

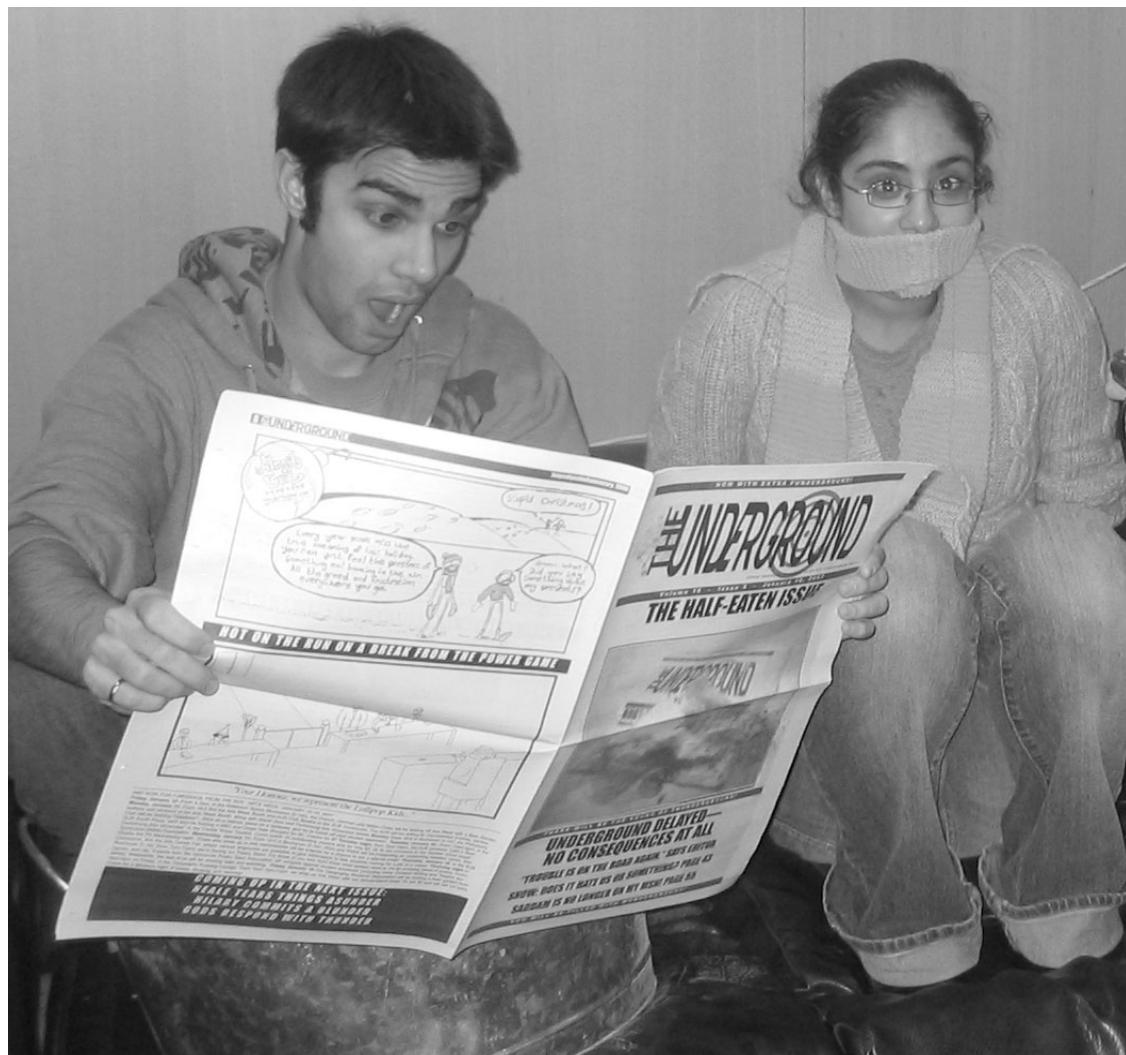
THE GROUNDER IS AFOOT! PAGE FIVE!

