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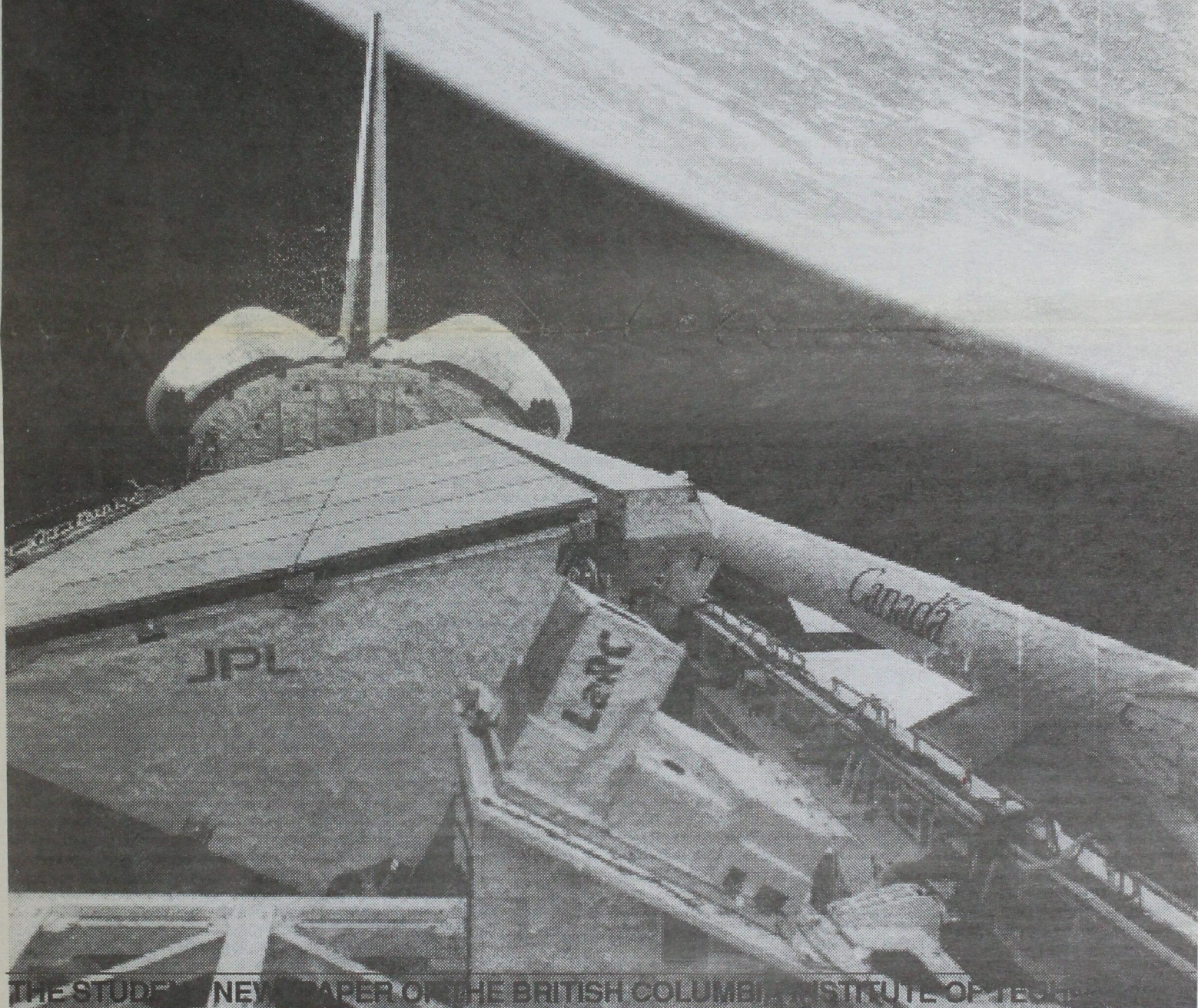
Single parents seeking an escape from the cycle of welfare by gaining skills to put them back into the workforce have been told to choose between welfare for their families or their education and hope for a better future page 2

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THE STUDENT NEWSPAPER OF THE BRITISH COLUMBIA INSTITUTE OF TECHNOLOGY

The new BC Benefits policy for single parents: DROP OUT OF SCHOOL ... or loose your family's welfare cheque

PAUL DAYSON
Managing Editor

They went back to school in a bid to better themselves and end their families dependence on welfare. Now the rug is being pulled out from under them.

Recently, 5,000 to 7,000 single parents on welfare who are studying at post-secondary institutions in British Columbia received letters from the Ministry of Social Services. The letters stated that if they continued their schooling in the "September 1996 semester, [they would] be required to apply for a student loan to cover both living and educational expenses."

In effect they are being told: if you stay in school you won't get a dime. If you drop out welcome back to the welfare rolls.

A student at University College of the Fraser Valley, Kim Hall, is in this position and thinks it is unfair to be punished for showing initiative.

"If I don't go to school, I'm considered unemployable because I have two children under seven," she said. "If I go to school, I'm being forced to run up a huge debt."

"These are people trying to make a difference in their own lives," Hall said. "They are not people lying around on welfare."

Sandra Hakanson, a 31-year old student at UCFV, feels betrayed.

"Last year they said, 'We'll get you off the system, sign up.' Now there's a change in policy," she said.

The Ministry of Social Services however expects Hall, Hakanson and others like them to rack up a debt.

Linda Dallin, the ministry's policy manager said, "Everybody in the post-secondary system has some sort of a loan."

Presently, single parents on welfare borrow student loans to pay for books, tuition and transportation while the government provides living expenses.

"What's being discontinued is the cost-of-living allowance," she said. "It's expected that because of their education they'll be able to pay back the loan."

Critics of the new policy state that student loans will not provide adequate funding for single parents to attend post-secondary institutions and will leave them with crippling debt loads at the end.

Student loans are only available to those taking full-time course loads and to meet the requirements for loan remission the pro-

gram must be completed in a timely fashion — one year past the regular completion date.

In a letter to Paul Ramsey, the minister responsible for education, skills and training, IBT coordinators for most of the major colleges in the Lower Mainland, said these criteria would be serious obstacles to single parents.

"Presently most single parents choose to study part time so that they can accommodate their children's needs as well as be successful at their studies. This is especially true for single parents who have very young children whose needs are greater. It is well known that students who attend school full time undertake to complete the many assignments, papers and study necessary, outside class time. It is very stressful for a single parent to take on this additional load," said the letter.

"The fact that a single parent may not have enough time to do the required course work may result in the person quitting or failing his/her program of studies. Then the possibility of the person ever getting off welfare becomes even more remote."

Also critics worry that the debt load will frighten off potential single parent students.

The IBT coordinators in their letter said, "It is not likely that poor people will go thousands of dollars into debt for their education, especially when there is no job guarantee at the end. The risks are too high.

Single parents should be allowed to stay on income assistance when they study and take out student loans only for tuition, books, transportation and related expenses."

At the All-Candidates Forum at BCIT candidates were asked where they and their parties stood on the issue.

According to Joan Sawicki, the incumbent MLA candidate, policy could be resolved following the election.

"We have been advised that no one should have to discontinue their education because of the changes to the BC Benefits program, and if that is the case on the ground I will do everything I can to find out what is happening and bring about the changes we need," Sawicki said.

Other parties also gave general support for single parents educating themselves to escape the welfare cycle.

Liberal candidate John Nurany said, "I am a believer that single parents have to be helped in up grading their skills because they have to be productive in the labour force, get back their dignity and [get] a job they would like to do."

