adrain Fisher-Fleming	79

#### Electrical/Electronics Councillor

Derek Wagner	Yes 54
	No 2



# The Link

The Student Newspaper of  
the British Columbia  
Institute of Technology  
... since 1965

The Link is  
the student newspaper  
of the British Columbia  
Institute of Technology.  
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**Advertising Representative**  
Krista Aselford

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The views in The Link  
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**LINK LETTERS POLICY**

The Link loves 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 dis-  
cretion 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.



The Descendents: these guys are the real thing... no some corporate knock off.

ANDREW DENNISON PHOTO

## Descendents play good ol' punk rock to sold out crowd

**PATRICK HNILICA**  
Entertainment Reviewer

The Descendents played a sold out show at Graceland. And there was still a line up outside waiting, hoping to get in. This show was their first show in Vancouver as the Descendents, once again, for quite some time. In many ways they have been around as a derivation of the Descendents called "All". Not only was there crowds of people, the sound quality was awesome.


**CONCERT REVIEW**  
**Descendents with guests**  
Graceland  
Wednesday, April 15, 1997

This four piece punk rock band has not only developed punk rock songs that stick in your mind and eardrums, they sound spectacular live. You could almost sum up all the songs they played on two of their albums, "Somery" and "Everything Sucks". "Everything Sucks" is their latest album. If you like popish punk this would have been the show for you, all the songs they played were melodic and fast, I must say they are one of the unique punk bands to see live.

Energetic and full of lyrics about relationships with everything, I find this band is very much an original from the start. A band that has developed with alot of fans. The Descendents had broken up and formed All, now since they have got back together, I expected alot more people will enjoy their

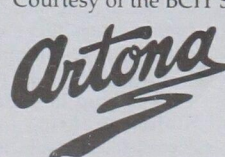
music for quite some time to come. Overall the band gave me goosebumps seeing them live and I would recommend seeing them if you like fast, loud, punk rock in anyway.

The venue, Graceland, was good enough to see them play. Not only was there a good sound system, but the stage was high enough so it was not too much of a problem seeing the band play from behind the mosh, unless you are usually short, or past out on a table in the back. From the way I saw things went, I would say everyone there had a blast and that is the most important part of going to see punk rock shows.




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# Concert a celebration of the works of Schubert, testimony to pianist's talent

SAM TSE  
Entertainment Reviewer

In the popular frame of mind, Franz Schubert's life has become a romantic symbol of the artist's fate. He suffered poverty and was neglected during his lifetime. He died young. After his death, he was enshrined among the immortals. In celebration of Schubert's 200th birthday, Fou Ts'ong pays homage to the composer by presenting a pallet of pieces all composed within the last ten years of Schubert's life.

Ts'ong flaunts his amazing talent with his ability to perform different styles of music. The impromptus have spontaneity and charm of the unexpected. Each of the 4 impromptus carry out diverse personalities which were clearly defined. It takes a true genius to master it all.

After intermission, Fou Ts'ong gave a captivating performance of the Sonata in B-flat major, D. 960. Schubert expanded the classical sonata as his lyrical imagination needed room to unfold. For years, Schubert's sonatas were neglected, but it seems that they have found a nice home in Fou Ts'ong's repertoire. The first movement was rather intense and hypnotic. Actually, the whole sonata had a mystical flare to it. Fou Ts'ong kept me on the edge on my seat throughout the whole evening. The last movement was my favourite. Not only was it powerful and dramatic, but Fou Ts'ong's interpretation had a personal touch to it that made it truly unique and memorable.

Technical brilliance combined with artistry at its best equals a great performance. Fou Ts'ong really deserved the three encores and more.



Fou Ts'ong.

## CONCERT REVIEW

Fou Ts'ong  
Orpheum Theatre  
April 8, 1997

The diminutive pianist commenced with 12 Landle, D. 790—a rather melodious selection. Fou Ts'ong excelled in his performance with heaven-shattering crescendos and violent contrasts of loud and soft that lend such drama to the highly expressive music. The interpretation was beautiful, as it captured the essence of the composer's tragedy and sorrow.

This was followed up by 4 Impromptus, D. 935. Here, Fou

## Ladysmith Black Mambazo's act is tired

JEFF VANDERWOED  
Entertainment Reviewer

This is the band who rose to the dizzying heights of fame on account of their association with that venerable old feel-good folkie, Paul Simon. They are a well-rehearsed cappella group of male singers/dancers from the Zulu tribe in South Africa. Here's how my thinking went:

"Wow, beautiful singing, and all those funny clicking and clucking sounds. Oh my, they can really dance too! Is this still the same song? Those traditional colorful shirts are sure nice, but why are they all wearing track pants and tennis shoes? Is this still the same song?" etc.