THE UNDERGROUND

Official Humoresque Newspaper of the Arts Undergraduate Society

Volume 16 - Issue 6 - January 24, 2007

AMS CANCELS ELECTIONS



VOTER-FUNDED MEDIA ENTRANTS CRY

THIS ISSUE CONTAINS VALUABLE COUPONS

STANLEY PARK SOLD TO RUSSIA

"IT WAS THE WILL OF THE PEOPLE" SAYS MAYOR

PLUS: UNDERGROUND FEATURED IN ROLLING STONE PAGE 43

ORANGES NOW 2.99/lb PAGE 55

OATMEAL ON SPECIAL PAGE 67

JANUARY...OR IS IT INFAMUARY?



**VOLUME 16, ISSUE 6
JANUARY: VOTES FOR US**

NIGHT OF THE EDITORS

**CURSE OF HILARY SMITH
BRIDE OF NEALE BARNHOLDEN**

HOUSE OF WRITERS

**THE ISLAND OF KYLE STEVENSON
DAWN OF THE DESIREE MORIN
SON OF CARMIN CAROTENUTO
TOMB OF MEGAN RASCHIG
ANGELINA XIA RETURNS**

**NEXT STAFF MEETING:
TUESDAY, FEBRUARY 6th
AUS OFFICE BUCH D140
12:30 PM**

**NEXT DEADLINE:
TUESDAY, FEBRUARY 13th**

**NEXT ISSUE:
THURSDAY, FEBRUARY 15th**

A PUBLICATION OF



The views expressed in this publication do not necessarily reflect those of the Arts Undergraduate Society, where the only thing you have to fear is the AUS itself.

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Editor's Scourge

I'M FULL OF CREAMY GOODNESS AND DEMOCRATIC REFORMS

So the other day I was walking to the bus, and as I do sometimes, I decided to walk through the SUB. I don't really have any reason for doing this, but one time that I did, I got some free food, so there's that. As I stepped past the Conversation Pit, I realized that something unusual was going on: people were setting up microphones and speakers. My amazing brain informed me that something important was about to happen, and sure enough, I had accidentally walked into the AMS Presidential Candidates' Forum.

By accident. I had less than no idea that this was happening, and judging by attendance at the event, I was in the majority. In fact the Conversation Pit seemed to have less people in it than usual— which would mean that people got up and left when they found out that some democracy was about to happen. My bourgeois values are shocked!

Anyway, my point is this: I co-edit this rag you're reading (in fact I even wrote this article), and I really didn't know about this potentially important event. Now, you can say that as someone who edits a newspaper I should have looked it up ahead of time— you can say that I should probably be a little more informed than the average student about this kind of thing. To which I say 'yeah, but not really'. I guess I should have paid more attention to the election I was covering, but I'm just saying that if I only knew about it because I happened to be walking somewhere at the right time, how does anyone else have a chance? This is the theme of the Underground Elections Issue (the motif, if you're writing a paper about us or something, is 'the AMS election', and the recurring image is 'a crushing depression'): Nobody cares about the AMS, its actions or its elections.

Nobody wants the AMS to do bad things to you, but when it does good things for you, do you credit the AMS? All the jobs at stake in this election could probably be done by nearly anybody, so does it actually matter at all who you vote for? Even if somebody dearly wanted to change the AMS completely, could they, if they were the VP Administration, for example? And why? If the AMS did change completely, would anybody notice? In fifty words or less, what are the duties of the VP External? Explain the difference between the Board of Governors and the Senate using examples from your life.

There will also be jokes.

Neale Barnholden

PS. As a further incentive, we placed some cheesecake throughout the issue. Look for the delightful Kate Moss gracing our pages with a red-hot photograph. Where? You'll have to read all the interviews to find out! Meerowr.



10% of the audience at the Presidential Candidates Forum (File Photo)

Editor's Cheat-Bread

WHAT KIND OF ASS ARE YOU?

Dear Lovers—I mean, voters—that is, comrades—fellow homonids—dammit, alright, readers:

This issue's full of election crap. Elections are full of lies. Lies are deceiving. The statement "lies are deceiving" is both redundant and paradoxical. Paradoxes are for the wise. You look pretty wise. Peep these:

On honesty in politics: A candidate says, "All candidates are liars."

On voter apathy: "In any non-empty university, there is a student that, if he or she votes, everybody in the university will have voted."

On the Good Ship AMS: When every component of the ship has been replaced at least once, is it the same ship?

