

# budget cuts or tuition goes up

by Paul Dayson and Damscus Roy

On Tuesday March 15 the students of BCIT were given a repreve from a 9.5 percent tuition hike for full-time students and up to 11.5 percent for parttime students.

"We can afford to delay our vote, we can vote by fax," said Board of Governors member Tom Simmons. "They're (the provincial government) not going to put us all in jail for not having a balanced budget ready by March 31st."

The Board of Governors voted to table the motion until March 30 in order to give the Student Association time-until Friday, March 25-to suggest ways in which the Institute's budget might be cut.

#### ...

Vice-president of finance and adminstration Clayton McKinley presented the budget saying the increase in fees was necessary to maintain service levels at BCIT.

He cited increases in operating costs including those resulting from the construction of new buildings, compensation increases for staff, legal costs relating to human rights claims, and increased promotion of the Institute.

The tuition increase would help cover the \$2 million budget shortfall in BCIT's \$106 million budget.

...

About 40 students attended the board meeting and voiced their concerns over tuition increases and Student Association president Lyle Boivin brought a 1,800 signature petition asking that tuition not be raised with him..

"I don't agree with always



"Fees are going up 9.5 percent and I'd like to know what we'll see for that money." - Nigel Fleming, Sea Island student president

going to the students [to cover shortfalls]," Boivin said challenging the increase in tuition.

He noted that the adminstration had increased tution by 9.75 percent last year-a total of 20 percent over two years.

McKinley pledged the administration would increase student assistance funding for awards of scholarships and bursaries to ease the burden of tuition increases on needy students. Alumni Association presi-

dent Guy Steves said, "We'd like to put our support forward, to help out." Offering alumni aid with more ressources to help students in financial trouble dealing with higer tuitions.

This did not satisfy many of the students.

Sea Island student president Nigel Fleming said, "Fees are going up 9.5 percent and I'd like to know what we'll see for that money."

He cited incidents of students being forced to drop out at Sea Island because of fincancial pressures.

Students also suggested that the Institute make cuts to its bud-

get and begin to look for alternate forms of revenue fromincreases in parking pass costs and industry funding to a levy on staff salaries and concerts on campus.

McKinley said the administration couldn't find anywhere else to cut but the budget was contingent on a zero percent increase in provincial funding. If funding was increased the administration would set the money against tuition fees, he said.

"The Ministry [of Advanced Education] is very silent on the possibility of increases," said board chair Wynne Powell. But added the administration thought they were unlikely.

"Are we going to turn away from those closed doors without trying again," said one Sea Island student. "The board and the students-we have to think together as a unit and get the government to give us more money."

He also warned that the government might expect BCIT to take in more students as part of any increase in funding.

One Sea Island student said, "You can only put put so much water in a bucket and then its full"-suggesting there is a limit to the number of students BCIT can handle.

#### ...

Simmons argued that the board should not pass the budget and resulting tuition increase until the students had a chance to suggest where the budget might be cut. despite the suggestion that those cuts could be made after if possible.

"The motion is passed and that's one message, the motion isn't passed that's another message," said Simmons.

#### THE LINK • SPORTS

#### **Baseball Classic**

Major League Baseball is coming to Vancouver! No you aren't dreaming, and you did read it correctly. There is one catch though, it's not permanent.

A handful of the leagues stars will be in town for a couple of days to show their talents, before regular season.

This pre-season format will allow some ball clubs to venture into areas where live baseball would otherwise not been seen.

So exactly who is going to be playing at BC Place on the Easter weekend? Both of Canada's teams will play in front of Vancouver fans on Apr 1. Montreal will battle the Jays on Friday, 5pm. Other games are as follows:

Fri April 1 12pm Colorado vs Seattle Sat April 2 10am Toronto vs Seattle Sat April 2 2:30pm Montreal vs Colorado

#### Leos plan new season

The BC Lions unveiled their regular season schedule this week. The new for-

mat will see the Leo's play mostly on Thursday evenings before Labour Day and Saturday night games after the September long weekend.

The change comes after the Lions' head office mailed out surveys to season ticket holders, asking when they'd like to see the team play. The overall consensus? Saturday evening games after Labour Day.

"We're convinced that we have secured the best schedule in the BC Lions history which accomodates both Lions fans and the team itself," said Owner Bill Comrie.

Lions fans will be first in the league to see the Las Vegas Posse on Mon June 10 in pre-season action. The other Lion preseason game is in Calgary June 28.

Leo fans will see every team in the CFL take on the orange and black-except Baltimore.

The first regular season home game is against Winnipeg, Fri July 8.

Other noteable games... Defending Grey Cup champions Edmonton Eskimos on Sat Sept 17 and the final regular season home game versus Calgary, Sat Nov 5.

#### **RECREATION AND ATHLETICS**

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## CAMPUS & COMMUNITY EVENTS

Campus Events is a calendar column open for the advertisement of events and functions on all of BCIT's campuses. Submissions should be dropped off at *The Link* offices or sent through campus mail. Deadline for the next paper, published Wednesday April 6th, is Thurs. March 31st.

#### FRIDAY, MARCH 25

Annual Logger Sports Competion. Noon to Dusk on the Logger Sports field. BBQ and Bzzr Grdn. T-shirts for sale. All proceeds to send BCIT's team to CONCLAVE Chanmpionships in the US.

GALA-BCIT. Pub night at the Royal

table near the dance floor at 7pm. Join us for a beer. The band is always "interesting"Maybe we'll drift to the Odyssey after?? (538-8686 or 434-5734, local 5301) SATURDAY, MARCH 26

(1025 Granville St.) Gordon's getting a

Logger Sports Competion contines. 9am to Dusk on the Logger Sports Field.