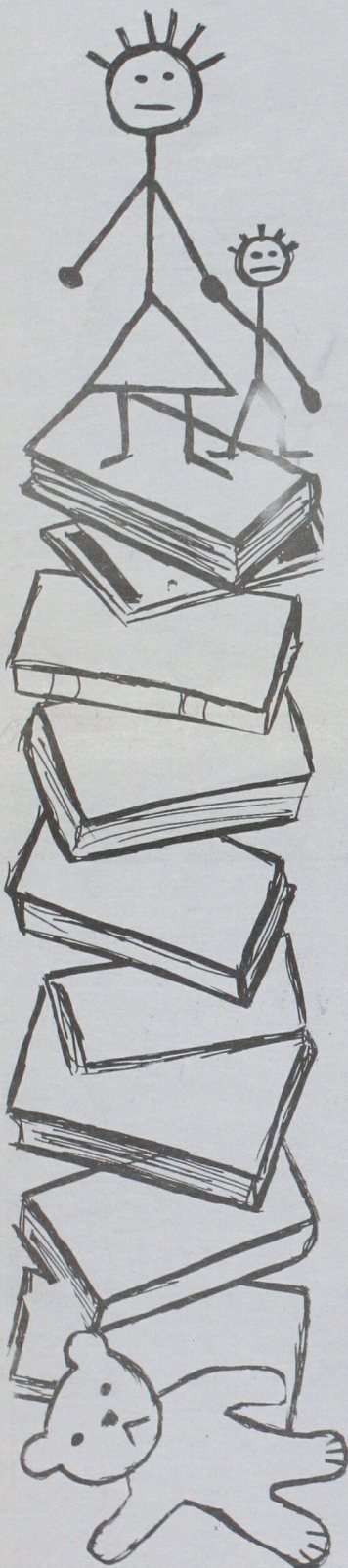
Reform BC candidate Sunni Sidhu said, "We will make sure that those people who need assistance from the government especially to enhance their education will not be effected at all."

Budget for a single parent of one child

During Education 8 month budget:		Post-Education Monthly Budget	
Student Loan:	\$13,090	Income:	\$1,680 ((\$13 per hour 40 hours a week — \$2,080 — less \$400 for taxes and deductions)
Expenses:	\$1,100 Tuition \$1,050 Books, Supplies \$4,800 Rent \$2,400 Groceries \$480 Hydro \$240 Phone \$720 Car Insurance \$240 Home Insurance \$800 Transportation \$2,000 Daycare \$13,830 TOTAL*	Expenses:	\$600 Rent \$300 Groceries \$60 Hydro \$30 Phone \$90 Car Insurance \$30 Home Insurance \$100 Transportation \$250 Daycare \$546 Loan Repayment \$2,006 TOTAL*

*This amount does not include medical, dental and miscellaneous expenses.

*This amount does not include medical, dental and miscellaneous expenses.





The candidates: (left to right) Thomas Reekie, Progressive Democratic Alliance; Peter MacDonald, Conservative; the moderator; John Nuraney, Liberal; Joan Sawicki, New Democrats; Sunny Sidhi, BC Reform. PAUL DAYSON PHOTO

Candidates agree to make BCIT childcare a priority

LINK STAFF

At least four of the six candidates running for MLA next Tuesday in the Burnaby-Willingdon riding support an expanded child care facility for BCIT.

The candidates each pledged some form of commitment to child care in answering a question from Student Association president Mike Bretner at an all-party forum held in the Great Hall during the three-hour break, May 15. Attendance peaked mid-way through the hour-long session at less than 50.

Those participating were: Thomas Reekie of the Progressive Democratic Alliance, Peter MacDonald, of the Conservatives, John Nuraney, Liberals, incumbent Joan Sawicki, New Democrats, and Sunny Sodhi, BC Reform.

The only absentee was Joe Keithley AKA Joey Shithead, the lead singer of punk band DOA, who is running for the Green party. Keithley has also been employed in recent years at BCIT's physical plant.

Bretner's question was "When you are elected, when will you and I be turning the soil for the expanded child care center? I'd like a commitment from each one of you."

Joan Sawicki. "I do understand the special needs of BCIT students in terms of childcare with classes in the evening... and I know many are single parents. Under our govern-

ment we have created a phenomenal 5,000 new childcare spaces in British Columbia because we believe it's a priority. I've met with the Student Association, I've talked with the administration, I've visited your excellent but quite small childcare centre here, and I think you know my feeling is — as a re-elected MLA — to work very hard to make sure childcare spaces are increased here."

John Nuraney: "I do support it, there should be a childcare facility attached to the campus. I'm a believer that single parents have to be helped in upgrading their skills... In order to help do this, it is the responsibility of the government to provide the facilities."

Nuraney said an expanded childcare is an example of a project that would be covered by the \$116 million pledged by the Liberals for capital expenditures.

Thomas Reekie: "The PDA's four-year funding plan will [allow] the institution to plan ahead to increase the child-care facility. As MLA for this riding, I'll do everything I can to see that the size of the child-care facility is increased."

Sunny Sodhi: "I... would do anything I had to do to make sure all the students [who need childcare] are provided for."

Peter MacDonald, the lone dissident: "If you weren't taxed in the first place, you could afford to do it yourself. The reason we need childcare services everywhere is because

people don't have enough money... I would much rather see [BCIT] put together a childcare centre within its own roof than see the government do it. I don't think it's a good idea to get the government doing everything for us. I'd rather see reduced taxes."

In an ironic demonstration of the need for expanded child care on the campus, mid-way through the candidates responses, Bretner had to leave to pick up his son — who does not attend the on-campus day-care — after getting word that he was sick.

Other questions from students and staff dealt with post-secondary education, the environment, MLA accountability and recall, First Nations issues and health care.

Liberal candidate John Nuraney dismissed every party in the province except the NDP and the Liberals as not worth voting for. Nuraney said the sooner that the electorate realizes that the only parties with any hope of winning are the NDP and Liberals, the better off they'd be.

Reekie, the youngest of the candidates, appeared nervous, and asked everyone to "bear with him" because he was unprepared — owing to the fact he had only become a candidate two days earlier, and only learned about the forum that morning. He largely relied on quoting from party literature in answering questions.

See candidates positions pg 4



Addressing the candidates. Fish & Wildlife program head Mark Angelo asks about commitment to the environment after reports that the Liberals might cut environment ministry funding as part of their budgetary plans.

PAUL DAYSON PHOTO



The candidates: (left to right) Thomas Reekie, Progressive Democratic Alliance; Peter MacDonald, Conservative; the moderator; John Nuraney, Liberal; Joan Sawicki, New Democrats; Sunni Sidhi, BC Reform. PAUL DAYSON PHOTO

The candidates positions:

Exerpts from the opening statements made by the candidates running in the Burnaby-Willingdon riding at the BCIT All Candidates Forum on May 15th

Candidates statements are presented in the order of speaking, determined by lottery (ed)

Peter McDonald, Conservative:

“For the past 25 years, I’ve listened to politicians make promises. And I think that by and large they mean those promises. But the world makes things happen differently.

“Twenty-five years ago, Pierre Elliot Trudeau came out with a just society. When he went into that, we were spending 15 per cent of the economy [of] taxes [from] the federal government, and 15 per cent from the provincial government. When we came out of that society, we were [using] 23 per cent of the federal government and about 18 per cent

of the provincial government. What this means is that we have to spend more and more time working for the government.

“About 1965, we were spending about 12 hours a week working for the government. And today we’re spending about 24 ... I don’t really like working for the government. I don’t really believe the government can create jobs. So what I’ve done now is come up with a plan. And I call the plan Taxcap. I realize there’s lots of other subjects to talk about but economics is where you start. What I want and want for my children is a constitutional limit to the government’s ability to tax, spend and borrow ...

“Until we put a constitutional limit to the government, you’ll have promises, promises, promises. And I frankly am fed up with promises ... When we’re talking about Pierre Trudeau, just society, the unemployment rate was five per cent. Today we accept 10 per cent as normal. I find that unacceptable.”

“So my message to you is, if you believe that government can

create jobs for you, don’t vote for the Conservative party. If you think you want to go out and work hard, generate your own wealth and make it your own life, then the Conservative party offers you an idea that we call Taxcap: a constitutional limit to taxes.”