These are all worth thinking about. But my favourite elections-related gem is the **Buridan's Ass Paradox**. It goes like this: a **rational ass** faced with the choice between two **exactly equal** stacks of hay will **starve to death** because there's no rational way of deciding which one to eat. That's right: the ass starves because it was too rational! Not to alarm you, but this has some serious implications for voters. i.e. Don't be rational, you ass. Take your cues from divination, peer pressure, the internet, whatever. Otherwise you'll be staring at that sweet yellow hay until you DIE.



All Underground Eds Are Liars



All Asses Are Voters

Something about "sunshine".

If you choose to vote in the AMS elections, please vote for the Underground while you're at it.

Love
Editor what's never seen the rain,
Hilary

"The writer either has a meaning and cannot express it, or he inadvertently says something else, or he is almost indifferent as to whether his words mean anything or not. This mixture of vagueness and sheer incompetence is the most marked characteristic of modern English prose, and especially of any kind of political writing. As soon as certain topics are raised, the concrete melts into the abstract and no one seems able to think of turns of speech that are not hackneyed: prose consists less and less of words chosen for the sake of their meaning, and more and more of phrases tacked together like the sections of a prefabricated henhouse." George Orwell,
Politics and the English Language, 1946

Meaningless Words

ORWELL'S CORNER OF DOOM

Prefabricated

Community: To would like to create a better student community through "increased communication between the AMS and students, as well as more accountability and visibility." Naiman discussed ideas her **unity and community scheme**, such as, "an AMS video sharing channel that will display student-made video clips and campus news and events to be projected onto a screen in the SUB." Naiman also wants to implement an AMS Holiday party, an end of the year awards night, a calendar of events, and a networking dinner for campus groups such as the constituencies, athletics, and residence councils.

Bullshit

Last words:

"To be honest, the AMS **functions pretty well already**," said Naiman. And about her numerous new ideas said, "The best thing about these initiatives is that they are attainable. All the ideas are feasible and I truly believe students will enjoy them."

To said, "As VP Admin, I may not be able to directly effect change because something is not under my portfolio, but I am still an elected student representative and it will **be my priority to ensure that student voices are heard and your concerns are addressed properly**."



The SUB and Businesses:

To and Naiman agree that corporate sponsorship is an unfortunate necessity, needed to generate revenue for the AMS. Added To, "I would have to balance the interests of clubs/students against those of our AMS Businesses, which is a primary source of income for the AMS." The issue of building a new SUB is an ongoing initiative that both candidates said they would support.

Adverbs

INTERVIEWS BY DESIREE MORIN
ORWELL MASHUP BY HILARY SMITH

Bullshit

VP Admin Candidates:



Sarah Naiman and Suvina To talked to Desiree Morin. Their responses disturbed George Orwell.

Meaningless Words

Clubs: Naiman wants to, "increase the exposure of the clubs," with a "club showcase ...a talent-show style event where clubs can display their accomplishments." To is more concerned with the AMS' interaction with clubs: "by" **streamlining** and **restructuring** some of the club services, money and time **can be saved** and subsequently put towards **the implementation of** additional services. I propose that **evaluations are done** immediately on the current services to make them more cost-effective while **maintaining their quality.**"

Passive Tense

The most important thing:

Naiman said that she doesn't, "think that there is any one issue on student's minds because most students don't know what the issues are to begin with ...the problem is that students don't know what is out there for them. I have a ton of new ideas on how to engage students just by creating really cool events and programs." To on the other hand feels that, "students will want to be informed ...They'll want to know what the VP Admin is doing for them ... I'd use our available media outlets to spread the word and invite students to join committees that will specifically work on each issue."

Vagueness

Meaningless words. In certain kinds of writing...it is to come across long passages which are almost completely lacking in meaning. Words like values, human, dead; sexual, natural, vitality...are strictly meaningless, in that they not only do not point to any discoverable object but are hardly ever expected to do so by the reader.
Orwell, *Politics and the English Language*

VP FINANCE, OR

SPIDERMAN VS.

SPIDERMAN

In order to find out about the two people who are currently vying for the vaunted position of VP of Finances in the upcoming AMS election I decided to perform a bit of harrowing cyber journalism. In order to better lull the candidates, Peter Rizov (henceforth to be known as 'P' for the duration of the article) and Brittany Tyson (likewise to be known as 'B'), into a false sense of security I formatted my insightful and hard-hitting investigation into a more familiar format. Without further ado, I give you...this.

What do you believe is the greatest threat facing student's finances today?