#### MONDAY, MARCH 28

GALA-BCIT- Biweekly meeting of Gays, Lesbians and Bisexuals of BCIT held in the regular room 12:30-1:30. Call Gordon (BCIT 434-5734, local 5301 or home 538-8686) for room location and details. Contribute your ideas about a permanent shared home for our group and other student resources. Plan for our next event. Everyone with a stake in improving the atmosphere for lesbians, gays, bisexuals or trans-gender individuals at BCIT is encouraged to attend. Next meetings: April 11, 25 and May 9.



Women students in non-traditional fields are invited to apply for a special \$300 scholarship sponored by the Society for Canadian Women in Science & Technology. Open to applicants with good academic standing registered in the final year of full-time studies in the engineering technologies. Biomedical Engineering & Electronics. Application forms can be obtained from the Financial Aid reception in Student Services. Completed applications must be received by no later than March 31, 1994.



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Starting your own business is one way to guarantee yourself a job this summer.

If you're a full-time student returning to school this fall and legally entitled to work in Canada, Challenge '94, the government of Canada's summer employment program for students, is offering loans of up to \$3,000 to help you start a business.

Details are available at any branch of the Federal Business Development Bank, Canada Employment Centres, Canada Employment Centres for Students, any branch of the Royal Bank of Canada or the National Bank of Canada.

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Challenge 94

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NEWS . THE LINK

# Sea Island cafe condemned

#### by Paul Dayson

The cafeteria and student lounge at BCIT's Sea Island campus-the only student services there-have been condemned. This has left Sea Island students questioning just what kind of services they receive-and don't.

At the Board of Governors meeting on March 15 about 20 Sea Island students showed up to voice their displeasure over the level of services at Sea Island and proposed tuition hikes.

"We pay the highest tech fees at BCIT and what kind of services do we get?" asked Nigel Fleming, Sea Island student president.

"Burnaby [campus] has a lot of services-its expected, Burnaby [campus] is a lot bigger," said Fleming, "but we don't get anything down here."

In December a health inspector order

the institute to close the building containing the cafeteria and lounge closed by May. During the same month the building-which has leaks in the roof-had an electrical fire and a staff person suffered a sprained ankle due to conditions.

"The cafeteria is pretty much a mess in the back," said Fleming.

The administration plans to relocate the cafeteria into a classroom and is providing an unused portable from the Burnaby campus as a student lounge. Both these spaces will be considerably smaller.

"I don't know how they are going to do [relocate the cafeteria in the classroom]," said Fleming, "but the trailer doesn't look that bad."

"Somebody needs to come out [to Sea Island] and have a look," he said.

## New Surrey campus planned in partnership with Kwantlen College

BCIT and Kwantlen College have become partners with the hope of creating a new polytechincal institute in Cloverdale.

"At the moment the shape of the project isn't very clear," said Judy McLarty, director of public relations at Kwantlen College, in the *Surrey Leader*. "We are at the very, very early stages of dicussion with [BCIT]. We have no working document as yet."

According to the Leader Kwantlen was looking to replace it's Newton Campus but found a 73 acre lot at an excellent price and agreed with BCIT to create the larger facility rather than simply replacing the Newton Campus.

What will be offered at the new campus is still to be determined but McLarty said in the Leader programs mixing career training and high tech, such as journalism, public relations and fashion design, were likely.

No time frame for the new institute has been set.

1994 March 16 To: All Students and Staff

#### **REQUEST FOR ASSISTANCE**

Over the past few weeks BCIT has received a number of written threats directed at different departments on campus. These threats claim that explosive devices, which can be detonated through remote control, have been placed on campus.

On receipt of each threat, the letter was turned over to Burnaby RCMP for analysis and further investigation. BCIT Security personnel met with staff in the department concerned to answer questions and review security measures.

On March 9 the President received a letter ordering BCIT to place an ad in the newspaper on march 19 denouncing clear-cut logging and to institute training in selective logging practices. Failure to do this would result in one or more devices being detonated.

While the Institute is extremely concerned at these threats, based on the advice of experts we have made the decision to continue classes as usual, experience and advice from the RCMP suggest that measures to the contrary would play into the perpetrator's hands and encourage more threats in the future.

Notwithstanding, the Institute has taken a number of special security steps as precautionary measures. These include changes in assignments for security personnel and stepped up liason with the RCMP. In additin, we have undertaken a search of the campus areas and have found no traces of any devices.

We need your assistance. If you see anything unusual or suspicious please notify a staff member or call security at 451-6856.

Sincerely, John Watson President



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> Application Deadline: Thursday, March 31, 1994



## **EDITORIAL** Student executive fails to show leadership and preparation at Board of Governors meeting

expect from their Student Association executive. If this past Board of Governors meeting is any indication, it's a trait sorely lacking in this year's SA executive.

At last Tuesday's Board of Governors meeting BCIT Administration asked the board to approve a 9.5 percent increase in tuition for full-time students, and an 11.5 percent increase for part-time students.

The cited reason for the increase was a budget shortfall due to increased operating costs and an expected freeze in government funding.

What about cost cutting? According to the administration, BCIT has nowhere to cut. The only way to balance the budget is to increase tuition.

This is a claim that the SA should have challenged vigorously. It didn't. SA President Lyle Boivin came to the meeting unprepared to answer serious questions and was flustered when board members peppered him with questions.

Board members wanted to know where the SA would make cuts to stem a tuition increase. Boivin should have pointed out that two weeks is not enough time for students to review a 106 million dollar budget for cost cutting measures.