CONCERT REVIEW  
Ladysmith Black Mambazo  
The Vogue Theater  
March 25, 1997

I progressively began to feel like we were in Disneyland or Expo or that we were the live studio audience on the Ed Sullivan show.

I hate that feeling.

The best part about the show was the two youngest members who were kickin' some serious dance moves. Somehow the whole thing just didn't have a real living spirit.

It became so cheesy that I could even sense the embarrassment of some of the singers themselves. Perhaps it would have worked better in, say, a museum?

## May is Asian Heritage Month

Presented by the Asian Heritage Month Group, will be a line of diverse and interesting events. Something for everyone to enjoy and learn from. The various events and activities will range from Visual Arts, Film and Video, Literary Events, Dance, Music and Educational activities. With workshops, panels and presentations to self-guided Art walks for families and students, information will be available for everyone with all interests.

Please welcome and celebrate this first ever pan-Asian Arts festival of this size and scope in Western Canada. Come and enjoy and open your minds for Asian Heritage Month, as a non-profit project coordinated by young cross-culturally oriented organizers.

May 2 at the Western Front  
(303 East 8th Ave), 7-11pm, Free!

An open and informal soiree to celebrate the start of Asian Heritage Month.

Enjoy readings by special guests: Anita Rau Badami and Hiromi Goto

May 10 at Video-In Studios  
(1965 Main St), 8pm, \$6

View a video screening of "Face It!", a program of three works that explore issues of sexuality and gender, including "Blending Milk and Water" a documentary tackling issues of sex, homophobia and AIDS in the Chinese Canadian community

May 18 at Dr. Sun Yat Sen Gardens  
(578 Carral St), 1-4pm, Free w/entrance

U.B.C. Women of Colour Group will hold a performance, poetry reading, dialogue and discussion exploring racism and intercultural discrimination in B.C. from historical and personal perspectives.

May 13,20 at the Pacific Cinematheque  
(1131 Howe St), 7 and 9:30pm, \$6

See some interesting film and video showcase. A diversity of works by Asian Canadians

These and many more are just a few of the exciting events that will be happening around Vancouver during the Asian Heritage Month of May. Check out other event listings to find out more.

# The Link

bring you  
information by  
and for students

## BCIT Medical Services

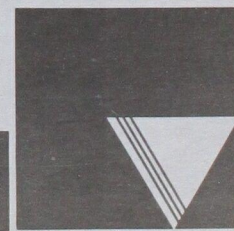
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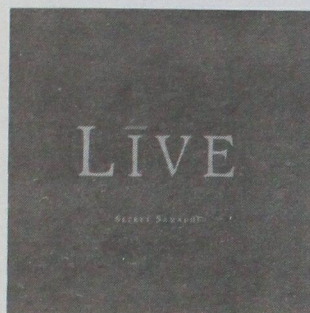


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# spinnin' the disk



Live  
*Secret Samadhi*  
(Radioactive)

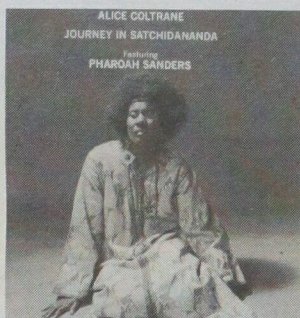
Contemplative was the first word that came to mind when I listened to this CD. The problem is that, as the album continues, contemplative cannot quite cover it and there are hundreds of adjectives that come to mind that could be used to describe this disc. With *Secret Samadhi*, Live have definitely matured as a band, and are using their clout to "add a fifth element" to some of their songs, including strings, organ, and even a sitar on a couple of tracks. A cool thing about this album is that it included an explanation of sorts relating to each song by each member of the group with an artist biography, this is the sort of thing that should be included with every copy of the album, to give the listener an idea of where the songs and the band are coming from. Live is a cool, mellow band that gets intense in some of their songs, definitely worth checking out if you've never heard them before, or if you're feeling contemplative. (AD)

Powerman 5000  
*Tokyo Vigilante #1* (7" LP)  
(DreamWorks)

This band is not on the highest of choice. Unoriginal, hanging out with the Red Hot Chili Peppers and Marilyn Manson too



long. The cover is very busy and their appearance is definitely derived from the Chili Peppers' influence. The only kind of nifty thing is that the album cover has Japanese text on it, a bit of info about the band members. Cost is 700 yen, for one or two trashy tracks. This LP is one for the beginner vinyl DJ scratchers/mixer. (The word content of this review is proportional to the entertainment value procured from this product) (AD)



Alice Coltrane  
*Journey In Satchidananda*  
(Impulse!)