P: The price of gaming consoles? but seriously: tuition fees and the like, naturally
B: Definitely credit cards.

If the position of VP of Finance were an animal, what animal would it be?

P: An ant-eater perhaps.
B: A saber-toothed tiger, maybe.

Follow up question: What makes you qualified to tame this animal?

P: I am not ant. In fact I resemble a giant ant... but more ape-like.
B: I have a solid track record of taming saber-toothed tigers.

What is your favourite colour?

P: I'm quite the fan of red myself. But most base colours are a good bet.
B: The colour of money.

What was the last fiscally irresponsible thing you did?

P: Spent money on this AMS campaign!
B: My laundry. Half of a linty \$50 bill was waiting at the bottom of the dryer for me, crinkled and useless.

Where were you born?

P: Sofia, Bulgaria (look it up!)
B: In a hospital.

What made you care enough to run for office?

P: I hate uncontested contests. Also, I like arguing and it seemed like council would be perfect for that!

B: For the past two years I've worked under the VP Finance, and I've been really passionate about several issues and keen to make some big changes within the AMS. I know that to make these changes, I have to run for VP Finance, so here I am.

If you could talk to one famous person who would it be?

P: Living: Jon Stewart (that would be a blast). Dead: Julius Caesar (I need some advice...)

B: Well, I've already talked to Alex Trebek and he used to be my answer to this question, so I'd have to go with Clint Eastwood. I'd like some wisdom from Dirty Harry.

When was the last time you got a really good deal on something?

P: The best things in life are free, so really... every day is full of great deals

B: The last time I thought that I got a really good deal was when I bought two giant cases of Kraft Dinner from Safeway for the price of only one giant case of Kraft Dinner. But then I got home and realized that I don't even really like Kraft Dinner, so in retrospect it was not a good deal.

Spiderman vs. Batman, who wins?

P: Spiderman. I mean, Batman is a pretty smart fella, not to mention rich, but he's got no powers! Spiderman has those fancy powers and he's a super nerd.

B: No question. Spiderman all the way. (Editor's note: Both incorrect. When superheroes fight the world loses.)

If you win this office, what race do you plan on running in next?

P: I'll probably be storming the Wall again this year. Is that a race that counts? If not,

then I really don't know and don't want to think about it. Political races suck.

B: Maybe a three-legged race...?

What is one thing outside the realm of student politics that people should know about you?

P: It's incredibly difficult to shut me up. This can be both good and bad.

B: I make a badass martini.

At what age did you realize you liked money?

P: I don't like money in and of itself. Sadly, since money is required to buy things that I like, it becomes necessary.

B: Well, legend has it that I emerged from my mother's womb with a wallet in hand, so I guess I pretty much knew from day one.

What is one thing you believe in?

P: Candidate did not respond. Conclusion: Candidate believes in nothing, blank spaces, using a special invisible case to answer some questions or chose to write his answer directly on his monitor.

B: My unwavering ability to always arrive at the B-line stop as the bus is taking off.

What ideas do you have going in to a newly elected AMS?

P: Candidate did not respond. Conclusion: Candidate fears unscrupulous readership stealing his ideas.

B: A big goal of mine is to create a SUB meal card, or AMS Bucks, that you can load up with money and use at all of the food outlets and businesses in the SUB. I also want to increase funding to the Student Initiatives fund, which currently only receives \$4,500 each year.

Renovations for our businesses, improving and expanding recycling facilities, and continuing to find sustainable options for the

SUB are some other ideas I have.

Internally, I want to reduce the AMS' extensive bureaucracy and simplify our financial systems to create a stronger relationship between the clubs, constituencies, and the AMS. Externally, I hope to give

students more opportunities to communicate with the AMS through open forums in the SUB and maybe even an AMS newsletter.

I know it's cheesy as hell, but I want to make the AMS a more relevant part of students' lives. You can read more at

www.voteby.com/

How would you describe your time here at UBC?

P: Candidate did not respond. Conclusion: Candidate is not invited to my birthday.

B: Beyond anything I had in mind, that's for sure.

What key issues do you feel better suited to tackle than your opponent?

P: Candidate did not respond. Conclusion: Candidate's tackling suit is at the laundry mat. Candidates trophy is also at the buffers and candidates exotic expensive car is in the shop. Candidate, however, assures you that he has all three.