John Nuraney, Liberal:

“Thomas McAuley said, ‘Every generation enjoys the use of vast hordes bequeathed to it by antiquity augmented by fresh acquisitions for future ages.’ It is at these institutions of higher learning like the BCIT that people are able to augment their intellectual reaches. BCIT, I think, is a unique institution, and prides itself for its ability to be creative and innovative. The goals of BCIT, to develop job-ready graduates, to provide skills to advance people’s careers, and to work with business and industry to

improve business performance through training and applied research and development.

“In order for us to ensure that institutions like BCIT are allowed to flourish, we have to ensure that the government of today provides the enabling environment by securing proper and adequate funding. And to encourage an open dialogue between the academia and the administrators.

“I had the opportunity to visit BCIT not too long ago, and had the pleasure of meeting with the president, Dr. Brian Gillespie. I was most impressed with the variety of programs offered, and because of my background in business, I was particularly interested in the venture program offered to the aspiring entrepreneurs. This is a very unique program, and I think it deserves the support it should get.

“In today’s world of global economy and shifting opportunities, we have to rely heavily on the ability to identify opportunities and to match the skills [and] demands in the marketplace. [The] Liberal party is committed

to ensuring that our educational institutions are allowed to operate in a healthy environment. The funding for education will not be cut. In our four year economic plan, we are providing for an increment in the funding, and also an allowance for capital expenditures to the tune of \$116 million.

“Health care, education and public safety are at the top of our list. And with proper fiscal management we feel confident will improve the delivery of our services. Our program to enhance investment climate in BC will undoubtedly produce the jobs and encourage small business which is really the engine which drives the economy.”

Sunny Sodhi, BC Reform:

“Jack Weisgerber and Reform BC need your votes on election day. I continued on next page

continued from previous page

know Jack as a man of honesty, trust and integrity and he has my full support. And I know I have his.

"Your choice for a free enterprise government on May 28th is a vote for Reform.

"Today I will address three important issues: education, taxation and crime. . .

There's little question that by your ready presence [at BCIT], you are the lucky ones in this world. Why do I say this? Because in the rapidly growing demand for high technology, BCIT is now at the leading edge in training a brand new labour force. One in which a Reform BC government can play a strong role in the growth and expansion. Education will be tied more closely with the needs of business and job creation ...

"Reform BC education policy is to seek with cooperation with employer groups and organized labour in arranging curriculum, establishing budget requirements and offering wider choices—adding the skills needed to compete in today's world.

On taxation and fiscal policies: In four years, the NDP has doubled the provincial debt. And in 1995 alone, borrowed another billion dollars. You will have to you will have to pay for this. Not only with a Reform BC government balance its first budget and every budget thereafter, it will also, through constitutional means, make it illegal for the province to undertake debts or deficit financing.

Regarding Crime: Just recently our national police force the RCMP that Burnaby's crime statistics have soared upwards in virtually all categories. Economic issues are important [but] other dangers facing us today are not necessarily economic. Our citizens are threatened with violence in our culture. British Columbians increasingly feel intimidated by the threat of crime and are more afraid than at any time in our history. Women, youth and senior citizens in particular feel vulnerable. British Columbians are showing a much tougher attitude towards how their leaders should deal with those who break societies rules. They are demanding leadership from our governments to ensure that the needs of the individual are no longer being ignored—exactly what Reform BC have been saying for so long."

Thomas Reekie, Progressive Democratic Alliance:

"In the last provincial election, the voters of British Columbia were looking for change. And they gave that change when they voted for Gordon Wilson ...

"To protect the mandate that was delivered by the voters in 1991, a group of committed and progressive British Columbians came forward to establish the Progressive Democratic Alliance. The PDA has a comprehensive blueprint for reforming government and has identified eight primary [areas]: tax relief, the economy, government and structuring, health care, the environment, education, labour relations, and aboriginal affairs.

"Specifically with respect to education, the PDA will implement four-year base funding for the province's educational facilities, operational expenditures, long-term capital financing and planning. This will provide some security to decision makers in the provision of funds, and allow for longer periods to negotiate future funding, factoring in growth patterns and anticipate future costs with yearly adjustments. It will also allow local control over funding allocations for programs to meet local needs, such as language, special needs and gifted programming.

"Although the PDA agrees that education is essential, we do not support essential services designation for teachers, as this is a labour designation for emergency services only ...

"People voted for change in the last provincial election, and Gordon Wilson was the reason they voted that way. And Gordon Wilson is asking for your support again this time."

Joan Sawicki, New Democrats:

"There's a record number of parties and candidates running in this election. But it really boils down to a choice between two very different visions of BC's future. Gordon Campbell's vision of cutting the provincial budget, cutting the public service, privatizing crown corporations and giving tax breaks to big business. Versus

our vision, the New Democrat vision of building upon four and a half years of very progressive government, and of balancing the economy, the environment and social equity.

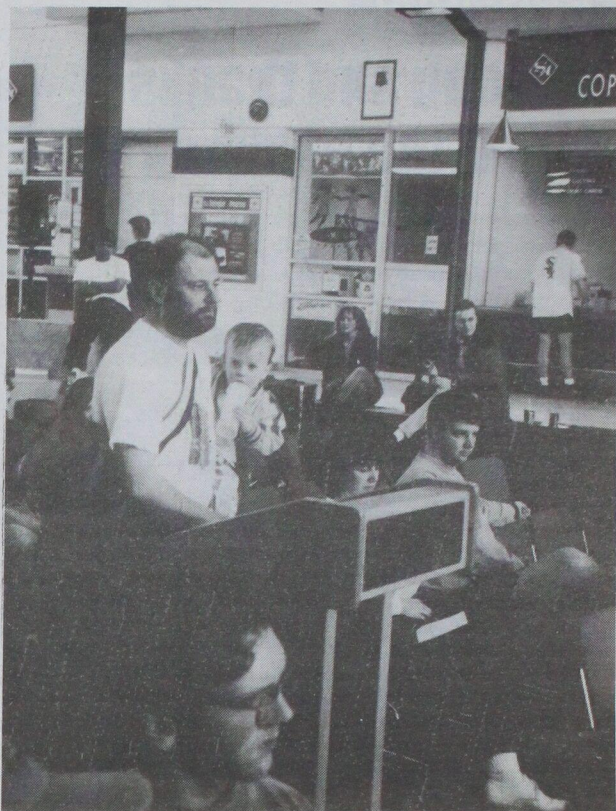
"Despite what the opposition parties would suggest, we have kept BC's fiscal house in order. And at the same time we've taken strong action on priorities of working and middle class British Columbians, on behalf of young people, and women. And we've legislated against hate propaganda, whether it's based on ethnic origin or sexual orientation. And we have increased health and education funding every one of the five years. . . because we really do believe health and education are top priorities.

"And these increases have come despite federal cutbacks in transfer payments. A year ago, Gordon Campbell said that Ottawa's cutbacks didn't go far enough. Now he says he'll protect health care and education. So we're trying to find out where is he going to find a 15 per cent budget cut?

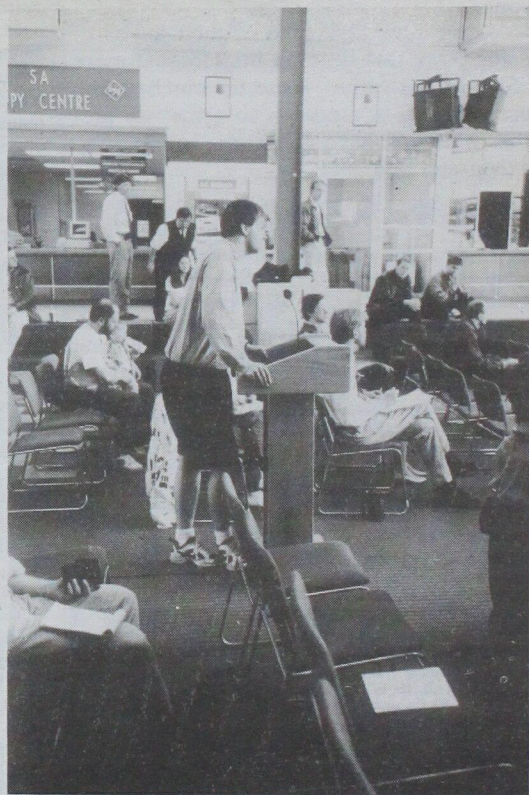
"Yesterday Moe Sihota concluded that some of those cuts would obviously have to come out of the environment budget, another basic difference between their vision and ours.

