



# The year that was

From floods to Facebook, personal health to total road rage, caffeine to alcohol, the Link's student writers made it go

By Brent Shearer

The school year is winding down and here at The Link we've decided to spend part of our last issue recapping some of the stories we covered along the way.

## The Great Fall Flood

Buildings were closed and classes cancelled after a freak downpour slammed BCIT's Burnaby Campus. Environment Canada Meteorologist David Jones said the storm was "a very localized event" hovering over Burnaby for several hours, dumping rain at a rate of 10 mm per hour at its peak (they consider 7.5 mm per hour to be heavy).

Rain water feeding into Guichon Creek from the surrounding hills caused a large piece of wood to dislodge and block a culvert near SE16.

Guichon Creek burst its banks and flooded the fitness centre, leaving many without a place to workout for several days. And the Medical Services Department relocated temporarily to trailers after crews cleaning up following the flood discovered asbestos in the walls.

## Facebook Follies

Photos of a few young Canadian Border Security Agency recruits drinking heavily during training camp wound up on the

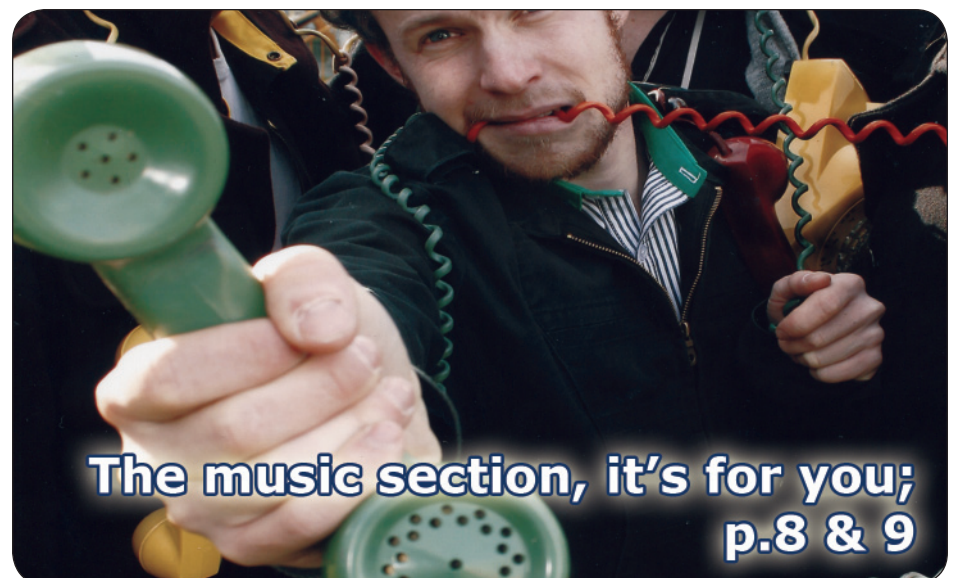
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theLink

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**See you next year!**



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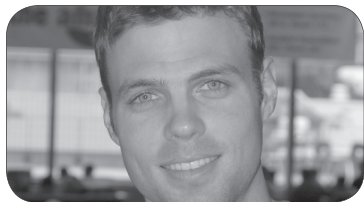


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## It's worth it

Despite what some might say, education is the clearest path to bigger bucks



By Brent Shearer  
The Link

A friend of mine was complaining the other day about the BC economy. According to him, it wasn't fair how construction companies desperate for workers are willing to pay anyone who can swing a hammer or hump a load across a site considerably more than what he's making while try-

ing to get his degree.

Even after he finishes school, he said, his starting wage would probably be less than a general labourer on a construction site.

Some might think the value of an education isn't what it used to be. Four years of university doesn't automatically net a job these days - and there seems to be an overwhelming number of people out there with bachelor's degrees mastering how to make the perfect latte.

But education - despite the perceptions out there - is worth it. That labourer on a site has little job stability. Once the construction boom inevitably dies down,

they will be out of a job. While the worker who spent a year in a trades program learning a craft will always be in demand.

Nowadays students have to be more discriminating about the type of education they pursue.

The cost of a degree is significantly more than it used to be. There is a risk to being unsure about the direction of your career. It pays to look at the prospects of one program over another - or none at all if there isn't a strong likelihood it will lead to a job.

The other aspect to this argument is the Bill Gates phenomenon - the idea that a college dropout can go out and make it

big in the world. The problem is that Bill Gates is a freak of nature. He's got that sort entrepreneurial spirit few others possess.

Plus he was in the right place at the right time to use his geeky skills as a computer whiz to his advantage.

Of course Bill Gates is just one person. How many other college dropouts are there with similar skills that haven't made it?

Plenty.

Studies like the National Graduates Survey show people with degrees or diplomas on average earn more than those who don't. The survey also shows that the higher level of education, the

more money earned - but it appears to top out at the Ph.D., meaning one doesn't necessarily earn more with that level of education than the level immediately below it.

There is an up front cost to getting that degree, sure, but in the long run your earning potential is much greater than without that piece of paper.

So despite what might appear to be an inequity when construction companies advertise ridiculous wages for labourers, in the long run anyone with a higher education should be in a position to earn more money and possess better job stability.

## SIFE Corner

SIFE BCIT continuing forward

With the new exec already named for SIFE BCIT for the next school year, we wanted to take some time to find out just what it is the new leaders of SIFE are hoping to achieve and more importantly, why they wanted to take on the extra responsibility.

For the most part, the new exec all stated that while the extra workload comes with a great deal of responsibility, they all see the potential of gaining huge leadership skills, as well as the practical applications of leading a team in the community using skills learned in the classroom.

New President Neil Gibbings stated, "I'm getting the chance to run a business organization of 50-

60 people, that's not something that many people get to do. That is such a unique learning experience that you get so much out of. Where else can a student get that opportunity? Being in SIFE is also incredibly fulfilling and rewarding. It's great to get the real world experience and not just the theory that you get from the classroom."

While all new exec members seem to have the same feelings to why they wanted to join SIFE, they all offered several new ideas going into next year.

Scott Larson-Zutter, newly appointed VP of Finance took a financial approach to what he would like to see happen over the

course of next year.