B: I think my experience working with the VP Finance Commission and assisting the VP



Finance for two years gives me a leg up in all areas, particularly in writing the AMS budget. The work I've already done to make our financial systems less complicated and more accessible will help me go further with this initiative. Instead of learning all about the VP Finance portfolio and how the AMS works, I'll be able to jump right in and make the changes I've promised. Although I don't doubt his abilities and intelligence, I think the steep learning curve of the AMS will slow my opponent down. I think my experience gives me a more in-depth understanding of the issues. I've also already built strong relationships with the AMS permanent staff over the past two years.

What is your favourite number?

P: 66

B: 17

Are you, or have you ever been, bent on some sort of large-scale domination?

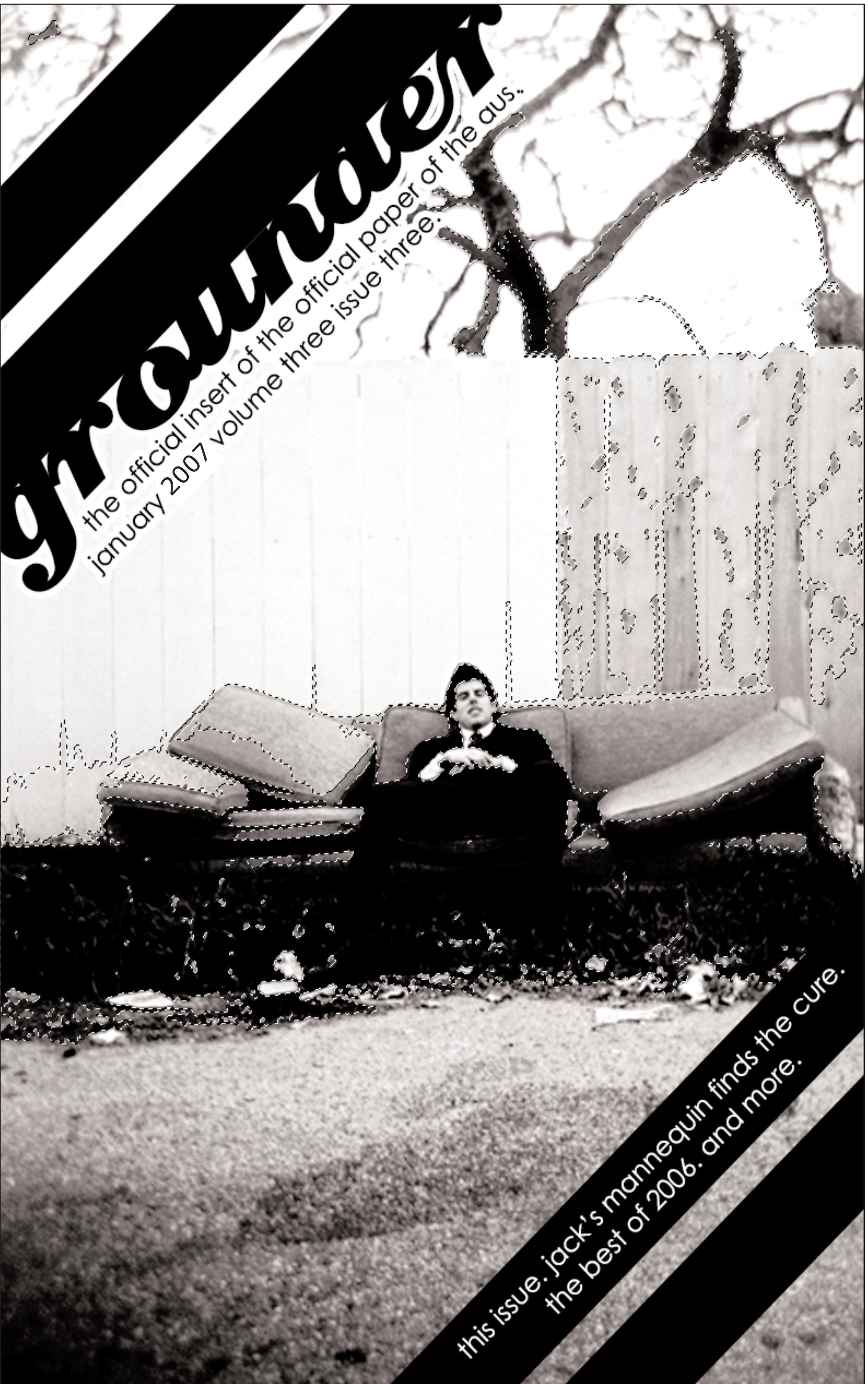
P: Someone's been blabbing... I need names. Other than that, I neither confirm nor deny anything about any such megalomaniacal plans, real or imagined.