"As a strong environmentalist myself, I'm very proud of our government's record on the environment. On such things as the Forest Practices Code, our creation of over 200 parks and protected areas, the Urban Salmon Habitat Program, which now includes our own Burnaby Lake Systems Project. The Liberals and Reformers are against almost every one of our environmental initiatives in these past four years. In fact, Gordon Campbell said two years ago, his first environmental priority as premier would be to get rid of the bureaucratic overload of environmental protection. And yet in response to [Moe] Sihota's concerns he said no, our cuts wouldn't come from there either.

"Two visions. Theirs and ours. On May 28, the decision is yours to make: will you and your family will benefit more from continued affordable investment and keeping the environment, or a \$1.1 billion tax cut for corporations?"



Above and below: Questioning the candidates, members of the BCIT community voice their concerns. PAUL DAYSON PHOTO



EDITORIAL

So long and thanks for all the fishwrap*

Another year dwelling in these hallowed halls draws to a close seemingly with more of a collective sigh than anything resembling a bang. But then again it has been a long haul since September when we all arrived on campus with summer tans and a healthy glow on our faces. Now tired we brace ourselves to face the 'real' world again, a little paler but with a glimmer in our eyes.

Any rejoicing at BCIT is more of a private affair than public (except maybe for the formality of convocation and a little rowdiness in the Elephant when exams finish the end of this week) but celebrate we will.

Some of us are on your way out of here for good — hopefully looking for gainful employment. Others to a summer 'break' of work in order to return again next September. A few of us will be stuck here through the summer on a strangely quiet and deserted campus which moves at a much slower pace.

To all of you, *The Link* — your faithful suppliers of fishwrap, birdcage liner and cheap paper towels — wishes the best of luck in your endeavours.

And to the few who gave of themselves to make this place that little bit brighter and more cheerful a place to be — we tip our battered homburg to you. In the years to come, we predict that what you have given will be repaid to you a thousand fold.

*with apologies to Douglas Adams.

The Link

Founded 1965

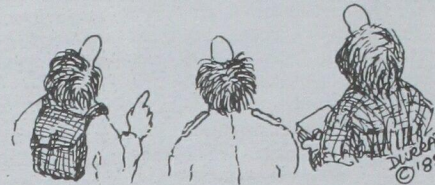
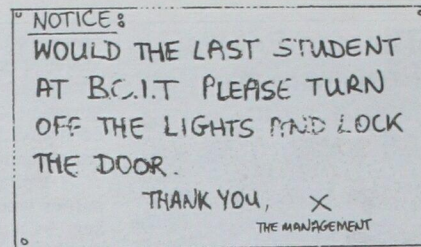
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As a member of Canadian University Press (CUP), *The Link* adheres to CUP's Code of Ethics. To this end *The Link* will not publish material deemed by the editors or steering committee to be sexist, racist, homophobic or in poor taste. The views in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

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TEMPLE OF THE SCREAMING ELECTRON

These are the instructions and schematic for a garage door opener. It modifies an existing door opener to run through every possible code.

The mod uses a 555 timer as a pulse generator to clock a binary counter. Each pulse will increment the binary counter by one. You can adjust the speed of the counting by turning R1. You will have to experiment to find the right speed to use. The switch is for setting the count back to the beginning. This method is slow but easy to do.

As you may notice, the schematics don't show how to connect directly to the garage door opener. A good way is:

First, desolder the DIP switches from the door opener and solder an IC socket where the DIP switches were. (This

will allow you to put the DIP switches back, when operating in normal mode.)

Second, you should connect the output of the counter circuit to a wirewrap IC socket. Mount the IC socket on your board with the pins of the socket extending so you can use the pins to plug right into the socket on the door opener. When connecting the output, be sure that the connections on the wirewrap socket correspond to the ON setting of the DIP switches. Make sure your IC's are CMOS so you don't cook them with the 9V.

This setup allows your opener to be "dual-mode". Leave the DIP switches in when Dad wants to come home from work, and insert your counter when you want ...

Check the IC Pinouts with a Databook — I have not taken the time to verify the schematic.

Parts List

Resistors

- R1 - PC mount 100k potentiometer
- R2 - 1k ohm 1/4 watt

Capacitors

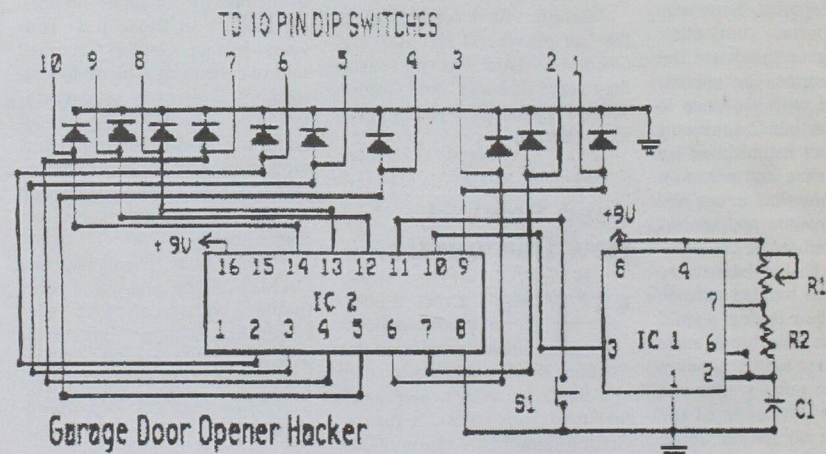
- C1 - 22 microF

Integrated Circuits

- IC1 - 555CP Timer
- IC2 - CD4040BE 12 bit binary counter

Miscellaneous

- LED1 - 10 Light Emitting Diodes
- S1 - Normally Closed Momentary Push Button Switch
- Perfboard
- 9V Battery



LINK LETTERS POLICY

The Link welcomes letters. Letters should be typed, double spaced, under 300 words and can be dropped off at *The Link* or SA offices and sent through campus or regular mail.

Your name, affiliation with BCIT and a telephone number to contact you (which will not be published) must be included. Anonymity may be granted at the discretion of staff.

Letters on disk, as a text file, with a hard copy would be greatly appreciated. *The Link* reserves the right to edit for clarity and brevity.

FLASHOVERRIDENPA-604

My reflections on BCIT

It's funny but I still remember arriving at BCIT — a place I would soon refer to as "The Penitentiary".

I mean let's face it, they work you half to death, the campus does nothing to inspire you (unless of course you have this thing for grey, drab concrete), and it always seems to be raining out here. In some way, however, I don't think I'll ever forget my time spent here.

I'm sure that part of it has to do with being thrust into that High School mentality (which is still fresh in the minds of some of you babies).

In University, classes were always so large or transient that you never had the time to really get to know ALL of your classmates like you do here. Group project this, team project that, I'm so sick of working with others that isolation looks pretty damned good sometimes.



Within the span of a month you can love a classmate and then hate them and then love them again — weird.

The part that really hit was that regardless of your personal problems or dilemmas there was always a tonne of work to do.

Many times it made this place almost impossible, and for a few it was, and this aged us all. I remember a few times where I didn't think I'd finish. Not because I wasn't able to or that I didn't want to but I just had too much shit wait-

ing in the wings.

This is where I tip my hat off to this place. It was here that for one reason or another I met what I believe will always be my best friends.

Friends who knew when something was up, when a beer was the only solution, a ride down to the beach with a bottle of Jack, a coffee at a new kitchen table, a gathering at a roof top to celebrate one thing or another, a free pizza on the old account ... you name it. I always knew that no mat-

ter how bad it got they were there and for this I am here finishing now.