"Next year my vision for SIFE is to set up a retained earnings fund called the FFA, a principal similar to that of the Wealthy barber. I want SIFE-BCIT to be a sustainable business and to have access to capital and create bigger results in the community.

The plan is to put aside 10% of SIFE's operational gross income into this fund and to have members learn and practice crucial investing skills to grow it and support more community projects.

Additionally, it's not only up to me, but I'd like to see SIFE-BCIT more transparent. I believe that it can be more effective if the members know more about what's go-

ing on. My experience this year was that I also felt out of the loop and if members don't know what's going on, then they can't help make those things happen.

We're a team."

Toan Dang, future Director of ICE Promotions, specified what type of people he would like to see coming out for SIFE next year.

"I believe that there is a place for everyone in SIFE.

No matter what their objectives are; networking, making friends, learning, volunteer work, something to add to their resume, involvement in school life, partaking in a club, SIFE provides the opportunity for all of that.

SIFE is a group of highly motivated individuals who work hard, think big, and always give their 100%, so ideally, those are the kind of people I would like to see joining SIFE next year."

Other newly appointed members include Bronwyn Logan, VP SIFE Operations, Connie Chang VP Team Development, and Kemp Edmonds, VP Business Development. Congratulations to all the new exec members and best of luck on continuing to improve SIFE BCIT over the next year.

**Will Brown**  
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# Oh, what a year in news

Continued from the cover

popular social networking site, touching off a debate about the dangers of posting unflattering material on the web.

The incident served as a reminder for everyone to be careful about what they do on the net – especially in an academic environment where instructors, not to mention potential employers, can see what has been posted.

## Accessibility Challenges

First year broadcast journalism student Adam Bishop wrote a great piece describing how difficult it can be for disabled students to get around campus.

It seems despite this school's technological prowess, there are still a number of basics that need to be addressed in order to make life easier for students such as Adam.

But, as he pointed in his article, BCIT's Disability Resource Centre is lobbying for changes – let's hope they happen sooner rather than later.

## Watch Your Stuff

A rash of thefts caught BCIT students by surprise in November. A thief was caught on surveillance cameras casing the broadcast centre before he eventually made off with a student's backpack.

In the fitness centre change rooms, lockers were broken into, and out in the parking lot a number of car owners were also the victims of theft.

## Sleeping Is Okay

Writer Shane Woodford discovered it's within the rules to take a nap at school.

A student asked The Link to look into it after he was harassed by campus security for curling up on a couch.

So don't ever let anyone tell you it's against the rules to catch a few z's between classes.

## Generational Shift

Students these days prefer caffeine more than alcohol. Perhaps it's because the coffee these days is so much better than it was in the 60s, 70s and 80s – or maybe there is more pressure to well in school and students don't feel they can write themselves off with a few beers after class.

Either way, BCITSA's pub told us their investment in an expensive Italian coffee machine was paying off in a big way, while they were selling less and less beer.

## Friendly Fish

Some fish is better than others. Writer Karen Horak told us about the Oceanwise program organized by the Vancouver Aquarium.

A number of restaurant menus in Greater Vancouver feature Oceanwise symbols beside seafood dishes indicating the food is a sustainable choice.

It's a small way of ensuring delicacies from the sea will be around for generations ahead to enjoy.

## New Year's Resolutions

The gym swelled with students and staff looking to shed the extra weight brought on by a few too many rum & egg nogs and helpings of stuffing smothered in gravy.

Some vowed to limit their beer intake while other said this would be the year to quit smoking. No word on whether any of the people staff writers Shane Woodford and Len Catling spoke with actually kept to their New Year's resolutions.

Hopefully some did.

## Winter Blues

Living on the West Coast, there is a trade off: Miserable winters filled with endless days of rain for the lush forest and brilliant floral displays of spring and summer.

No surprise then BCIT's counseling department sees a bunch of students around this time of year complaining of depression.

Writer Len Catling and Editor Brent Shearer flew to Ottawa to attend the Canadian University Press annual convention and discovered many other student bodies at schools in across the country are as apathetic as BCIT.

At The Link we struggle to find people interested in contributing to our little paper. Luckily this year some great people stepped forward and found time in their busy schedules to write articles for us.

Thank you.



October, 2007 - First year Broadcast student Adam Bishop finds accessibility issues at BCIT on the path to SW9. - photo by David K. Lai

## Valentines Day and Racists

The look of the paper changed slightly for this issue and the ones to follow.

In it Shane Woodford wrote a fantastic article about racist graffiti being scrawled into the sides of bathroom stalls.

The reaction from BCIT was swift – they sent out crews to clean the walls and get rid of the disturbing anti Semitic, anti gay, anti immigration, anti anything else you can think of.

Oh, and many people bought chocolates on Valentines Day.

## Evolution 107.9

Did you know BCIT has a radio station? No? Well, you're not alone.

The station is pretty fuzzy and hard to pick up. That's why radio students are concentrating on Evolution's website, [www.evolution1079.com](http://www.evolution1079.com).

Check it out, they play a good mix of tunes and feature regular news updates from the broadcast journalism students – you could be listening to the next Tony Parsons!

## Women in Trades

No longer are construction sites the denizens of men who whistle at women passing by.

More and more women are getting into trades of all sorts and BCIT is one of the most popular places to go for training.

If you know anyone interested into trades, pass along this website: [www.bcit.ca/study/programs/1190acert](http://www.bcit.ca/study/programs/1190acert).

It's been a great year. Thank you to everyone who contributed articles.

If anyone is around next year, please stop by The Link office and talk to us about getting involved.

Come and visit us in SE2, room 281 next to the BCITSA Student Council Chambers or check us out on the web at [www.bcitsa.ca](http://www.bcitsa.ca).

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## Greenspace:

China's food safety record could create more Olympic controversy

By Casey Neathway  
The Link

With the 2008 Summer Olympics in Beijing fast approaching, all eyes seem to be

on China's human rights record, and their handling of the Tibet situation. While these are definitely important issues, they really won't affect the actual 2008 Games. China's food-safety re-

cord, on the other hand, could potentially disable a number of athletes, and cause entire events to fail.