Why not point out the obvious? If students are to foot the bill for budget shortfalls they should be a part of the budget review process. Simply handing us the bill after the fact is unacceptable.

The SA started on a good note, circulating a petition

Leadership. The very minimum a student should and postering the institute, informing students about the oncoming tuition hike,

The follow-up was where things went wrong. Boivin was left alone to defend student interests. The SA Execs who were in attendance sat in as spectators and failed to support him.

To his credit, Trades Rep John Oxley was outspoken and represented Trades vocally. But Oxley's suggestions were often off-the-wall and sometimes simply ridiculous. Oxley has to be more prepared if he is to seriously represent trades students.

The entire Student Executive is to blame for the laclustre performance at the Board of Governors meeting not just Boivin. It was their responsibility to be prepared and present a united front. The meeting was a chance to display how well they function as a collective representing students. Their performance showed a lack of team work and reflects badly on all of them.

Fortunately for BCIT students, the concept of leadership was well understood by Sea Island student president Nigel Fleming. He brought out his fellow students in force and challenged the administration's performance. The Sea Island students made the difference, compelling the Board of Governors to examine student concerns.

Unfortunately this was done without the help of the BCIT Alumni Association. One would think since many alumni may wish to return to BCIT to further their education, alumni would side with students in demanding that all avenues be properly examined before tuition are

raised. Sadly this was not the case.

Incredibly enough, alumni were represented by a past SA President, Guy Steves. At the very least this should make him more sensitive to student concerns. It was in the interests of those he represented to support the SA's demand for cuts in expenditures before increases in tuition.

Steves' offer of more Alumni Association support for needy students was more showmanship than leadership; it was a signal that Alumni accepts the increase without questioning whether or not it is avoidable . Steves should invest more thought in his suggestions before offering them, especially when they cost students and alumni more money

Leadership. Sea Island's display of it earned respect and a window of opportunity from the Board. Tuition may still rise but at least students have earned a chance to have some input on the process.

A lack of leadership and planning from the SA Exec almost cost us an instant increase in our tuition. We can only hope they will be more effective in the future. BCIT students can afford no less.

#### THE COVER PHOTO FOR THE LAST ISSUE OF THE LINK (FEB 23, 1994) WAS TAKEN BY JAMES "BIZI" DITTIGER.



Contributors Damascus Roy, Michael Welter, Brian Rice, James "Bizi" Dittiger, Tim Reeve, Kevin Mok, Dia Richardson, Richard Havlik, Steve Everett, Kelly Head and Paul Dayson.

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## **OPINION • THE LINK** Under the crunch: the institute passes the

OPINION

#### by Dia Richardson

Tuition fees are going up again. What do I care? I'm graduating this year so these increases don't affect me just the poor suckers (students) left behind.

With the quality of education, administration and services offered at BCIT shouldn't the students be expected to pay ever increasing costs. Personally, I've always felt that while some of the instructors really care and go that extra mile to

assist students in making their way at BCIT the majority are here to teach, pick up their paycheques

and to hell with interpersonal relationships. The administration also seems quite adept at making things as complicated as possible when students need a straight answer to a simple question. With the 35 hours of class time and another 30 to 70 hours of homework a week who has time to check out any extra services.

It's great that in these recessionary times that BCIT strives so hard to keep their equipment and buildings new and up to date. Every time you walk across campus you see new computers in the labs (and students hard at work playing Doom) and new buildings under construction. I'd love to get a new computer for at home but I'm afraid it's not in my budget and I



Another way that BCIT has been striving to save money is through their Enrollment Management project that they are very proud of. It is very important to find the right students for each specific program. Take my program, (Business Administration - Post Diploma) we started in September '93 with two

sets with 24 students in each. We quickly went down from 48 students to 32 students in

both sets. About ten of these students withdrew in time to get a full tuition refund. By the start of the January '94 term there were 24 students left in both sets. Mathematically that works out to (10 \* \$937) + (24 \* \$937) = \$31,858 in lost revenue from just one program ...

BCIT only lost \$31,858 due to attrition in my program, that's really reassuring. I wonder what the grand total for the whole institute is?

I read in the local Surrey paper over the weekend that BCIT is initiating talks with Kwantlen college in Surrey to collaborate in the development of a Polytechnical institute. I think I'm starting to understand why tuition is going up.



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#### THE LINK • ENTERTAINMENT

# Advertisers selling by overt means

#### by Steve Everitt

God, I'm good! Even when I'm sitting around in my undies, lusting after the top supermodels, stuffing my face with fried chicken, I'm good! I also take pride in the fact that I hate just about everyone, and I wish nothing but harm to others; everyone except David Geffen, whom I envy so much, the bile in my gallbladder pours into my bloodstream and consumes me daily to the point of no return! Aaarrrgggh!

I fit in perfectly the other night, as the BC Chapter of the American Marketing Association presented The 7 Deadly Sins Of The 90's. The top advertising agencies in the city participated, and each had 10 minutes to present a print advertisement meant to convince the audience that their sin was the best.

It was a fun evening with most of the agencies doing a good, if not a great job of selling their sin. Let's look at what each agency came up with.

#### AVARICE

Big House Communications

This is the sin of greed, and Big House had the best presentation, along with my favorite ad, which is pictured here. The creative minds behind this effort were Lorne Craig and Ken &



#### Joan Fedoruk.

ENVY McKim Baker Lovick / BBDO

This was my second favorite ad, and offered the consumer the chance to purchase a book and videocassette entitled, The Powers Of Envy. It offers the tools necessary to harness the power of envy, and "How to make the grass on your side greener". As author Jeff Lucas states, "I pictured myself in the shoes of those I detested... and today... I'm also a more balanced and happier person."