I'm sure I've said thanks a dozen times before but I don't think they fully understand, or maybe they do. I mean it wasn't just me with all the friends but each of us.

Picture the day I'll finish, standing at the edge of this dump on early parole and wonder what I'll be thinking. I'm sure that part of me will feel like a tonne of baggage has been dumped (and it will have been), yet I'm sure I'll also wonder if I haven't already had the best memories of my life. I'd like to take the time to thank them for everything and to say that I hope I've given each of them even a bit of what they gave me.

MY FRIENDS

Bri— thanks man. Thanks for the Jack, the beach, the shows, the "Captains Chair", the conversations, the drives, for your friends (especially Jilly), the advice (which I ended up giving back sometimes), for Jazzer, for kickin' back in The Rambler with a case of Blue, for wearin polyester upon request, for The Dollar Store shades, the CD's, that 1982 Rock 'n Roll undiscovered superstars cassette, for being frozen in the 70's, for reading what I wrote, for the little Hallowe'en Party that could (almost), for being there and best of all for all the laughs — thanks brother!

Paul—thanks. Thanks for letting me call you a weirdo (and you are), for the coffee's (the thousands of them), the smokes (the millions of them), the conversation, the politics, for telling me the same stories a hundred times (ain't that right Bri!), for proving that even normal looking people can



build a bomb, for sharing your dreams, for arriving at work that one time before noon, for the accomodations when I really needed them, for listening to my constant bitching, for attempting an Al Pacino impression, but most of all for being Paul. — thanks man.

Damo — thanks. Thanks for all the booze at Christmas, the tactical war/love advice, for making me call, for kissing Japanese girls and then feeling bad about it, for always accepting my excuses on why I can't play squash, for teaching me the essentials on putting up with Paul (most of them), for playing the devil's advocate, for that uncanny laugh and for those drunken conversations. Thanks.

Todd — t h a n k s . Thanks for all the free booze, for letting me get my ass tattooed when drunk, for the dinner parties, for the conversation, for the stories about women and for letting me know that you were always there.

Mary — thanks. Thanks for the insight, listening to my lectures, exploring the cultural side of life, for keeping me from shooting them, for laughing at me when I needed it most, for noticing when others didn't and for making the best of it all.

Jeff — thanks. Thanks for nothin paco. Thanks for being consistent with your ridicule, for making me laugh at myself, for getting serious when needed, for assaulting my writing skills but most of all for being Jeffy Jeff. Thanks.

Kris — for everything.

I wish there was enough room thank everyone directly bu there isn't. So I'll thank you all at once. Thanks.

I should mention that there are a couple that I wouldn't might takin the boots to but Hell I've already forgotten who they are.

Serenara Da Vici BCIT
and Thanks.
John Schenk

The Darkside

John Schenk

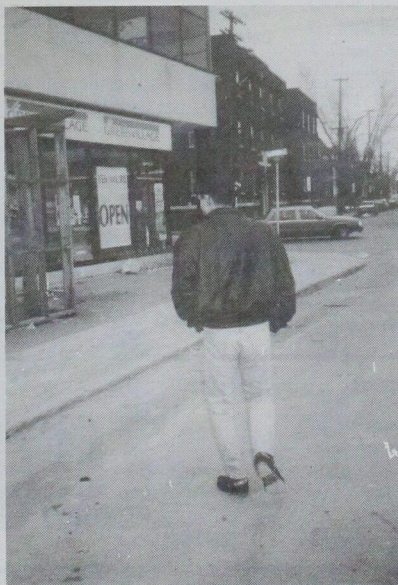
I'd like to take this opportunity to say thanks to everyone who has been reading this column faithfully (somewhat) for the past two years.

The two of you have been great.

Looking back I've bitched about a Hell of alot of things and owe some my sanity at least to this column. I hope I gave at least some of you a laugh, a little insight or at minimum something for your cat to shit on. It has been fun.

So — well — here it goes!

**FUCK YOU
VERY MUCH !!!**



OPINION

GREG NESTEROFF
News Editor

In 1989, Michael Moore made a film called *Roger & Me*, which detailed, among other things, his futile attempts to get an interview with the chairman of General Motors, Roger Smith.

In 1996, I tried without success to get an interview with Michael Moore.

That was the common thread that ran throughout this school year for me. It began in late September, was supposed to finish on the last day of the school year, and didn't.

Stories about the tribulations of getting an interview usually bore the piss out of me, so you have my blessing right now to go read *The Darkside* or *Reggie Dunlop* or something else if you want. For me this is just a catharsis.

Last September, I found out that Moore's latest film *Canadian Bacon* would be playing at the Vancouver Film Festival, and that he would be here to promote it.

I'd been a huge fan of Moore's TV Nation, and thought it would be great to get an interview with him. I asked Link entertainment editor Brian Rice to see if he could arrange one with festival personnel.

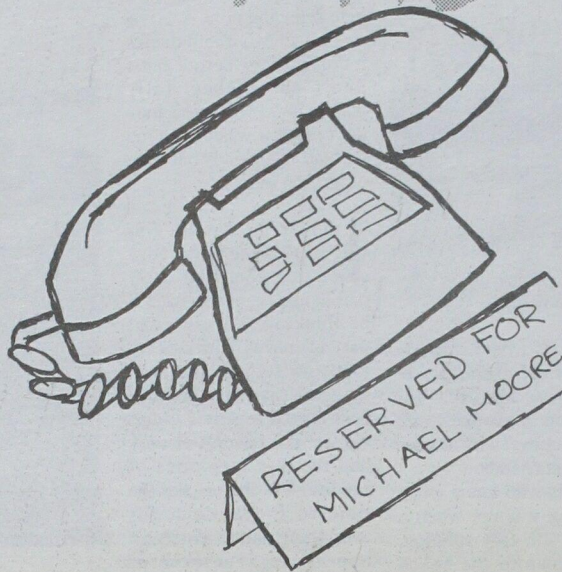
A day later, he told me it was pretty much out of the question. There were something like 200 requests, and he would only be doing six or seven, on a day that had been set aside for them. We threw our proverbial hat in the ring too, but nothing came of it.

I went to see the film with one of my roommates anyway. When Moore arrived, he was mobbed. Somehow I managed to get a word in edgewise, and complained about the small number of interviews he was doing.

He gave me the unlisted phone number of his office in New York, and said I could try there when he got back the following week.

I did that, but was told by his assistant Gillian Aldridge that he'd abruptly decided to put off all interviews until December. Okay, I'll call back then, I said. In the meantime, he appeared

MICHAEL & ME



more than once on the Conan O'Brien show.

In December Gillian told me he had put off interviews until beyond Christmas and New Year's. Fine. Also that month, *The Georgia Straight* profile of Moore appeared. I was initially stunned, until I found out the interview was actually conducted back in September, so that was all right. It wasn't particularly exceptional, which was also all right.

For good measure I waited until February 1 to call for the third time. Gillian booked me for March 18, and I was pleased. The CUP interview was one of the few that he wanted to do, she said.

However around the beginning of March, Gillian called back to say that Moore was "really, really busy . . . He's working 16 hour days on his projects" and that the interview would have to be further postponed to May 1.

On April 21, I talked with her, confirming the May 1 date. She

asked if we could bump it back just a couple more days. No problem.

I was confident that May 3 would be it, and spent hours and hours in the days prior preparing for it, fleshing out my list of questions, making sure I didn't ask anything that I could find from other sources, writing the background portion of the profile, etc.

However, the sixth call went like this:

"Production."
"Hi, is Gillian there, please?"
"This is she."
"Hi Gillian, it's Greg Nesteroff calling from Canadian University Press. How are you?"
"Good, good. How are you?"
"Fine . . . So is our interview a go?"
"[Groan] I really owe you for this . . ."

She went on to tell me that Moore had thrown his back out, and wasn't doing much of anything except lying at home in bed.