B: I don't think so. Maybe in a past life...?

What campus newspaper do you read the most (besides for the Ubyssey, they win everything)?

P: I write for the Cavalier, so I'm going to have to go with that one.

B: Am I supposed to say The Underground here? The Knoll is definitely a tie, though.



grounder

the official insert of the official paper of the gus.
january 2007 volume three issue three.

this issue: jack's mannequin finds the cure.
the best of 2006. and more.



EDITORIAL

I've had one day to learn three cover songs. Two of the three are songs that every musician should keep in his or her repertoire. I'm familiar with all of them, but evidently just not familiar enough to remember when to play and when to stop, and I've listened to all three about twenty times today to keep the transitions concrete in my head. It's a nuisance when the only covers I can play were learned in the ninth grade: Green Day's classic 'Basket Case', Gob's catchy 'For The Moment', Jimmy Eat World's memorable 'Bleed American', NOFX's ethereal 'Drugs are Good' and most songs by Blink 182 and Finch. These songs are as useful in a rock repertoire as they would be in a jazz collection. Why? Why is it so hard to have enough general knowledge of cover songs to be able to sit down and play with any other musician? **Maybe the music is outdated.** Once-popular music such as boy-band pop and pop-punk just don't fit into your song database. No one listens to New Found Glory anymore, and chances are there will be more people conspiring against pop-punk now than in the genre's prime. **The song has been 'over-covered'.** No one wants to hear 'Fight For Your Right' one more time, and 'Say It Ain't So' and 'Seven Nation Army' have been botched and ripped apart. 'Schism', '500 Miles' and the eternal 'Stairway to Heaven' have lived and died as cover songs. Please don't resurrect them. **No one knows the words.** The more an audience can sing along to a familiar song, the more they'll appreciate the cover choice. Chances are, other musicians will have taken this into account, and so should you. Playing 'The Decline' won't get you anywhere, except eighteen minutes into lyrics that no one knows, but everyone recognizes because of the mad length of the song. **You're playing Nickelback.** No one will play music with you if Nickelback songs are in your hypothetical

sam's rant-a-ma-ho

music collection. It's a given.

A good cover repertoire should include songs that are between three and five minutes in length. This way you won't bore the crowd, and it's more likely that other instrumentalists will know it. Well-known, or were well-known once. They'll be easier to whip out on the spot, as long as they haven't been covered by every band and its dog. Easy to play. In this case, power chords are a good choice, and not difficult at all to play over if your friends don't know the song. Variable, and not necessarily genre-specific. If it transcends borders, more people are likely to know and like the song.

Finally, I will leave you, in no particular order, with the top ten songs, older and newer, that I think should be in your (and my) modern music repertoire:

- 1) 'Blitzkrieg Bop' – The Ramones
- 2) 'Bohemian Rhapsody' – Queen
- 3) 'War Pigs' – Black Sabbath
- 4) 'Give It Away' – Red Hot Chili Peppers
- 5) 'Guerilla Radio' – Rage Against The Machine
- 6) 'Santeria' – Sublime
- 7) 'Born To Be Wild' – Steppenwolf
- 8) 'Satisfaction' – The Rolling Stones
- 9) 'Hey Jude' – The Beatles
- 10) 'I Fought The Law' – Sonny Curtis/Bobby Fuller/The Clash

Overall, it's good to have a core list of songs that you can whip out instead of your [expletive deleted]. Now go forth, children, and play like you've never played before. Maybe you've never played before, but that's the fun part.

-sam landa



EDITORIAL

When I look back at 2006, I figure it wasn't such a bad year. Music-wise, it was actually pretty good. My wallet doesn't agree though. The total amount of cash I dropped on concert tickets this year was record-breaking. I don't think I've ever spent that much money on anything in my entire life. I mean, it's not like I regret spending all that money. I think that it was money well-spent and well-worth it. But it wasn't just the band and being able to hear them live that made it worth it. It was all the little details that I'll never forget.