This is truly spiritual music for the mind. This album features Pharoah Sanders, Vishnu Wood, Tulsī, Charlie Haden and Rashid Ali. These artists have come together to create something of the wonderful. The wife of the king of jazz, John Coltrane, is producing some of the most powerful and master music today. Drawing from her spiritual beliefs, inspirations and experiences in life, five of her highest compositions are selected here. Listening to this music is both uplifting and gratifying. Inside is a booklet depicting beautiful pictures of Alice Coltrane, and the other artists. A small write-up by Alice inside states, "Anyone listening to this selection should try to envision oneself floating on an ocean of Satchidanandaji's love, which is literally carrying countless devotees across the vicissitudes and stormy blasts of life to the other shore. Satchidananda means knowledge, existence and bliss." Highly recommended for any music lover of the highest kind, spiritually enlighten your CD collection and give your stereo some meaning. (DL)

## Webber's Phantom appearing

The Phantom of the Opera will be beginning its world-wide tour and celebrate its premiere engagement at The Ford Centre for the Performing Arts in Vancouver. This Andrew Lloyd Webber/Harold Prince international musical hit will begin on April 24, 1997, with Wednesday April 30 as the official opening night. The performance will run from April 24 to May 11. Tickets have been on sale since February 24, for this limited engagement.

PREVIEW  
**The Phantom of the Opera**  
running at the Ford Centre

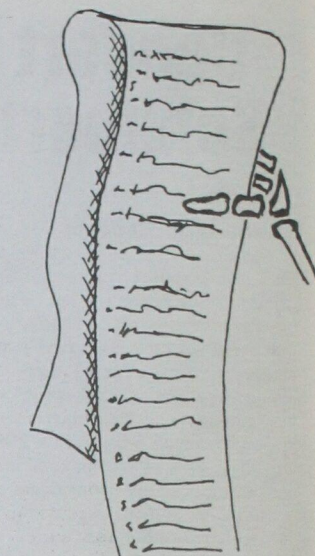
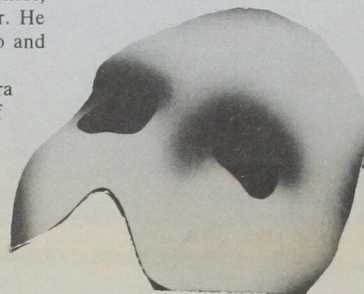
Peter Karrie, a London West End/International singing star, will portray the lead role of The Phantom. He has played this role for over 2 years and toured from Toronto to Hong Kong and Singapore. Other performances which Mr. Karrie has played in are *Les Miserables*, *Evita*, *Chess*, and *Jesus Christ Superstar*. He has also appeared on radio and television broadcasts.

The Phantom of the Opera has been considered one of the most successful musicals of all time. It is based on the classic novel by Gaston Leroux, telling of a hideous deformed Phantom who haunts the Paris Opera House. He falls in love with a young sopra-

no and finally devotes himself to her, helping her become a new star for the Opera and nurturing her talents.

Andrew Lloyd Webber is a very successful theatrical composer and has a long list of musical hits; *Joseph and the Amazing Technicolor Dreamcoat*, *Jesus Christ Superstar*, *Evita*, *Cats*, *Song and Dance*, *Starlight Express*, *Requiem*, *Aspects of Love*, *Sunset Boulevard*, *Whistle Down the Wind* and *The Phantom of the Opera*.

This is a very produced musical theatre performance, with incredible recognition known around the world and is expected to be highly charged with emotion, romance and spectacular staging. It will be performing at the Ford Centre in Vancouver, a venue a production like the Phantom of the Opera is meant to be seen.



## Canada's Endangered Species List grows

Another 15 animals and plants made it onto Canada's Endangered Species List last week according to The Vancouver Sun. The latest additions brings the hot list to 291 species.

The government added the great blue heron in BC, and plants like the False hop sedge and apple moss, as well as the western silvery minnow, the monarch butterfly and the sage grouse, which are gone from BC and threatened in the prairies.