While a lot of the reports coming out of China recently regard-

ing their food safety practices are laughable to us in Canada, it's a harsh reality that must be dealt with by Olympic athletes and trainers. There were, earlier in the year, concerns with toys and oth-



er products imported from China that contained high levels of lead. There were less-reported issues with food safety, however, including a swine virus (which was feared to be a potential cause of a pig pandemic), and the mislabeling of puffer fish (containing the deadly tetrodotoxin) as monkfish.

A report from mid-July spoke of a food producer who used cardboard (which had been soaked in sodium hydroxide for tenderization) as filler in pork buns.

China is reporting that they will have a significant presence of health inspectors who have been "trained to manage and inspect Western foods," and that they will be using mice to test food for "poisons."

The issue seems to be much deeper than post-processing testing and more inspections. In order for true food safety to prevail, the manufacturers (and food service workers) must be educated about the hazards of improperly prepared foods, and they must know that the benefits (which usually involve lower costs) do not outweigh the detriments (which could involve death).

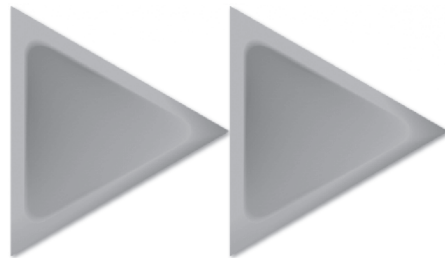
The approach the Chinese government is taking to this issue is very reactionary, and will lead to no long-term changes. Once the 2008 Olympic Games have passed, the Chinese people will still be faced with foods that are produced in a dangerous, and illness-inducing manner. It's also interesting to note that these foods could potentially be exported to the rest of the world, given the increases in global food imports over recent years.

This article is, in no way, meant to criticize traditional Chinese methods of preparing food that we in Western culture may consider "unsafe." This article speaks to individuals who blatantly ignore the health and safety of consumers in order to simply increase their profit margin.

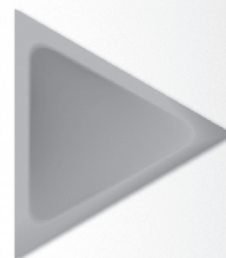
It's unfortunate that it's taking a major event like the Olympics to force health officials to take a close look at what's going on in the country, but hopefully a post-Olympic China will have much higher food safety standards than what is currently the status quo.



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# The five worst movies of all time

Tom takes on the crappiest of the crap so that you don't have to

By Tom Laird

The Link

I recently sat down to watch a movie. And it was one of the worst movies I've ever seen. Like, from within the first 10 minutes I knew it was going to suck.

Which movie you ask?

Well, that'll come up later. But this awful piece of cinematographic history spawned a discussion between my friends and I – what are the worst movies you've ever seen?

I know what you're thinking, "well that's easy. Insert any teen slasher-flick that sucked balls." Well, it's not that easy. With bad movies like that, you know what you're getting yourself into.

In order to qualify as one of the worst movies you've ever seen, there's certain criteria a film must fall into.

Depending on the amount of categories met (or in this case, not met) that determines how epically bad the movie was, the categories are as follows:

**Expectations:** the more the movie let you down, the more awful it becomes. This category is fairly cut and dry.

**Plot and Writing:** a movie can have a bad one or the other, but the rare movie that combines both of these in a terrible way is ultimately painful to watch.

**Acting:** when normally decent actors become atrocities and you just want to gouge your eyes out while watching them during this movie. This category is open to personal taste – unless your personal taste sucks.

**Budget:** the bigger the budget, the more you felt your soul die as you watched it. Another cut and dry category.

**Overall levels of badness felt while watching:** when you know the movie is bad while you're watching it – and then realizing that you hate the movie while there is still more than half of it left gets points in this category.

Okay, so, five categories – fairly easy to follow right? Well then, here goes my Five Worst Movies of All Time – in no particular order.



*This is why Beowulf was awful... well, not Angelina herself, but the millions spent on CGI for pretty much no result.*

## #1 - Beowulf (2007)

Well, this is the movie that I mentioned I saw recently – the one that led me to write this. If you've ever read the poem and enjoyed it – avoid this movie. It's pretty much awful from the start.

Basically, Beowulf comes to a land that's being terrorized by a demon, and he thinks he can kill it. Which he does. Huzzah for our hero. But his pride and greed get the best of him, and when he goes to kill the demon's mother, he gets persuaded into sparing her for the kingdom and vast riches, etc etc. Now for the criteria.

**Expectations:** I had some decent expectations for this movie. It's a cool story, and it's usually pretty hard to screw up an action movie. And there's the whole CGI new-type of filmmaking thing going on. It let me down big time on the expectations.

**Plot and Writing:** Remember when I said it was pretty hard to screw up an action movie? Well... I changed my mind. They butchered the plot and the writing was weak. It contained none of the elegance of the original work, and lost any respect it had in my eyes.

**Acting:** I guess it must have been hard for the actors with their motion capture suits on, and weird stuff like that to deal with. But the acting was brutal. Even normally awesome actors like Anthony Hopkins and John Malkovich were awful – but I blame the out-laying circumstances over the actors themselves.

**Budget:** \$150,000,000. With a budget like this, it's almost amazing that they could make this bad of a movie. It's funny when lots of money buys terrible, terrible results.

**Overall levels of badness felt while watching:** 10 minutes into this movie I wanted to turn it off, and I'm mad at myself that I didn't. It's that bad.

## #2 - Alexander (2004)

I know what you're thinking. "Dude! Didn't you hear any reviews on this movie before seeing it?" Yes, I did. And I'd heard bad things, but I thought there might have been something that people missed, and there was still a chance to see a good movie here. And I'm a sucker for those epic movies. Turns out I was way off.

**Expectations:** As I said, I figured I might get something out of this, and Oliver Stone can be hit or miss – but I wanted to give it a try. The expectations I had were quickly snuffed out over three hours of garbage.

**Plot and Writing:** it was just really really bad. I don't know what else to say. As my friend who shall remain nameless said, "the best part was seeing Rosario Dawson topless." I have to agree.