**GLUTTONY** VRH Communications A cute ad depicting a large overweight glutton dunking a whole fried chicken into a basketball hoop. Done in the style of a Nike ad, it features the memorable slogan "Just eat it".

#### LUST

Ullrich Schade & Associates

I never realized that account exec's can be so boring. Their ad could have come off much better if the majority of the 10 minute presentation time wasn't spent on a dull, meaningless speech. They repositioned Lust as Passion, and the ad shows a nice leather sofa, with a blow-up sex doll laying in the proper position. Their tagline, "Lust is out. A passion for life is in.".

#### PRIDE

McCann-Erickson Advertising This ad shows 9 photos of famous people and captions that state what their occupations

would have been without pride. Mussolini - Barber. Tonya Harding - Zamboni Driver. Khadafi - Soccer Hooligan. Noriega - Drug Dealer. According to them, "Pride without it, you're a nobody.". Lynne DeCew, ex-BCIT instructor, was one of the presenters, and did a decent job.

SLOTH Scali McCabe Sloves

The most interesting presentation, because of the sin that they had to handle. They acted like sloths and decided to send a bike courier to do their presentation. Their ad was a coffee stained, crumb ridden piece of paper with the following statement: "this was going to be an ad for S.L.O.T.H. (Society for Letting Others Take the Helm) but we never got around to it. Sorry. P.S. If there is a prize for this ad, please send it to us cuz we didn't feel like going. Our address is in the book.

#### WRATH Palmer Jarvis

This ad was similar to Sloth, because it was a photo of a crumpled piece of paper that lambastes the BCAMA and the advertising industry in general. This definitely shows wrath, but in a rather boring and mundane way.

For all marketing and advertising students out there, the BCAMA is a decent organization that holds monthly events like this, and allows students to get an upclose look at the different agencies, see the type of work they can do, and network with people in the industry.

Now screw off and leave me alone!



6 . March 23, 1994

# Iggy needs a haircut and a steady job



JAMES "BIZI" DITTIGER PHOTO

#### by Steve Everitt

All evening I couldn't help thinking about my dad; his shirt off, his hair down, bouncing around on stage like a chimp, both turning on and repulsing the crowd at the same time. Then I tried to think of Iggy Pop as my father and realized that I would probably be in jail for the convenient genocide of my family.

#### CONCERT REVIEW Iggy Pop The Commodore Bailroom

Well, don't get me completely wrong. Iggy is a showman, a hard rocker, and a man with an incredible career behind him.

As the frontman for the powertrash band, The Stooges, in the late 60's early 70's, he was the original punk. Drugs, alcohol and who knows what else, then attempted to rip his career apart. But in the mid 70's, he befriended David Bowie, they moved to Berlin, and Iggy's career rebounded with Bowies' help.

For the last decade and a half, he's tried many styles and lately has settled with a hard thrash sound. This is the sound he relied on for his Commodore show.

Most of the material was from his newest album, but he did play a few of the older ones including Real Wild Child, and an even older one, The Passenger. This was my favorite aspect of the show, because I dig his older material. As for the new stuff, well, the dead, died black cowskin jacket wearers seemed to get off on Iggys' gyrations, and his almost exoskeleton appearance, as well as the music. It was a sold out show, so I guess there's something appealing about the latest Iggy incarnation.

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EL5120 Suggested Price \$81.00 Sale Price \$56.70

EL9200C Suggested Price \$139.00 Sale Price \$97.30

#### THE LINK • ENTERTAINMENT

# **James** and the apes Scottish band has politics

#### by Steve Everitt

I'm a member of an apelike race, at the asshole end of the 20th Century, this films a thriller of the mind. Will we destroy our homes, and release ourselves from the weight of gravity, I'll be amazed if we survive

#### Low Low Low, James

Touching, corrosive, sarcastic, and heartfelt all at the same time is the best way I can describe the sound of James and their latest release, Laid. It is a beautiful album that has a very full sound, yet it sounds as though many layers of production were stripped off, leaving a stark vision of relationships, society, and a cry for help, that's not yet in tears.

This is the type of album that asks the listener to listen to the entire thing, and not to simply pick and choose songs at random. Each song leads into the next and provides one with a different emotion on each track.

From the song, Dream Thrum, which is a criticism of having to conform to the expectations of parents & society, to the striking indictment of the government on One Of The Three, where politicians are willing to, "send forth your lamb to the slaughter"

James has been around for over a decade and has had a great deal of success in the UK and Europe, but has yet to make a huge mark on North America. This of course is going to be just about impossible for such a pure band. The masses here are prepared to believe that unless it's 3chord, meaningless Top 40 pop pablum, it's not music.

Well James has a lot more than that to offer, and it will continue to appeal to those of us who look for something unique in music.

Laid was produced by Brian Eno, who of course produced Bowies' albums in the mid-70's, and U2's, The Unforgettable Fire. He is a master of sound, and did not let the 6 members of James down in any way. I spoke to Saul Davies, guitarist/violinist, just before their show at the Commodore.

#### LINK: Tell me a little history of the band.

SAUL: Jimmy the bassist started it about 13 years ago in Manchester. Their first gig was at the Cypress Tunnel and they were bad. Well Jimmy had only been playing the bass for 2 weeks. But within a couple of years, they got better.

LINK: So how much input do you have in the band?

SAUL: Well, 4 of us joined about 5 years ago, and we began making Goldmother, and it was a bit wierd. Not only did we not know the material, we didn't know each other at all. A limited role in a way. A lot has changed, especially working with Eno. By the time we recorded this album, it was a collective idea.