The others added were: the Cultus pygmy sculpin (fish); the Maritime ringlet and the Karner Blue, which is no longer alive in the wild (both butterflies); the Eastern hogsnout snake; the Banff Springs snail; and the plants: fernald's milk-vetch, Fernald's braya and Long's braya.

## Cleanup of US Army bases could cost Canada \$400 million

Costs of cleaning up American army bases in Newfoundland and the far North could be as much as \$500 million. Buried fuel and barrels of PCB's have been left behind at the abandoned installations, and the cleanup is long overdue. But the Canadian government has come to an agreement where the US government will pay only \$100 million dollars over 10 years for the cleanup. That means the remaining \$400 million would be left to Canadian taxpayers. Prime minister Jean Chretien hopes that the \$100 million will be enough to do the job properly. But Defence Minister Doug Young says that more than likely Canadians will have to handle at least some of the bill.

## Upcoming Cultural and Entertainment Highlights

- April 26  
Cultural Emergency Parade & Outdoor Performances @ the Vancouver Art Gallery
- May 2-4  
Slam City Jam at the B.C. Stadium
- May 8-11  
Music West Festival around Vancouver
- May 8  
Chemical Brothers with local DJ's at The Rage
- May 9  
Ben Harper with guests at The Rage
- May 12  
Jamiroquai at the Plaza of Nations
- May 15  
The Cardigans with guests at the Vogue Theatre
- May 16  
Rush at the GM Place
- May 18  
The Mystical Arts of Tibet at the Vogue Theatre
- May 23  
Metallica with Corrosion of Conformity at the GM Place
- May 26  
Tina Turner with Cyndi Lauper at the GM Place



**National recycling rate 23 percent in Canada**

The results of a survey published in the March 1997 issue of *Biocycle* magazine show that 23 percent of all waste in Canada is recycled. This figure of 23 percent also includes all organic composting. Four percent of waste is disposed of in incinerators, and the remaining seventy-three percent is sent to landfills. The survey was done on a province by province basis, with each provincial government responding. The figures are from data gathered in 1994 and 1995. There are 3,915 landfills across Canada, and of these, only 38 percent are engineered for environmental purposes. Most engineered landfills include either protective liners or some means of methane collection. Of all solid waste generated in Canada, 45 percent is generated by households. ICI sources, (industrial, commercial and institutional) account for 44 percent of solid waste. The remaining 11 percent is generated from construction and demolition. 54 percent of households in Canada have access to curbside recycling, which is approximately six million households across the country. There was over 25 million metric tonnes of solid waste generated in Canada in 1995. BC accounts for just over three million tonnes of this waste. BC was above average in recycling rates, with a provincial rate of 29 percent. We were also above average in incineration, with 10 percent of our garbage being burned. The result of this is that the percentage of garbage we send to the landfill is lower than average, at 61 percent. Only two provinces, Newfoundland and PEI send less of their waste to landfills than BC. And 37 percent of the municipalities in BC provide backyard composting bins for their residents. Unfortunately, these municipalities account for only ten percent of the households in BC.

**Environmental Snapshots**

KEVIN BATDORF, SA Environmental Education



rently used for pop and beer containers will now also include other beverage containers including juice cartons and wine bottles. The only beverage containers which will be exempt from the new deposit laws will be milk containers, because of a small risk of contamination to small children from reuse. The government estimates that over 300 million containers make their way into landfills every year in BC. They also estimate the cost of disposing of these containers at approximately nine million dollars. The government hopes that this new program will raise the recycling rate of beverage containers from the current 35 percent to about 80 percent. Currently pop cans are recycled at about an 80 percent rate, and beer and cider containers are recycled at about a 90 percent rate, due largely to the deposit system. Each of these containers are reused approximately 15 times before they are crushed. Until now, these containers represent approximately one half of those available in BC. And the new system should have an economic boost. According to the April 12-18 edition of the employment paper, the new system should double the amount of recycling depots in BC, from the 120 now in the province to 240. And they estimate that the new program will create a minimum of 360 new jobs.

**Natives to resume whaling**

The Nuu-Chah-Nulth Natives hope to hunt grey whales for the first time in 70 years, according to the April 14 edition of *The Vancouver Sun*. The native band has joined the World Council of Whalers, which includes commercial whalers from Japan and Norway. The World Council wants to promote "community-based whaling" for natives, for cultural or ceremonial reasons, or for food. Tom Happynook, a Nuu-Chah-Nulth chief, and the person who proposed the whaling, says that in their first hunt, the natives would likely catch one whale. That whale would be divided up among the band, and the bones would be sold to artists. But he says his band has not ruled out commercial whaling. The federal fisheries department says it

would only permit a native whale hunt for "food or social or ceremonial purposes." Environmentalists fear that the natives have a "loophole", and will begin whaling for commercial reasons. Whale meat is a delicacy in Japan, and can cost as much as \$100 per kilogram. Some people fear that the natives will exploit their ability to hunt whales to serve the Japanese market. The grey whale was almost extinct in the 1920's, and have been protected from hunting since 1937. There are more than 21,000 grey whales in the world today.