**Acting:** everyone was bad in this. Colin, Angelina – it didn't matter. They definitely share the blame with Mr. Stone, you can count on that for sure.

**Budget:** \$155,000,000. Aiming big with an epic budget didn't create epic results.

**Overall levels of badness felt while watching:** my friend who rented the movie fell asleep with over two hours left.

Enough said.

## #3 - Spider-Man 3 (2007)

If you happened to catch my summer movie reviews you know exactly how I feel about this

movie. It's fuckin bad, and don't ever, ever pay any money to see it. Ever. Seriously, ever.

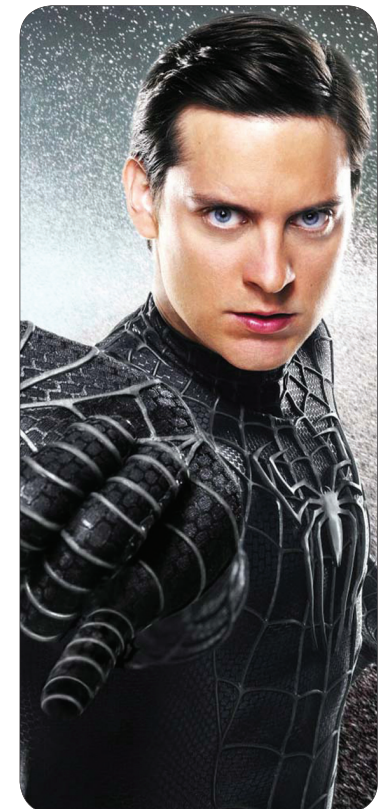
**Expectations:** In my opinion, the first Spider-man wasn't too bad, and the second installment got even better. Mix in Venom (one of the most kickass villains ever) and you should have a winning formula right? Wrong. This movie left so much to be desired, and it fell well short. A terrible effort for sure.

**Plot and Writing:** Just so very wrong. The dance number? Emo-Spidey? Argh. Who wrote this garbage, and why were they on strike? They certainly don't deserve any money for efforts like this.

**Acting:** The acting in this movie is horrendous. Toby and Kirsten need to be taught a thing or two, or at least get their senses slapped back into them.

**Budget:** \$258,000,000. By far the biggest budget in my list of five, and probably the worst of them all. Go figure.

**Overall levels of badness felt while watching:** Openly stating that "This is the worst thing I've ever seen" loudly in the theatre sums it up.



*One of the greatest hero characters of all time falls incredibly short.*

# Forgetting Sarah Marshall

The movie is actually pretty good, all man junk aside

By Jesse Olson  
The Link

To be completely honest, I went into this movie expecting to thoroughly trash it as soon as I walked out. I thought it was destined to be another cheesy rom-com with a predictable ending and terrible acting. I was wrong.

Little did I know, this was another Judd Apatow produced comedy, and almost everything he's touched over the past three years has turned into pure gold, including "The 40 Year Old Virgin," "Knocked Up" and "Superbad." "Forgetting Sarah Marshall" is no exception.

Jason Segal of "How I Met your Mother" fame, stars as a lovable but lazy music composer for a CSI-esque television drama. After his famous girlfriend (Kristen Bell) dumps him, he decides to take a vacation to Hawaii to deal with it.

Little does he know, that his ex-girlfriend is travelling to the same resort as him – with her new overly-flamboyant musician boyfriend in tow (Russell Brand.)

Mila Kunis ("That 70's Show")



Kristen Bell (left) plays Sarah Marshall, and the acting, surprisingly, is gold.

plays a receptionist at the resort, and proves she can actually play a likable role. Kunis has great chemistry with Segal, and their budding relationship is surprisingly one of the highlights of the movie.

The script, which was also written by Segal, is consistently funny throughout, and really hones in on the hilarious one liners and awkward situational humor that seem to be the strength of most Apatow movies. Segal has definitely elevated himself into a solid comic lead. You can't help but feel bad for the guy as things gradually go from bad to worse for him. That

said, Russell Brand, who plays eccentric musician Aldous Snow, steals every scene he's in.

He plays a character in which the viewer is supposed to dislike, but it's virtually impossible. Everything he does, from his words, to his facial expressions, to his ridiculous body language, is hilarious.

Now I may only be high on this movie because I had exceptionally low expectations going in, but it's definitely a solid comedy from start to finish.

With the exception of having to see Segal's junk at least six or seven times, it was a gem.

## A robot love story

R2-D2 noise creator ads depth of emotion to WALL-E

By Jake Mooney  
Excalibur (York University)

TORONTO (CUP) -- Andrew Stanton, director of 2003's Finding Nemo, has a lot to live up to. Pixar's newest animated feature, WALL-E — about a robot left on Earth to clean it up after humans have left it in shambles — looks to be the next best thing.

Pixar has become synonymous with success year after year, with exciting and vibrant movies and animation that is always at the forefront of technology. And now, with its ninth feature-length movie, Pixar is able to branch out into otherwise unconventional films, like love stories between robots.

"[WALL-E] wasn't a full-fledged idea; it was just a concept," says Stanton.

It was a concept that apparently had been kicking around Pixar since Toy Story.

"It was always our intention to not give WALL-E any distinctive facial features, other than his eyes," says Stanton. "But to make up for the limited facial expressions, an entire language was created by sound-design master Ben Burtt.

Like most people my age, I grew up with Star Wars and I knew that Burtt had done all the sounds. I found myself describing the film as 'R2-D2: The Movie.' And I invited him over and asked him to work on the film and invent the voices for a large part of my cast. We spent maybe a year to two years just coming up with languages. [Burtt] would come up with the sounds and different styles and different takes on what



certain machines and characters might sound like."

This process of unconventional language really lends itself to the world of WALL-E and gives the character a special level of depth. The parallels between the character WALL-E and R2-D2 are uncanny, though perhaps WALL-E has a greater depth of emotion with his movements.

WALL-E will hit theatres June 27, 2008.



Even Scarlett Johansson couldn't save *The Black Dahlia*.