LINK: What sort of a producer is Eno?

SAUL: Well he had this image of being almost a schoolteacher, and he had a very clear idea in his head of what he wanted the songs to sound like. He's an intellectual man, a very driven man.

LINK: Did he come to you, or did you seek him out?

SAUL: We sought him out and we were lucky; just at the time we wanted to record, he had nothing to do. We sent him the demos, and he thought it was amazing, so he said he would do it.

LINK: You said earlier that you collectively work on the music; what about the lyrics?

SAUL: No, that's Tims' responsibility. If he ever feels like he hasn't gotten a lyric, he may run it past us, but it doesn't go any farther than that.

LINK: So what do you think of his songs?

SAUL: Well I don't know if there is a theme or a message. Well each song has a life of it's own, lyrically and musically, but I think we all really respect his lyrical abilities. His worst lyric is better than any of ours.

#### ...

It was a very good show, with an interesting array of lights, and some strange footwork by Tim Booth, the lead singer. The Commodore floor was great for this show, because for some reason, the crowd insisted on jumping up and down. Usually they sway, or push, but this show it was constant hopping.

The only difficulty with James and its' style of music, is that I find it hard to relate to in a live atmosphere. Some of the music doesn't have enough energy to be played live, and is best suited for the privacy of your home or car. But I think most of the crowd would be in disagreement with me because they enjoyed it supremely, and I must say that by the end of the show, I was quite disappointed that it was over.

#### LINK: So what about

relationships?

"I always get really SHARLEEN: The way I confused when people ask look at relationships, people always assume it's got to be a male/female relationship, but I don't look at life that way. I have a relationship with my sister, I have a relationship with the band. Friendship is something that is very important in my life, especially while I'm away from home. It's something that I feel very strongly about.

> LINK: How about the lyrics of your songs then?

SHARLEEN: Well I can't really describe my songs in any other way, than the way that I've written them. When I listen to songs, I can make up my own mind of what it's about. It becomes part of me then, it has it's place, it's time in a particular relationship. I'm not gonna change the world or anything, I just write about life in general, my life. Those are the things that consume me to write a song.

LINK: Do you write things that have yet to

make it to songs or even ones that never will?

SHARLEEN: Definitely. You know when you're on the phone and you start doodling, well sometimes a song comes out that you weren't really conscious was there.

LINK: Well how was it growing up in Scotland?

SHARLEEN: Glasgow's a great city, but when you grow up in Scotland, you feel lost because we're controlled by an English government. So you make the best of a bad situation, but I think that's why you get so many writers, so many musicians, so many artists out of Scotland. But when I was growing up, it was hanging out in friends' houses, listening to records. Then you learn to play guitar, and play songs.

...

So Texas hit the stage and Sharleen proceeded to spill her guts to the half filled Commodore. It's a bit of a different sound than James and most of the audience was there to hear James, so the crowd

# **Texas and wide** open spaces

me to describe our sound.

I can't describe it, so that's why I do it ", says Sharleen Spiteri, lead singer and lyricist of Texas, a band from Glasgow.

by Steve Everitt

I recently spoke to Sharleen, when Texas was in town to open for James the Commodore. at They're out playing tracks from their new album, Rick's Road, whose title was taken from the name of the dirt road that leads to the studio at Woodstock.

Their style of music is gospel inspired,

blues/country mix, which may seem strange for a band from Scotland. But regardless of the juxtaposition of the elements, they are able to pull it off. The one thing that seems to be a common thread through this album and their first album is the lyrical content. Sharleen seems ready to spill her guts on record about her relationships be they with a lover or with a friend or family member.



# Big Sugar was oh so sweet

#### by Steve Everitt

Dizzie, he was screamin', next to Opie, who was beamin', Mo was thumpin', suddenly in walked Bud, and then they got into somthin'... and then the joint started jumpin'.

#### In Walked Bud, Thelonious Monk

Sometimes you sit around and wait for the best, the best of anything. "She's cute, but I'll wait for something better", "nice car, but I'll wait for a better one", "nice song, but I'll wait for a better one". Woah, stop, rewind, step back, let's look at that one again.

If you're looking for killer blues, rock, country, hillbilly, thick like molasses, smooth as glass, then stop.

Gordie Johnson, who is Big Sugar, is what you've been waiting for, so don't look any further.

Five Hundred Pounds is the second release for Big Sugar, and it meshes all the aforementioned styles and throws out this whole new sound. From rockers like, Ride Like Hell, to the slide guitar brew of Sugar In My Coffee, to the surfy, ska sound of AAA Aardvark Hotel, this musician knows no boundaries and is willing to explore any type of music, with wicked guitar licks to back him up.

Big Sugar hatched back in 1990, in Toronto, and quickly started making ears bleed and mothers cry (not Gordies' mom, because he's too nice a guy). It was their self titled debut album that first made people listen, and even though Big Sugar has a ways to go to be huge, if Gordie keeps putting out albums like 500 Pounds, it won't take long.

Gordie was nice enough to free up a bit of time to speak to me before his March 8th show at the Town Pump.

LINK: There was a bit of criticism for

your last album not being focused, but now there has been praise for this album being extremely focused. What happened, what changed?

**GORDIE:** I had a little more control on what's going down. The first time I was a little bit mystified by the process, and I can't really fight those criticisms. So for 500 Pounds, I was gonna take the heat for this, so I'm gonna make sure it gets done like this.

It's a lot more focused because I had the album finished in my head before I went in to the studio. We changed it as it went along, but I kept to my main idea.

LINK: What about a song like Ride On, that's a pretty desperate tune.