She wanted to call me to cancel, but lost my phone number. "I'm really sorry," she said. So it was put back further to May 15 at 10 a.m.

Then, on Monday, the 13th, she called back to bump it over another couple of days. "This time for sure," she said. "If we don't have [the book] done, we're going to be dead."

It was set for May 17 at 3 p.m., the final day of the school year for me, and one day before I went home. In fact, the last possible day I could do it and make the last issue of the year (this one).

So for over an hour I sat by the phone, making sure everything was properly prepared, that my tape recorder was working, etc., etc. Then entertainment ed Brian told me there was a voice-mail message for me from the office. Surely a cruel joke.

Nope. They were given a one-day deadline extension on the book, and were racing around trying to complete it. Earliest possible date for the interview was the following Wednesday.

Nine conversations over nine months and I still can't get 15 minutes of the man's time. He is busy, no doubt, but so was Roger Smith. It's become my own personal *Roger & Me*.

The interview, hopefully, will appear in these pages in September. And maybe the pope will get married as well.

A brief comment on the North American system of justice: in criminal cases, we have a doctrine of "innocent until proven guilty beyond a reasonable doubt," whereas in civil cases it is "the balance of probabilities."

So as in the trial of Mr. Simpson, despite the fact there was a 99 per cent chance that he was guilty (I exaggerate for dramatic effect), he is let off the hook because of the one per cent chance that he was not.

This would suggest that Canadian and American societies find it a greater misdeed to imprison someone who is innocent than it is to let free someone

who almost certainly hacked up a couple of people with a machete (again, I exaggerate for effect).

Methinks this is wrong. Although perhaps I would change my mind if wrongly convicted and sent up the river for 25-to-life, the criminal courts ought also to establish guilt on the balance of probabilities.

Another hockey question, adding to the ones I had a few weeks ago: in the Canucks' final play-off game, Josef Beranek actually made a save.

It wasn't really a blocked shot because Beranek was in the goal, where Corey Hirsch is normally perched. A shot was taken, and Beranek made the save.

So . . . how do the NHL scoring gurus mark it down? Is it a shot?

Well, the definition of a shot is a puck that would have otherwise scored had it not been stopped. But does it have to be stopped by the guy wearing the pads?

Should Corey Hirsch get credited with the save? Should the team get credit for the save, but not Hirsch? Is it not a shot, despite the fact it would have been a goal if Beranek had not stopped it? (If it had gone in, it would have counted as a goal and a shot against Hirsch.)

When the NHL finally introduces blocked shots as a stat (I understand in time for the 1996-97 season), is it the same thing as a save for the player? Do blocked shots plus saves plus goals equal shots against?

Ah, so many questions, so few answers.

This being the last issue of the year with any content, I'd like to thank the one or perhaps two people reading this who are not either a) Link staff members or b) first year radio students.

I'm going home for the summer. Rant with you again in September.

Want to challenge yourself? Try out some of the skills you're learning?
Tell the campus what is really going on?
Or just catch a band or a movie?

If so think about working for...

The Link

When the Man in Black arrives ... I'm heading for the mountains

BRIAN RICE
Entertainment Editor

The Festival of the summer is getting closer & closer. Now that exams are within a stones throw of being done it seems appropriate to think about pure summer fun.

FESTIVAL PREVIEW
Meritt Mountain Music Festival
July 18th - 21st

How could I not drift towards the hot summer days and hotter summer nights at this years Meritt Mountain Music Festival.

The man in black...

Mr. Johnny Cash will be making a special appearance. I've wanted to see Johnny longer than I can remember. He is a performer that can't be pegged into a cliché or musical motif. His career, which has spanned 5 decades so far, has been a long road of song, bar room philosophy, grit, and endurance.

When The Man takes the stage in Meritt this summer I'm going to be wearing black, be covered in dust from the previous days, and be feeling I've had my

fill of sour mash.

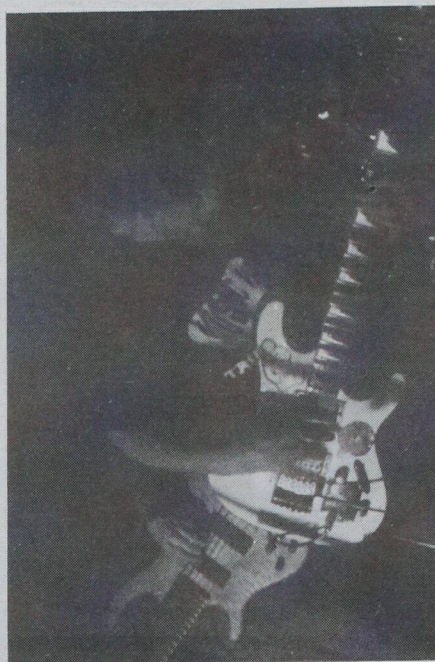
The festival runs from July 18th to 21st. This is the fourth year of the hugely successful party and has the makings of being the biggest and best ever.

On the bill with Johnny are a slew of other artists, such as Vince Gill, Patty Loveless, Prairie Oyster, Farmers Daughter, and many others.

What happens is you show up in you vehicle (I'm going in an RV!), you park, and your home. You make camp. Greet your neighbors (who are doing exactly the same thing) over a the first , or second... frosty one... Four days later after countless hours of music...bonfires...hikes...or whatever you please... you wander down the lonely road back to Vancouver and the rest of the world...

Filled with memories of good friends, hot sun, and a really bitchin' party.

Call the Meritt Mountain Music Festival office for more information at 525 - 3330 or [HTTP://WWW.CCONNECT.CA](http://www.cconnect.ca)



Music Waste wasn't at all

Kris Mitchell of Smak leading the hip group through a powerful set during Music Waste.

The Music Wate Festival graduated this year to the front of the row as Vancouver's premier hip music festival. It was a weekend of over 100 bands and millions of smiles.

BRIAN RICE PHOTO

Guided by Voices, guided by inspiration

ANDREA FOOTE
Concert Reviewer

At the Commodore, people and music flushed every corner of the ballroom. This wasn't a sold-out show, but there was plenty of fans to welcome Guided by Voices. The smell of tobacco smoke and beer permeated the air, as usual in a bar, leaving one with a nauseated and intoxicated feeling.

CONCERT REVIEW
Guided by Voices with V-3 and Spoon
Commodore Ballroom
May 2

Spoon headed the stage first, they were commented as being rather boring, sounding like the common new wave punk (nirvana-style). They didn't seem to produce any original sounds of their own. Sounds of over-used '80's punk emulated by guys with influences from living in the present.

V-3, headed by Jim Shepard from Ohio, is the regular three piece band. They managed to expand the audience to a fair size, with influences from bands such as Sonic Youth and Pavement. V-3 played some hard-hitting tunes that warmed

the audience and captured the attention and energy before the headliner took over.

Guided by Voices steps out on stage to give an appealing audience something infectious. These experienced musicians have heard it all. They've transformed melodies and harmonies from bands like the Cult to the Beatles, to produce a sound of their own. This band delivered

perfected sounds of psychedelic pop rock to art punk trends, playing tunes from their numerous albums.

Guided by Voices has blended they talents and influences to project a memorable and familiar sound. With an AC-DC-like guitarist, this literally smoking band played to an encore that blew memories of the past through everyones' head.

Give all to me ... all at once

JOHN SCHENK
Student Editor

The bands rolled in and the bands rolled out during the four day Music West festival this year.

FESTIVAL REVIEW
Music West '96

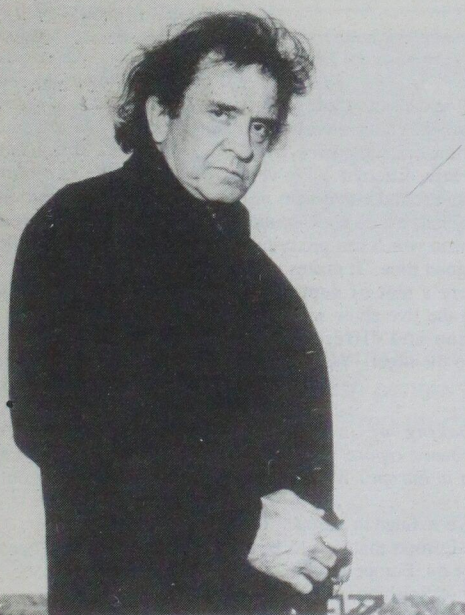
Again it's hard to tell if the festival as a whole was a success — namely because it is so spread out in venues across the city. I had a great time checking out bands (wish I could remember half of them) and listening to all the varied new styles and sounds. There's a hell of a lot of good musicians out there.