### #4 - Planet of the Apes (2001)

This Tim Burton-inspired crapfest was just that. A pretty terrible movie, and it didn't live up anywhere close to the original.

**Expectations:** Tim Burton is usually pretty cool, and remaking a classic movie? Awesome, it's on. No, no, nothing's on. It's off. It was so far off.

**Plot and Writing:** Pretty much exactly what I just said. Unhand me you damn, dirty ape.

**Acting:** Marky Mark dropped the ball, and with everyone in ape suits, it was a little tough to see who was good or bad in this movie. Full blame goes to Dirk Diggler on this one.

**Budget:** \$100,000,000. A lot of money for not a lot of goodness. I can think of better ways to spend 100 million bucks.

**Overall levels of badness felt while watching:** It was pretty soul crushing to say the least, and I regret spending 12 bucks on it. And I don't think I'm alone on that front.

### #5 - The Black Dahlia (2006)

This slow-paced detective noir

was bad. Like, wow. I was pretty surprised really, especially with what they had to work with.

**Expectations:** First off, I'm a big James Ellroy fan (an awesome writer, check him out), Brian DePalma is usually pretty good, and it had a stacked cast.

That being said, this movie was a huge let down. I was pumped up to see it, and as I walked out of the theatre, I was trying to justify it – then I realized, it was just really bad.

**Plot and Writing:** Pretty weak overall, the plot didn't move nearly quick enough for my liking, and that really hurt the movie in my opinion.

**Acting:** I mentioned the stacked cast right? Scarlett, Ms. Swank and others either dropped the ball, or had the ball dropped on them. If you're looking for convincing performances, look elsewhere.

**Budget:** \$40,000,000. Even though it has the lowest budget on this list, that doesn't earn it any bonus points.

**Overall levels of badness felt while watching:** Meh. What a shitshow.

# Empire Alley

Four pals and a new record is a recipe for success

By Kristina Mameli  
The Link

“I don’t even have to finish my sentences,” candidly observes bassist Brad, “because they just know what I was going to say.”

Having only been in existence for two years, Empire Alley share more than just the bonds of musical brotherhood. The Vancouver “quadrangle” have been best friends for the last 20 years.

Vocalist and guitarist Sonny remembers the first time he met keyboardist Sean, “we’re five years old and we’re all dressed up in our Halloween costumes for kindergarten, and he was dressed up as a kitten...”

“It was not a kitten,” indignantly chimes is Sean amid jesting chants of “fight, fight, fight” from drummer Clates. “I went as a Persian cat. My mom made---”

“I remember sparkles,” adamantly insists Sonny. “And I’m just thinking, who is this guy? I had to introduce myself and my older brothers and we had a laugh on Sean’s behalf; but since then we’ve been good friends.”

Evident in their quick conversation, littered with childhood memories, it’s obvious that Empire Alley have a comfortable rapport, the warmth of which is firmly entrenched in their music.

The Cambrian Hall played host to the release of their self-titled debut EP, featuring six indie pop-rock gems, including the single “Orange Revolution,” which is poised to take over the airwaves, having already received airplay on the FOX’s Rock Report and Indie Night In Canada.

In their first three months of existence, Empire Alley won the Absolute Vodka and Factory Studios battle of the bands, later using the prize money to record at Deep Cove Studios.

“The weird thing about us and studios is that every time we’ve recorded, we’ve had a loss of power,” reveals Sonny.

“And that happened again at Deep Cove. We were recording at the Factory last year and some guy ran into the telephone poles and knocked out the block’s electricity. When we were in Deep Cove, the same thing happened.”

The writing process was or-

ganic and ego free; quality vs. quantity driven.

“One of the byproducts of us all being friends before band mates is that we can build on someone else’s idea,” remarks Clates.

“If someone brings one idea then we can all add to it and make it better.”

“Our music is like an amalgamation of all four of our personalities,” discerns Sean.

While not overtly political, Empire Alley’s simple and non-abrasive music is laced with subtleties indicative of a socially conscious band drawing from a wide range of influences, and leaving ample room for interpretation.

“I’m a classical music guy,” says Sean.

“I really like minimalism; taking long pieces of music and condensing them down to their most basic elements. A lot of that fits into the type of music that we’re doing.”

Empire Alley are extremely media savvy, having a strong presence on Myspace and Facebook as well as [www.empirealley.com](http://www.empirealley.com).

“I think it helps us connect



Empire Alley - four guys who grew up together and now they’re making music.

with our audience a lot more,” confesses Clates. The sites also offer podcasts and blogs. “Building a story for ourselves is what

we’re trying to do,” comments Sonny.

The EP is available at Zulu, Scratch, Redcat and iTunes.



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## Bison

If hair = awesome, these guys are freakin’ amazing

By Len Catling  
The Link

If your musical protein is lacking this summer you should try a little **Bison**. The Vancouver quartet has risen from the rubble of former bands and projects to become one of the city’s most distinct live acts.

With a flurry of riffs, beards and unruly hairstyles **Bison** took the stage at Richard’s on Richards and soon made the people in attendance forget

they were the opening act.

The best way to realize a band’s impact is to analyze the mosh pit in front of their stage. During a **Bison** show you had better keep your head, and for that matter your elbows, up.

**Bison**’s set list is a heavy chugging locomotive of thrash. They play loud and ferocious with no inhibitions, yet somehow find melody in the darkest and angriest places.

It’s not often one sees a concert goers moshing with a hop in their step but a **Bison** show leaves you in a state of metallic bliss, where either shoulder checking or high stepping is of equal value. Hybrid mosh pits from one of Vancouver’s last remaining hybrid metal bands.

**Bison** get it. People



- photo by Len Catling

want loud music that is actually music-not just loud noise. Highly charged and highly recommended **Bison** are relentless, often playing multiple times a week. Watch for them this summer as they charge to a local venue near you. You can find **Bison**’s debut album *Earthbound* at your neighbourhood CD store.

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# Theory of a Deadman

604 Records, a.k.a. Let's Get Paid, Inc.



By Len Catling  
The Link

Some things in life are forever linked together. There's peanut butter and jam, cake and icing, Paris Hilton and night vision. Vancouver rockers Theory of a Deadman know this well. No matter what they accomplish in the music business they will always be linked with Chad Kroeger, and his pop culture juggernaut of a band Nickelback.