**GORDIE:** Well that's me, thinking that nobody's listening. I'm just trying to sing as high as I can, as low as I can, just weaving a story, with the first thing that comes to mind. This, leads to this, and try to make a bigger lie out of it.

### LINK: Are the lyrics a real personal thing, a real valuable thing?

GORDIE: Yeah, it has to be a real natural thing though. Most of the songs that I've written have come from doing another song on stage, and either forgetting the lyrics, or being out of the lyrics and just going with what I'm feeling at the time and singing something about it. Then later on, it's like, "gee, that was kind of a neat line", and then I'll put some music to it.

**LINK:** How long does it usually take you to figure out a guitar part? Are you pleased with your initial one-offs?

**GORDIE:** Yeah, I just go for it. If I sit and think it out and work it out, and piece it together and overdub stuff, and do three or four takes, it never has the immediacy of the one chance. Playing live, you don't have any chance to explain yourself, you just go for it. You're connected with your emotion, forget about technique, just go. In the studio, I always tell myself, one take.

LINK: Have you had a hard time convincing Canadians to appreciate the music?

**GORDIE:** No, because, for a long time we played traditional style blues, but I don't think it's relevant until you make something of it. It took us a little while to convince people that, what you're hearing is not a revivalist, purist approach to blues. I don't hear anyone out there who's doing what were doing, who's making a modem statement out of the blues.

### LINK: Are you finding it tough to fight against the grunge generation?

**GORDIE:** No, a big loud guitar, people understand that. People of any age relate to an electric guitar. And we get all types of people of any age out to our shows, we get alternative grunge rockers out to see us, we get old gnarled up, tattooed bikers out. They think it sounds like Cream. If people are having trouble relating, I can see that on their faces, so we'll do a Neil Young song, or a Hendrix song.

LINK: So you watch the crowd to see how their reacting to the music?

**GORDIE:** Yeah, we'll check it out, and if an Elvis Presley song is going to make the difference, then we'll do it. We won't do it just like Elvis, but in some way people are going to key in to that recognition, "Oh, I know I can trust these guys with my evenings entertainment, because they know who Elvis is, they're alright with me". It literally comes down to that.

#### ...

So, pow, bam, wham, the live show was something I'll never forget. No matter how good the album sounds, there is no possible way of translating the energy of a live show onto disc. Like the opening quote, when Big Sugar took the stage, they really "got into somethin'... and then the joint started jumpin'''.

The crowd response was amazing, and it even took Gordie off guard, as he remarked several times, "if I'd have known about this, we would have been out here sooner". Gordie seems to have the ability to forget that he's the musician, and merely becomes one of the awestruck fans, by displaying a uniquely humble approach to his playing. As grateful as the audience was to be listening, Gordie was to be playing.

His main set was a blistering, thoughtful, inspired performance, with highlights being a painful and emotional rendition of his own, Wild Ox Moan, and the masterful guitar work on Sugar In My Coffee. It's actually very difficult to pick out highlights, because the whole show was more like the highlight of my week.

After an almost two hour workout for the main set, he came back out to play what an encore is meant to be. Nothing predetermined, just playing until either the musicians or the crowd drops. It must have been a 45 minute encore, and it could have gone on longer, but he literally closed the bar, as the show ran until almost 2 am.

I could go on with a million adjectives, but what's the point of that. The only way to describe things is to say, listen to the album and when he plays here again, you would have to be a fool to miss it.



THE LINK . ENTERTAINMENT



JAMES "BIZI" DITTIGER PHOTO

# James' guitar wizardry thrills audience

#### by Ange Frymire

Two Trains, a group of UBC students, are young, talented and stood up to their reputation of being a solid band. Their performance set the mood for the night and the crowd showed their appreciation with a decent round of applause when the band left the stage.

#### Concert Review Colin James

Thursday March 18 The Commodore Ballroom

Blues rocker Colin James did just that on the Thursday of his two-night gig at the Commodore. He rocked the house, to the delight of his fans who packed the place.

This Saskatchewan native (who claimed Vancouver as his home several years ago) had one hot band behind him, A Room Full of Blues, with an impressive 6-piece horn section: Carl Querfurth, Bob Enos, Rich Lataille, Doug James, Greg Picallo and Johnny Ferreira. Keyboards virtuoso Chuck Leavell (who toured with The Stones), bassist Norm Fisher and drummer John Rossi were in sync with James throughout the evening. There were many opportunities to showcase his guitar wizardry, but his pickings were low-key and disappointing. Three Hours Past Midnight was a great opportunity for James to make his guitar sing, which didn't happen, although Lovell did a spectacular job on keyboards. The current hit Surely had Ferreira dancing with his sax... a fab experience. The full horns performance in Breakin' Up The House was a sight to see. Who's the choreographer?

Although his guitar-playing was low-key, James is an excellent entertainer. His boyish grin and excellent band kept his fans movin' and groovin' all night long.

Fun is what James wanted to give the audience and they got it full-tilt. After Evenin', a semi-slow blues smoker, he quipped "That's sex! That's good man!"

The last song ,Train Kept A Rollin', was well received. Fisher's command of the stand-up base language was excellent, as was Cafford's trombone playing. The audience roared their appreciation, bringing the band back for an encore of Bringing It On Home To Me and Leave This House. Even with James standing in the shadows with his low-key guitar playing, the night was a musical experience.

# The Paper: 4 papers out of 5

#### by Steve Everitt

We open on 2 black youths walking through their neighbourhood, when they stumble into the remains of an execution style shooting; 2 dead guys in a car that's been spray painted with anti-white graffiti. Someone spots them and automatically they're suspects.