**New weather patterns point to global warming**

The April 4 edition of *The Province* has a report from professor Ellen Mosley-Thompson, of Ohio State University, which says that the planet is now heating up at a record pace. The Ohio team studied a number of regions to reach their conclusion. The Qori Kalis glacier in Peru, which retreated four meters a year between 1963 and 1978, now retreats 30 meters per year. The freezing level in the air, which is the height where it reaches 0 degrees C, has risen every year since 1970 by about five meters. The researchers also took ice cores from the Dundee ice cap in Tibet. The cores showed that the last 50 years were the warmest in recorded history. And in the April 3 *Vancouver Sun*, it was reported that BC has just experienced the wettest six months on record. Environment Canada reported that between October to March, more than 1,322 mm of precipitation fell. And in March, 233.2 mm fell, which broke the record of 186.4 mm set in 1974. Last year was the second wettest year on record, with more than

1,464 mm of precipitation. Since this January, we have already had 578 mm of precipitation. More evidence of global warming was reported in the April 17th *Vancouver Sun*. Temperature-wise, spring is now coming eight days earlier than it used to. Scientists have found many signs in the North. The growing season is now twelve days longer than it was in the 1960's, and the ice on lakes is now breaking up one to two weeks earlier than in the 1970's. These findings were made by a group of scientists from Boston University, led by Dr. Ranga Myneni. The group studied satellite data on plant growth to reach their conclusions. The Sierra Club has said that the findings could have problems. They point out that the warmer temperatures may have an affect on birds' migration patterns. But more importantly, the warmer weather may start to melt the permafrost. This would release trapped carbon dioxide, which in turn would lead to more global warming.

**Sewage taxes may rise for polluters**

The April 12 edition of *The Vancouver Sun* reports that the GVRD is considering increasing sewage taxes for some companies, including some of the worst polluters in the district. The proposal is to eliminate seven million dollars worth of sewage tax subsidies. Some companies would experience huge increases in their taxes, in one case, an increase from \$50,000 per year to \$800,000 per year. Some people are afraid this will force businesses to leave the Lower Mainland. And the April 15 issue of the *Sun* tells us who some of these polluters are. Eight companies are on the GVRD's list as extreme polluters. These companies were found to be discharging oils, acids, heavy metals, and solids in excessive quantities into sewer pipes. The GVRD published the list in hopes that it would act as an incentive for companies to clean up their act. The last list, published six months ago, had 24 companies on it. This list has only eight. And none of the companies put on the original list are on the new one. This list includes five food processing plants, two metals plants and a commercial laundry. The companies include Bari Cheese Ltd. in Vancouver, East and West Alum Craft of Burnaby, and Sandel Foods of

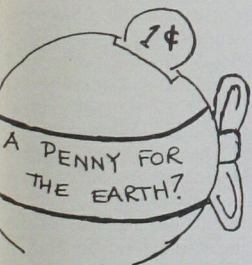
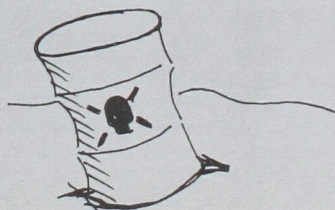
Surrey. Another company, Trimac Transportation of Langley, was on the previous list, but is not on the new list because of a technicality. The GVRD is considering ordering these companies to stop using the sewer system if they don't reduce contaminants in their disposal. The GVRD is also considering fines of up to \$10,000 dollars per day. So far the plan seems to be working. Of the 99 companies the GVRD has told to correct pollution problems, 90 have either already complied or are in the process of doing so.

**US Pacific salmon season to be shortest ever**

The Pacific Fishery Management Council has voted to place the most severe restrictions ever on the salmon season this year. The council is trying to protect coho and chinook stocks in the Klamath and Salmon rivers, and are trying to restore the Sacramento River winter runs. The council has instituted closings of up to a month, as well as limiting the catch of the fishermen. The entire California coast will be closed to commercial fishing from June 1 to 23. This is considered the height of the season. As well, the area of coast from San Francisco to the Mexican Border will be closed from July 19 to the end of August.