This is fair- **Theory of a Deadman** are easily the most successful band signed to Kroeger's 604 Records and whether it's intended or not the two bands sound similar. Another similarity between the two bands is their acutely efficient track record of slinging CD's to an American market unaware of the history, politics or intentions of Vancouver's music scene.

**Theory of a Deadman's** new album *Scars and Souvenirs* is a blueprint for making cash in

the contemporary rock world. The ballads on the record sound like they were contrived under the watchful eye of big brother Chad.

Possibly he was taking pulls from an Orwellian cigar along with **Theory of a Deadman** in the studio, laughing maniacally with visions of platinum records dancing in his head.

As *Scars and Souvenirs* just went to number one on the US Billboard charts the laughter would not have been unwarranted. If you could cut *Scars and Souvenirs* in two sections the first would contain the Scars. The healed wounds would be **Theory of a Deadman** songs that display the band's intestinal fortitude. "Got it Made," "Bad Girlfriend," and the chart topping first single "So Happy" showcase singer Tyler Connolly's entertainingly cynical vocals, Dave Brenner's intricate yet driving riff selection and bassist Dean Back's overall grooviness.

Disc two would be *Souvenirs*. This would be all of the album's ballads- which are pretty much every other song on the record. These ballads will generate **Theory of a Deadman** such souvenirs as spinners on SUV's, the aforementioned platinum albums, and mansions where you can jump off the deck into the swimming pool.

Pity the fool who hates, these Vancouver boys are going to be fat rich rock stars.

*Scars and Souvenirs* is a well produced, sharply written record that will be playing on mainstream radio ad nauseum over the next year and a half, whether you like it or not.

There is nothing wrong with gaining success by singing to Americans. For every one Canadian there are ten citizens south of the 49<sup>th</sup> parallel.

Preaching to the choir is great, especially when the choir is putting mad stacks in the collection tray. *Scars and Souvenirs* is in CD stores now.

## Campus Query

Where your opinion matters

The Link asked:

"What are your plans for this summer?"

By David K. Lai  
Link Staff



Justin R.  
Mechatronics and Robotics

"More school. I'll be doing the bridge program. I will go to Camosun College and take what I would have done in the first two years of engineering. After completing the courses I will be starting third year electrical engineering."

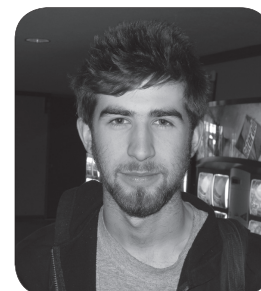
Danielle T.  
Communications

"I am actually going to Japan to work for a Magazine. It's called, "Being A Broad." It's for foreign women living in Japan."



Kirk R.  
Mechatronics and Robotics

"Either travelling or working. I haven't completely decided yet. I'd like to take some time off and go to New Zealand or Australia. I'd like to go for a month or a month and a half. Or I will start working right away."



Casey B.  
Marketing Management Pro Sales

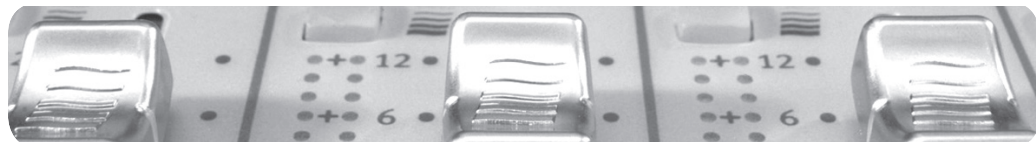
"I am graduating in four weeks then going to Europe for a wedding. I will be coming back and job hunting in September. Besides taking over the world, I would probably do sales and marketing for a development company."



## EVOLUTION 107.9 FM

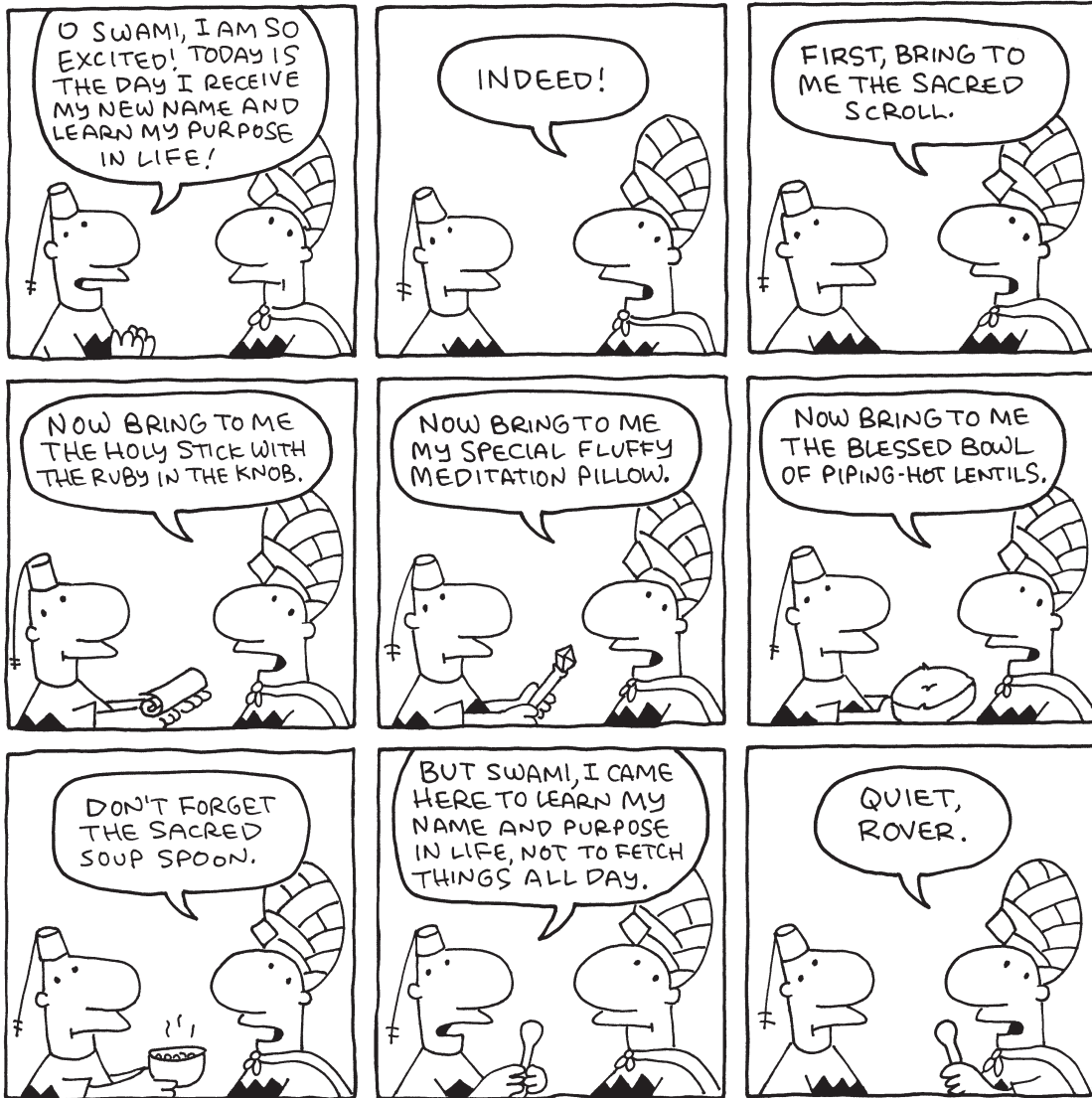
### Tom Laird's Top 20 Tunes of 2007/2008 Thanks for listening to Evolution!