#### FILM REVIEW The Paper

This story is the fuel for the movie, THE PAPER, in which Michael Keaton plays Henry Hackett, Metro Editor of the New York Sun. He jostles with a lot of conflict all going on at the same time: fights with his wife Martha (played by Marisa Tomei); fights with Alicia (Glenn Close), the Managing Editor of the Sun; fights with the Editor of The Sentinel (Spalding Grey), a competing newspaper

that wants to hire Henry as a flunky. The police end up arresting the youths, but from information McDougall (Randy Quaid), a reporter, overhears on a police scanner, Henry believes the arrest is bogus, merely for cosmetic purposes. So

...

· VA

he spends the rest of the movie attempting to come up with the true story by the end of the day, so it can hit front page.

During his interview at The Sentinel, Henry steals some more info off the desk of the Editor. It indicates that the shooting might have something to do with a recent Bank bankruptcy. His wife Martha, a reporter at the Sun who's on pregnancy leave, finds out that the 2 guys who were killed, were involved with the bank and that one of the major investors is a mafia boss.

There are a few side stories going on which involve Bernie, the Editor-in-Chief at the Sun (Robert Duvall), and a lot of humouress events that happen to Quaid.

It's a fast paced movie, with a lot of action that never lets up. Michael Keaton puts on a tremendous performance, in the type of role that finally suits him. Randy Quaids' part may be small, but it has to be the best performance of the film. There's even a small role for Jason Alexander (Seinfelds' George), who's the victim of a previous Sun story. It's a smart movie with a realistic story and no overacting.





#### by Trent Houg

The title about says it all. Appropriately named for its non-stop action, The Chase takes us on a high speed journey from Newport Beach, California, to the border of Mexico.

#### FILM REVIEW The Chase

The Chase starring Charlie Sheen and Kristy Swanson is a satirical look into the realm of Broadcast Journalism.

Jack who is played by Charlie Sheen, revels in the role of a wrongfully accused convict on the lamb from the authorities.

The Chase revolves around—- you guessed it, a non-stop car chase on the freeways of California. The plot line here is quite simple, the poor little rich girl acts out in jest, to spite her parents. This time around a beautiful young woman played by Kristy Swanson, is taken hostage by a convict and falls in love with her captor.

Swanson character is limited to being nothing more than a naive uncorrupted adolescent.

The movie never really lives up to it's expectations. The action is continuous, but the location leaves a lot to be desired. Who ever heard of filming a complete ninety minutes from a car!

Cameo appearances by Flee and Anthony Keiudus of the Red Hot Chili Peppers add some comic relief.

If you are in the mood for an action film then you won't feel cheated by shelling out \$8.50. But if you are the type of person who enjoys dramatic roles and performances then you had better save your shekels.

# BCIT Bookstore Closed for Fiscal-Year-End Stock-Count

Note: We close at 4:00 pm on Tuesday March 29 and reopen Tuesday April 5 at 8:00 am (Fiscal-Year-End and Easter Long Weekend)



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#### THE LINK . ENTERTAINMENT

by Kelly Head and Michelle Forrester

Just a few weeks ago I had never heard of Dear god, a fairly new Vancouver band. Since then I have had the pleasure of taking in a live show, listening to their new album 'Real Horrorshow', and speaking with lead singer/songwriter, Vic Wayne.

The band's music has a lot of different feels to it and is difficult to pin down, which is just how Vic likes it. If you had to summarize the sound of Dear god, it could best be described as guitar driven rock with thought provoking lyrics. The subject matter on the album deals with a variety of topics including; capital punishment, bitter relationships (not necessarily lovers), fighting the forces that oppress, and media sensationalism.

As an independent band, Dear God, is working hard to get the word out about their new album. With the release of their first video for the song 'From December On' and word spreading quickly regarding the band's great live show, the new album is doing fairly well.

Link: Dear god is a fairly provocative title for a band, how did you arrive at it?

Wayne: We were sitting around talking about the movie "Oh God" and one of the

# **Talking to Dear God**

guys got the name wrong and called it "Dear God" which prompted someone else to say, "Isn't that a song by XTC?", which just happens to be a great song and the message is so great. It's like, I can't believe in you, talking about God, with all the shit that goes on in the world. It also negates the possibility, if people know the song, that we could be a religious band.

Link: The album's title "Real Horrorshow" comes from the movie Clockwork Orange, could you explain the connection?

Wayne: The songs were not inspired by the movie. The songs were all written and recorded beforehand and then we got around to thinking what would be an appropriate title for the album. The term, 'real horrorshow', was a term that Alex, the films main character, used to describe something that is so great, it is beyond words. Kinda like if you want to be really emphatical about something you just use the word 'fuck', Alex uses the term 'real horrorshow'. That's past, all the way for him. A lot of the songs on the album relate, coincidentally, to what

is going on in the movie so we went with it.

Link: You have coined Dear god's sound as "Gaunch Rock". Could you explain what is meant by Gaunch Rock?

Wayne: Gaunch Rock is our way of categorizing ourselves because everyone else wants to so much. They always want to tell you that you're a Grunge band or a rock band etc.. but they always have to find a name for it. Instead of letting other people tell us who we are we've decided what we play is Gaunch Rock and really all it means is that we don't want to be put into a particular category of music.

Link: Do you find people comparing you to other bands?

Wayne: People say, when they listen to our stuff, "Gee it sounds a bit like U2, 54-40, Screaming Trees, Nirvana, Pearl Jam....", but fortunately no-one comes up to us and says, "Hey that sounds exactly like...."

Link: When listening to the album, I found myself really listening to the lyrics

and thinking about the theme of the songs, do you tend to write like that on purpose?