**Use of cob housing on the rise**

Cob houses - made from a mixture of soil, sand, water, clay and straw - were for centuries a staple of British and western European home architecture. Now there's a quiet revolution afoot to revive the art, responding to a need for affordable, environmentally safe, owner-built dwellings. These structures are easy to build and can last for centuries. To learn more plan to attend "The Fall of the Wooden Wall", a slide show and discussion on cob and other forms of earth and non-timber architecture with Ianto Evans, landscape architect, applied ecologist, and founder of the Cob Cottage Company in Oregon. The show will be Friday, April 25 at 7:30 p.m. in the Heritage Hall, 3102 Main St. Vancouver. Call the Vancouver Temperate Rainforest Action Coalition at 253-6281 for more information.



**Deposit program will cover most beverage containers**

The provincial government has announced a new program for beverage containers in the province, as reported in the April 7 edition of *The Vancouver Sun*. The deposit system which is cur-





BCIT's Earth Day: the opening of it's new Vermi-Composter Program to dispose of campus food wastes.

BERT SCHENDEL PHOTOS

## Worms, politicians, and kids lighten up

# Earth Day

## BCIT celebrates by giving its food waste back to the planet

GREG HELTEN  
SA Environmental Education

Burnaby's Mayor Doug Drummond and Federal MP Svend Robinson were amongst the crowd of faculty, staff and students that celebrated the grand opening of BCIT's organic waste composting program on Tuesday. It also happened to be Earth Day, an international day focusing on the environment that has happened every year on April 22 since 1970. So it was a perfect day to launch the Student Association's latest contribution to waste reduction and recycling since they started the recycling program back in 1989.

About 50 people gathered around three of the large worm bins situated on the outside north wall of the Town Square cafeteria loading bay, just beside the Great Hall. First the kids recited a cute poem on worms and birds while wearing bird and worm hats. After introducing everyone, including people from other institutions in the Lower Mainland, Mayor Drummond cut the ribbon and together with BCIT's VP of Education Mal Stelck tossed in the first bucket of organic waste from the Town Square cafeteria. Then everyone chowed down on vegetables and fruit with the remains being added to the compost bins.

So BCIT now has the largest vermi-composting system in Canada! Over

170,000 Red-Wiggler worms will process 73 kg (160 lb) per day of organic waste from the Campus Cafe and Town Square cafeterias, and produce about 13.5 tonnes (15 tons) per year of fine, organic compost. Vermi-composting (composting with worms) will reduce on-campus waste by over 27 tonnes (30 tons) per 10-month academic year. Over time, as the worms proliferate, they can be harvested and sold, or used on campus to expand the composting program to other areas. High-grade humus produced by vermi-composting can be used on campus as a natural soil conditioner. This will save BCIT \$2,400 per year in chemical fertilizer costs. Worm castings are considered the best all-around fertilizer available. We hope to expand the program to all the cafeterias on campus.

Thanks to Nora Lee, manager of the Child Care Centre, and her kids for putting on a great show; to Claude Helm, Bob Coulter, Carmen, Tina, Allen and staff at Restauronics' Town Square & Campus Cafe; Cindy Themmen and Gil Moore in Physical Plant; Terry Milligan from the Environmental Awareness Committee; the crew in Central Stores; Joanne and staff at Marriott; Tom Moore & staff at Macquinna Residence; Education VP Mal Stelck & Gail; Stephen Miller & Annalisa Jones, staff and students at the Student Association.

Jack Taillon, government E-Team employee who made the compost bins happen, holds out a handful of our new employees, Red Wiggler worms.



## Thanks for giving BCIT worms, Jack

Jack Taillon is the man responsible for coordinating the creation of BCIT's composting program. The Student Association hired him under the E-Team grant program from the NDP government in August 1996 and he conducted organic waste studies and a pilot composting project throughout the fall.

Jack developed good relationships with people on campus and secured agreement from all parties that we could go ahead and build the worm bins. Funding for materials came from BCIT's Physical Plant and the

Environmental Awareness Committee, headed by Terry Milligan. Along with Dean Lamont from the Food For All Foundation, a non-profit organization, Greg Helten from the Student Association's Environmental Education Program, and some great volunteers, Jack coordinating the building of six large wooden bins to house 170,000 Red Wiggler worms.

His contract with the E-Team and the Student Association is over now, but we won't forget him. Thanks for doing a great job, Jack....and thanks for the worms.