- |   |   |
|---|---|
| 1. Spoon - The Underdog                   | 11. Foo Fighters - The Pretender          |
| 2. The Reason - We're So Beyond This      | 12. Feist - 1 2 3 4                       |
| 3. Jimmy Eat World - Big Casino           | 13. illScarlett - N.T.F.                  |
| 4. Tokyo Police Club - Your English is... | 14. Interpol - The Heinrich Maneuver      |
| 5. Tegan and Sarah - Back in Your Head    | 15. Peter Bjorn & John Young Folks        |
| 6. Paolo Nutini - New Shoes               | 16. Xavier Rudd - Stargaze                |
| 7. Hayden - Where and When                | 17. Chucky Danger - Strawberry Man        |
| 8. Dragonette - Take it like a Man        | 18. Queens of the Stone Age - 3s & 7s     |
| 9. Wintersleep - Weighty Ghost            | 19. Weakerthans - Night Windows           |
| 10. Orson - Broken Watch                  | 20. Band of Horses - Islands on the Coast |



## LIFE IS SWELL

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## Puzzle: Sudoku By Pappacom

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solution, tips and computer programs at [www.sudoku.com](http://www.sudoku.com)

su | do | ku

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	3		8		5		2	
			6		3			
6	7			9			5	8
9	1						6	2
	5						1	
2	4						3	7
7	8			3			4	6
			9		2			
	9		7		6		8	

EASY

4	3	9	8	7	5	6	2	1
8	2	5	6	1	3	7	9	4
6	7	1	2	9	4	3	5	8
9	1	7	3	5	8	4	6	2
3	5	6	4	2	7	8	1	9
2	4	8	1	6	9	5	3	7
7	8	2	5	3	1	9	4	6
5	6	4	9	8	2	1	7	3
1	9	3	7	4	6	2	8	5

## A Wild Education

By Dana Frombach

Nexus (Camosun College)

VICTORIA (CUP)



Classifieds are free for students accompanied with your student ID, \$10 for regular announcements and \$15 for job placement ads.

All ads will run for two issues, and must be 8 lines or shorter. Hey you's are limited to 35 words, and are intended for students only. The Link reserves all rights to edit ads for length or content.

The Link and BCITSA cannot guarantee the quality or safety of classifieds. Be safe, use your judgement.

Please send classifieds to the Link office at fax: 604.431.7619, [adsales@bcitsa.ca](mailto:adsales@bcitsa.ca) or slide them under our door at SE2 room 281, right next to the SA Council Chambers.

## Volunteer Opportunities

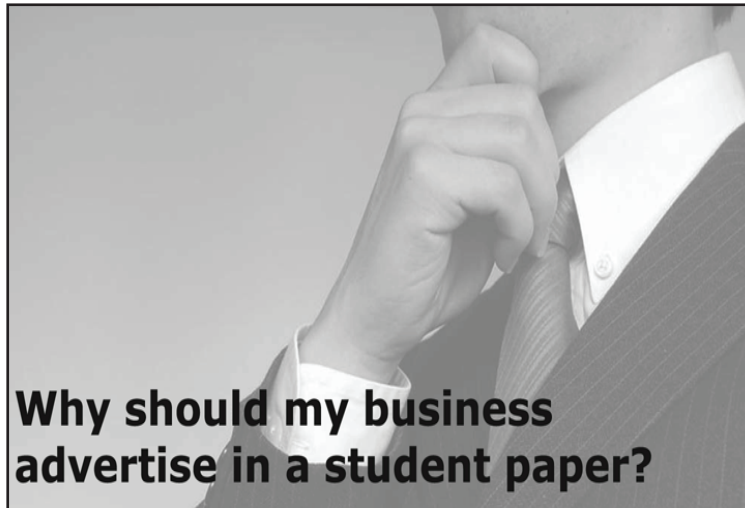
**Become a Big Sister. Become a Study Buddy tutor. Become a friend!** Big Sisters of BC Lower Mainland is looking for female volunteers (age 19+) who are interested in mentoring a young girl in their community. Contact Big Sisters at 604-873-4525 ext. 300 or [info@bigsisters.bc.ca](mailto:info@bigsisters.bc.ca) to find out more about mentoring! [www.bigsisters.bc.ca](http://www.bigsisters.bc.ca).