Wayne: I do try and make the lyrics not totally literal, as far as the lyrical side of the band goes, I think that's something I try to follow. Steve and Reece have also mentioned to me that they prefer songs that run that way as well. I found by writing more and more songs in that way I was able to express deeper, more intense feelings about things. It also lets the listener hear more possibilities and come up with their own meaning for the song.

Link: For example, the song 'Parade' to me was interpreted as a song about revenge regarding an ex-lover, while really it was about something else.

Wayne: Well, yes and no. The song 'Parade' deals with my views, not necessarily the rest of the bands, on capital punishment. So it could be interpreted as a song about revenge, but it deals more with the Charles Mansons and the Jeffrey Dalhmers of the world. The word 'parade' is referring to the parade of these people and incidents that we are exposed to on what seems to be a daily occurrence.

Continued on next page



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#### continued form previous page

Link: What are the Band's plans for the near future?

Wayne: Well, we will be shooting our first video this week for "December On', we're going to try and keep it a performance oriented video I think. Mostly because it is a very emotional song and we would like to capture that and we feel this would be the best video format to accomplish that. We have just recently got national distribution with a company called "Oh Yah!" records and we are off on tour around the middle of May.

Link: If you could play live with any other bands who would they be?

Wayne:Like our own Dear God Gaunchapaluza dream tour? Well if we could play with anybody in the whole world, I would choose U2 and Pearl Jam because we'd get a huge fuckin' audience, also I love what they do. Let's go Canadian though. I would love to tour with Pure, Spirit of the West, Art Bergman, 13 Engines, and Sloan. Actually, we've played, at one time or another, with all those bands, except 13 Engines. Right now though, that would be my Dear God Gaunchapaluza Canadian tour. That would be orgasmic.

Link: Any words of wisdom or closing thoughts?

Wayne: Nah, I don't want to say any big thing about making the world a better place because it's such a common thing, although I do wish for it. Maybe just this - wear your gaunch with pride, wear it often, and don't get it too dirty.



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## THE ENVIROMENT PAGE · BCIT RECYCLING PROGRAM



#### BCIT

WASTELINE

### There is a choice: cut costs before raising fees

BCIT has a choice about raising tuition fees. In its report to the Board of Governors on March 15th, the Finance Committee declared that it can't see any way to reduce operating costs. They concluded that if BCIT is to balance its 1994-95 budget, tuition fees will have to be raised for the second year in a row.



Maybe fees will have to be increased, but there is absolutely no question that costs can be cut. For example, a rigorous policy of double-siding all reports, handouts and other printed material could go along way to the reducing \$500,000 dollars spent each year on copy paper. In fact, as the amount

of paper used on campus each year continues to increase (despite Reduce and Reuse efforts), it's difficult to understand how the committee missed this area for potential savings.

Another area of significant waste is campus promotion. Almost 30% of the material collected for recycling is excess printed material, much of it promotional material; Part-time studies flyers, annual reports, program brochures, Christmas cards, etc. Despite this excess, the new budget calls for more spending in this area. Isn't BCIT already turning away 2-3 students for every fulltime position it offers?

Students also have a responsibility to help reduce costs. How many students who signed the petition against the fee increase are wasting money by not recycling? Or needlessly overprint materials in computer labs? Concerned students should also ask themselves what they're doing to discourage their peers from littering, so custodians don't have to be paid to clean up this mess. How many students are taking an active stance to discourage vandalism, another unnecessary expense we shouldn't have to pay for.

Controlling costs is a shared responsibility. Every member of the campus community must rise to the challenge. Mechanisms must be put in place to implement creative suggestions from staff and students to save money. And before tuition fees are raised this year, or next, the Finance Committee must be challenged to revisit the issue of reducing campus operating costs. It can, and should, be done.





ANOTHER EXAMPLE OF INSTITUTE WASTE: 45,000 FLYERS WAITING TO BE RECYCLED In the fall of 1993, due to a miscalcualtion of need, over 90,000 part-time studies flyers ended up being recycled. Reduce, reuse and <u>only</u> then recycle.

#### KUDOS & COMPOST

Extra Kudos to the Board of Governors for using unbleached paper for their recent board packages. This is a bold step forward for the Reach for Unbleached campaign and excellent example of commitment from the top. Keep up the good work. From Tim Reeve.

Massive heaps of **Compost** to the **Child Care Steering Committee** for failing to double-side copy their recent child care report and for printing it on chlorine bleached paper. Our children need a clean planet if they're to have a future.

Kudos to Rick McCallum, Program Head - Micro Finance, for promoting paper recycling to his colleagues in the IBM building (many of whom have been slow to embrace the program). As long as the campus has got the program you might as well use it!!

12 fluid ounces of Kudos to the Environmental Health and OH&S students for lugging their mugs. Collectively you've saved over 15,000 styrofoam cups since the beginning of the year. From Claire Webb and Andy Smith.

A parking stall full of **Compost** to those students who have been abusing the SA operated carpooling program. Those spots are conveniently located for a reason because you've agreed to carpool. Get out the boot!!!

Kudos to Janice Eden, SA Office Manager, for using unbleached recycled paper for Student Council meeting minutes and agendas. A few others in the organization could take a cue from you. From Tim.

Kudos to the staff of Computer Systems Technology, trailer SE14.1, for sending all their old office material to the Recycling Department for recycling rather than disposal.

Send your Kudos and Compost to the Recycling Department and be automatically entered into our monthly draw for a free backyard composter and other cool prizes. Include your name, program and phone number. Enter now!!

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The Recycling Department is requesting proposals for cleaning and reusing accetate overhead rolls.

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