Unfortunately this year I couldn't attend any of the seminars but from what I heard they were informative and helpful for many local area groups.

There were seminars which covered everything from producing your own records to getting a 'rep' to notice you. In all the word on the street was that the festival was a big hit.

I guess that the only advice I have for the organizers is to find a place where it can all be staged together. So much hard work goes into creating a large scale celebration of hidden talent that it should ALL be seen. ALL at once and by ALL of us.

Otherwise keep it up - good job.



The Man in Black. Johnny Cash.

Think you might need some extra cash next year?

The Student Association offers workstudy positions during the fall and spring terms in their various departments

Tutoring
Environmental Education
Business Assistant
Special Projects
The Link

Get yourself some experience, a reference and some cash to help you through your education while giving something to the campus.

Drop by the Student Association Office in the SA Campus Centre to find out more.

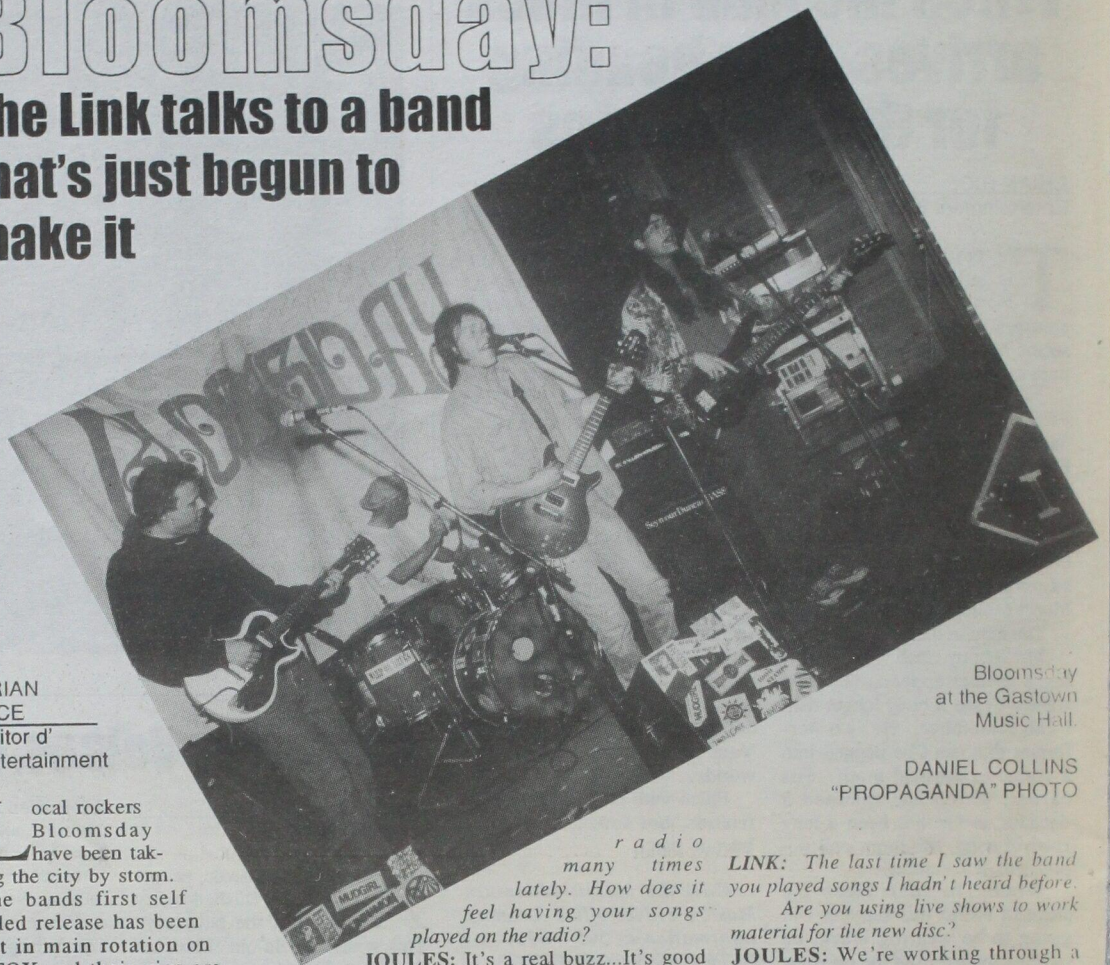


The Link

Read it
Write it

drop by the offices in the SA
Campus Centre
(if you can find them with out signage)
or call 432-8974

Bloomsday: The Link talks to a band that's just begun to make it



Bloomsday at the Gastown Music Hall.

DANIEL COLLINS
"PROPAGANDA" PHOTO

BRIAN RICE
Editor d' Entertainment

Local rockers Bloomsday have been taking the city by storm. The bands first self titled release has been put in main rotation on CFOX and their gigs are selling out.

BAND INTERVIEW Bloomsday

I reached Joules, the driving force behind Bloomsday at the Hollywood Hilton between mixing sessions for their next disc.

LINK: Hello, Thanks for taking the time to speak with me...

JOULES: We're gonna make it. We're going straight to the top. We're fuckin the best there is.. ya hear me... you just make sure you fuckin write that down...

LINK: Alright... So, what's up with Bloomsday these days?

JOULES: We just went onto regular rotation at CFOX with our new single STRANGE.. We just got robbed of 12,000 dollars worth of gear.. We're looking forward to a summer of shows in and out of Vancouver... We're planning an independent release and extensive touring in the fall...

LINK: I've heard the band on the

radio many times lately. How does it feel having your songs played on the radio?

JOULES: It's a real buzz...It's good that we have a station as big as CFOX, Canada #1 rock station, giving us such good support. It's a real buzz. It's great.

LINK: Why should people that don't know Bloomsday go and check out one of your shows?

JOULES: Because they are going to see something that Vancouver doesn't see all the time ... Something fresh... Something a little different ... We've got an International sound rather than just a Vancouver sound, or a Seattle sound ... It's solid music which can pretty much guarantee a good time. It makes people dance. There's alot of depth to the material. In the live show we get into improvisation and different things depending on the night. We give it out to the crowd.

LINK: Speaking of international flavour I've heard reports of the bands huge success in Europe. What are your tour plans?

JOULES: We're huge in Europe. If we could go to Europe that would be the first thing we do..Europe or Asia ... It's just a matter of finishing our album and making the right contacts ...

LINK: The last time I saw the band you played songs I hadn't heard before. Are you using live shows to work material for the new disc?

JOULES: We're working through a whole bunch of material. Some of the material that we're playing now I don't think would be included on an album, but it makes good live material. The band is always developing. Developing the sound. We're coming together to find the Bloomsday sound.

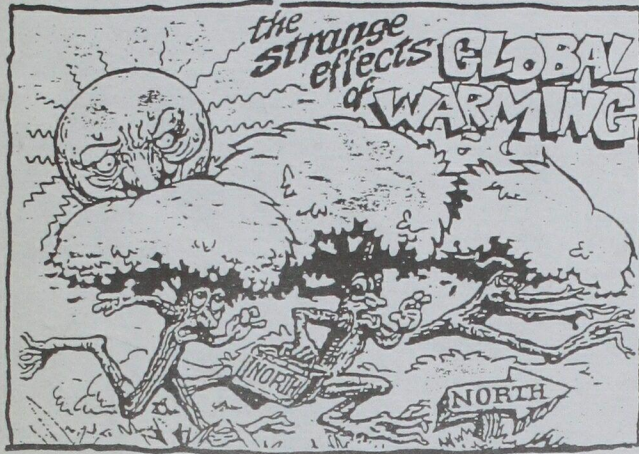
LINK: When will the next disc be out?