Coast Mental Health is seeking Life-Skills 1-1 volunteer Workers for Various sites in Vancouver. Work one to one with a client, facilitating their reintegration to their community. These are clients in an independent living situation, who may experience social isolation and have a desire to reconnect. Requirements: Patience, understanding and caring. Some understanding or experience with mental illness is helpful with some clients. Duration: 6 months. Email: [valm@coastfoundation.com](mailto:valm@coastfoundation.com) or call 604-675-2313.

Volunteers needed April 27, 2008 for walk for ms event for check in, route marshalling, cheering section and set up/tear down, information tent, photographer assistants and runner positions – must have vehicle for this position. Benefits include breakfast, T-shirt, reference letter with hours volunteered. Please contact Rati Arora, [rati.arora@gmail.com](mailto:rati.arora@gmail.com).

## Income Tax Preparation

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- \* 91% of students like to try something new and different.
- \* 68% consider themselves health and nutrition conscious.
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Statistical information derived from the Print Measurement Bureau and Canadian Campus Marketing Research (2000)

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their Income Tax Clinics. These clinics are held in March and April. The training will be provided by the Canada Revenue Agency in February 2008. For further information, please contact Jackie at 604.684.2561 ext. 233.

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## Events

**Apr. 21**  
BCITSA executive meeting at 5:30pm in the council chambers SE2. All students are welcome

**Apr. 24**  
Harvest Box pick up

**Apr. 28**  
Dissolve... a play dealing with the subject of drug induced rape. 2:30pm in the council chambers. It will be followed by a Q&A with one of the performers, Meghan Gardiner.

**Apr. 30**  
Laurie Jack award application deadline. Please visit the Uconnect resource centre SE2 or email [srrec@bcitsa.ca](mailto:srrec@bcitsa.ca) for details.

**April 28 - May 2**  
**LIVE SAFE! WORK SAFE!**  
North American Occupational Safety & Health Week. Events and demonstrations throughout the week plus a Great Hall Exhibition. For any questions on how to participate please contact Adrian Hingston, BCIT's Safety Coordinator at 604 456-8011 or at [Adrian\\_Hingston@bcit.ca](mailto:Adrian_Hingston@bcit.ca).

TQ lunch room. Every day in the Advocacy office, SE2 room 285 from 11:30am to 1:30pm. Bring your lunch and come meet people.

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# Enjoy your last few days here...

... because now you're off to work for 35 years



By Mike Small  
The Link

Well, the school year is winding down and for many of us, graduation is at hand and it's time for us to become men and women of the work force.

How scary is that last sentence?

While most of us have complained our entire lives about how we can't stand school, guess what? We're going to be complaining about going to work for the next 35 years, and there's no three month summer vacation involved with that!

The truth of the matter is, our school lives are wonderful for the most part. Sure we have homework, assignments and (one or two) jerk teachers to deal with, but is that so bad? This is our last

shot at being kids. I don't think I'll be chatting about the Hills, playing Facebook Scramble, and having intense debate on what color panties are being worn by the brunette doing homework at the Starbucks when I'm stuck sitting at behind a desk from 9 to 5.

Think about the fun things you've done while at school. Look around you. You've made at least one good friend that you'll stay connected with; someone you'll get drunk with, laugh with, cry with.

There's at least one person you've hooked up with, and then awkwardly smiled at the next day while your teacher was lecturing.

Maybe it was the best sex of your life and they did things you've never heard of! Or maybe it was a complete disaster, filled with teeth clanking and "That's never happened before I swear!" discussions. Either way you had a good story to tell your friends in Lab.

There's one project you're proud of, something you show off with a smile. One teacher who you'll remember forever, whether it's for their quick wit or shock-



*Do all the things you've wanted to do in these last few moments and enjoy your time as a student because this could be your not-so-distant future. Ya. It's a cubicle farm.*

ingly bad B.O.

One class that changed the way you think or what you wanted to be.

So what if we're poor, eat crap, hardly sleep and drive shitty cars. We have had *fun*. I don't care if you're at school for nursing or

radio, you have had enjoyed your time here.

Even if you don't know it right now. That's coming to a close this spring, as many of us don the cap and gown, cross the stage to accept our diploma, and walk off into real life.

So breathe it in, even if its for only a few more days. Go flirt with that girl you see in the library. Go eat a hot dog and chocolate milk.

Do homework, and enjoy it, because I have a feeling you're going to miss it.

I guess it's time to grow up.

## Dave Nonis had it coming

It wasn't obvious, but you could kind of tell

By Shane Woodford  
The Link

Dave Nonis has been fired by the Vancouver Canucks. When the Canucks failed to make the playoffs after limping through the last half of the season, you knew there was going to be changes.

No one suspected those changes would start at the very top of the Canucks organization.

While no one can argue Dave Nonis has done some great things as GM of the Canucks (acquiring Roberto Luongo springs to mind) he has been glaringly deficient in helping the team bring in the right players.

For two years the media, Canucks fans, management, and players have been noticing a brutally obvious lack of scoring. For two years Dave Nonis was unable

to solve this problem and that may be the single biggest reason he was fired.

It doesn't take a math genius to calculate the standings - Vancouver missed the playoffs by three points. Acquiring help at some point in the season to address Vancouver's woeful lack of scoring would more than likely have propelled them into the playoffs.

Firing Nonis sends a great message to the players and fans that missing the playoffs is simply unacceptable. Fans in this town have long wanted to back a winner. Other than 1982 and 1994 they have been mired in disappointment. The next GM of this team will know coming anything less than winning is unacceptable.

So while firing Nonis is a great move it will only be as great as the person they hire to replace him. The Canucks will be competing

for a quality GM with the Toronto Maple Leafs and possibly several others teams before the playoffs are over.

There are two names within the Canucks organization who have great reputations and a ton of hockey knowledge. One is Steve Tambellini who brings a wealth of experience working with Wayne Gretzky building a winner for Team Canada.

The other is the most loved player in Canucks history Trevor Linden.

The former captain has experience heading up the players association and has been honest about his desire to be a GM one day.

At the end of the day the blame for the Canucks failure could be traced to one door and that door belonged to Dave Nonis.



*I'm actually a little disappointed that we won't be able to use this photo again.*

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