JOULES: It's hard to say at the moment. We're working on it right now but we have to wait and see if we'll be releasing independently or on a major label. Regardless it'll be out there by fall.

LINK: Well I look forward to it. Any final thoughts?

JOULES: We're just trying to get people out to see us...Trying to get them in on the vibe that we're creating here. We're trying to create something that's a little bit different...We have touched on that. You'll see something pretty wonderful coming out of all of this in the next little while.

LINK: Words to live by
JOULES: Right.



CUP graphic/ The Marlet

UN's sustainable development commission targets institutions

The United Nations Sustainable Development Commission recently recommended in its fourth session that special attention be given to promoting education, public awareness and training.

The Commission reaffirmed that education, public awareness and training were critical for promoting sustainable development. Special emphasis was placed on the value of traditional knowledge; technical and vocational training; and the role of public awareness in changing unsustainable production and consumption patterns and lifestyles.

This is where BCIT fits in.

The Commission also underlined the important

role that the media and the advertising industry could play in changing unsustainable patterns of production and consumption.

It urged governments to advance education and training for sustainable development, and called upon developed countries, international organizations and the private sector to promote education in developing countries through the provision of financial and technical support.

The Commission is charged with monitoring progress made by governments and the international community in implementing Agenda 21, the programme of action for global sustainable development that grew out of the 1992 Earth Summit.

Steps for treading lightly

With classes and exams over, you'll soon set out on a new path, either for the summer, or the rest of your life. In order to do your part as a world citizen and a steward of the planet, there are a few things you need to do:

- * The 3 R's: Reduce, Reuse, Recycle. Do it. Call the Recycling Hotline for more information.
- * Sort your waste for recyclable materials like paper, glass, metal and plastic.
- * Keep hazardous waste like batteries, oil, paint, etc. out of the natural environment.
- * Buy organic vegetables. Keeps toxins and cancers down and sperm counts up.
- * Use your own cup. Save \$60 or more, and up to a thousand disposable cups from the landfill.
- * Use cloth bags instead of plastic. Carry one with you at all times.
- * Buy less stuff.
- * Driving: don't. Try arranging your life closer to home. If you have to drive, do it efficiently. Good vehicle maintenance, trip planning, sharing rides etc. Include walking, biking and transit in your life.
- * Get active. Let your thoughts be known to companies, bureaucrats and politicians. Do something about your concerns.

BCIT Medical Services

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no appointment necessary

physicians & nurses

confidential health care & information

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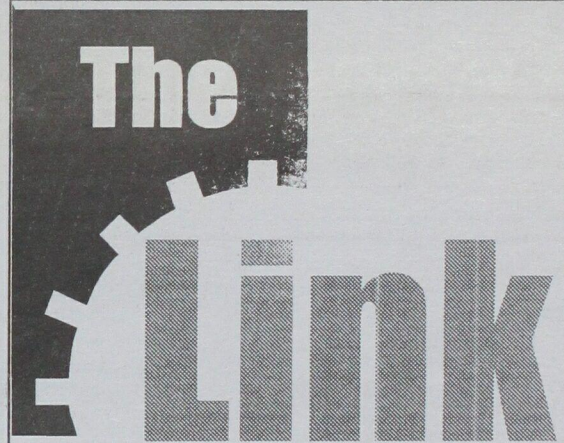
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- Birth control information & supplies •
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BCIT Medical Services Office (SE16)

Tuesday evenings 7 to 9 pm

Tel: 731-4252



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Cast a vote for your future ... EVERYDAY

GREG HELTEN

SA Environmental Education Assistant

Different people see different things when they look at the same picture. Some are inspired by the miracle of life, exalt in it and want to protect it. Others see raw resources, unclaimed land and want to 'develop' it. These two opposing mindsets battle it out on the surface of the planet everyday. The first is a common sense understanding that recognizes the danger the human species is putting all life on the planet in, and doing something about it. The second continues doing business as usual, in fact, fatalistically accelerating the destruction. Where do you fit in?

The dominant force in our world is not science or religion. It's economics. But the economic game is fixed, in case you didn't know. It's still cheaper and more profitable to clearcut a forest, wipe out endangered species for their body parts, develop all available land for housing and commercial ventures, pollute, rape and pillage. The true costs of dealing with the aftermath aren't figured until the perpetrators are long gone. Common 'resources' like clean air, water and species aren't factored into the equation until someone faces a fine or regulation. Just look at how multinationals like Shell behave, depending on the country they're in.

But it's high time we put the 'eco' back into economics. If we don't do this, the illustrious history of the human species will take a sudden turn, not with triumphant fanfare, but with a collective whimper, groaning and great suffering for all.

Sure — people, businesses and communities are recycling, choosing environmentally friendly lifestyles and ways of doing business more than ever before. The business of the environment is booming, thanks to the grassroots and changes in regulations. And science has confirmed just recently that human activity is having a 'discernible effect' on Earth's life support system. That helps. For the first time in the history of the planet, a single species controls the fate of the planet and everything on it.

But the most disturbing trend of all is the seeming lack of interest and commitment on the part of the majority of people. In the heyday of environmentalism, around 1990, information, concern and media coverage peaked. In August, 1989, a poll of BC residents done for the Province newspaper found that 97 percent of people were concerned about the environment. Eighty-six percent were confident they could make a difference. Now in 1996, a recent Vancouver Sun reader survey revealed that the environment rated third place in the list of top issues with only 14 percent of respondents putting it at the top of their concerns list. Another joint Vancouver Sun/Ming Pao Daily poll of Chinese-Canadians showed that the environment was listed as a



Imagine you
are here.

What do you see?

top concern for only one percent of respondents. Yet major milestones this year include 1995 being the hottest year in the hottest decade on record; tornadoes, cyclones and flooding are becoming common daily news stories; the thinning of the protective ozone layer lasted longer and deeper; skin cancers are skyrocketing; and the rate of species extinction continues to climb. Where do you fit in?

And can anyone tell me why the folks in the US are losing their minds? Last week, the US House of representatives approved the 1997 budget that they say is designed to balance the US budget by 2002. But the Sustainable Energy Budget Coalition, a group of business, environmental and consumer organizations, say the new budget does serious damage to renewable energy programs and the environment. The budget proposes to cut funding for renewable energy technologies by almost half; eliminate all funding for wind energy systems, solar buildings and renewable energy production incentives; move toward phasing out all energy conservation research by reducing funding for energy efficiency research and development; eliminate all funding for global warming R&D programs, new energy efficiency standards for federal in-house energy management programs, which presently save taxpayers four dollars for every dollar invested; cut funding for the Energy Information Administration by 50 percent; privatize the national laboratories operated by the US Department of

Energy (DOE), as well as eliminate DOE itself. Scientists at the DOE laboratory recently broke the 17 percent solar power-to-electricity efficiency barrier.

At the same time, the '97 budget proposes to fund nuclear fusion at \$200 million. That's more than provided for all the renewable energy technologies combined — even though the technology is at least 50 years away from producing a single unit of commercially usable electricity.

What's going on? Does humanity have a death wish? Where do you fit in?

One more thing about voting for the environment: with the upcoming election in BC, there's one thing you should know about Gordon Campbell. When he was a chairman of the Greater Vancouver Regional District (GVRD) Campbell consistently ignored the public and supported continued logging in our drinking watersheds. Because of this kind of development mindset, lower mainland taxpayers will soon be presented with a billion dollar bill to pay for filtration and disinfection systems, because our water is becoming increasingly unfit to drink. The GVRD still maintains that logging over 4,000 hectares over the past 30 years has had no effect on our water quality. Campbell will not likely lead a charge to save anything, except, perhaps, an investment.

So ask yourself, where do I fit in?