One concert that I never will never forget was Big D and the Kids Table at Seylynn Hall in February. But it was Big Wig that stole the show. I know I should be old enough to not be drawn in by gimmicky stage tricks, but hey... setting your cymbals on fire is still pretty awesome.

Another awesome memory was seeing Death Cab in April. But of course, my two companions were there for Franz Ferdinand. And as always, the stream of emo jokes and DCFC insults saw no end. Everyone rejoiced though, when gorillas stormed the stage during Franz Ferdinand's set. Oh, gorillas. For some reason, it just seemed so normal and natural until you thought about it again later on.

The Strokes' performance at the Plaza of Nations in May was pretty exciting stuff too. Minus the part where I'm 5'1", was elbowed in the head, and ended up with a cut above my eye from having my glasses pushed around. A week later, my glasses snapped at the bridge. Coincidence? I THINK NOT. But I would gladly break my glasses for The Strokes any day. Almost.

One of my most terrifying memories at a concert from 2006? Most likely the crowd at the Ozma and Rentals show in July. Specifically, a drunken couple who spent majority of the show

stephanie

either making out, screaming at Matt Sharp, or blindly groping around the crowd to try and find each other. I feared for my life. But OTHER than that, Ozma was amazing. The Rentals were amazing. And they single-handedly fulfilled one of my geek chic fantasies. But that's a completely different editorial.

2006 really wasn't such a bad year. Sure, I spent a lot of cash... probably more than I make. But all in all, it was worth the lessons that I learned. Things like... don't stand in a crowd next to drunk people. Or don't see a concert with people who hate your band. Or even just simple things like, wear contacts instead! The biggest thing though, was probably everything I learned from being a co-editor of Grounder. The joys of chasing down PR guys and reporters, scrambling to layout articles, coming up with witty jokes to make fun of horrible bands... I gotta say. It's been quite the journey. So humour me when I delve into my liner notes and thanks for the year of 2006, alright?

THANKS TO: Andrew McMahon for being so kind and devastatingly handsome, Weezer for not officially breaking up, my bank account for not being empty every time I buy concert tickets, the guy at the SUB Ticketmaster for helping me pick out good seats, Kaitlin for letting us take care of her baby, Josh for still helping us out when we're clueless, Neale and Hilary for being patient when we're late, Luisa for saving my ass with her quickies (!), Matt for looking so much like Rivers, and of course... Sam. You will always complete me. And with that, I bid you gentle and dedicated readers a good night. Here's to another good year of music reviews and ventures into band changing rooms backstage!

-stephanie ip

grounder

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The views expressed in Grounder do not necessarily reflect those of the AUS, UBC, or the world at large. In other news, Muse is coming to town. And I can't go. I'm going to cry myself to sleep now. How predictable.

All photos courtesy of the internet.

UBC Film Students present **FUNDRAISER**



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grounder presents the best of two thousand six

Luisa Irene "Indie Cred" Fisher

Occupation: Detective
Hobbies: Detecting.
Super Power: Having better taste in music than you.

Top 5 Albums of 2006



1. **Joanna Newsom, Ys.** You know that an album is magical when you find yourself memorising 17-minute long songs sprinkled with words like "thee" and "inchoate."
2. Final Fantasy, *He Poos Clouds*.
3. Fiery Furnaces, *Bitter Tea*.
4. Juana Molina, *Son*.
5. TV On The Radio, *Return To Cookie Mountain*.

Top 5 Shows of 2006

1. **Final Fantasy.** **September 19th at The Norm Theatre.** Owen Pallett pulls a bow along some strings. He loops them. Doot-doot-doot. He pulls a bow along some strings. He loops them. Doot-doot-doot. He pulls, he loops -- then suddenly there's a song, intricately layered, all parts perfectly timed. He's singing on top of it all, he's screaming in fits of passion, and sometimes the violin is dropped so that he can tap in a keyboard line, nimbly and effortlessly. Colourful projections twist behind him on the back wall. Everything is a dream.
2. Joanna Newsom. December 5th at St. Andrews Wesley Church.
3. Only Magazine Block Party. September 4th at Vic Square.
4. The Yeah Yeah Yeahs. April 24th at The Orpheum.
5. The Winks' Goodbye Party. September 16th at Mount Pleasant Community Centre.

Stephanie Ip

aka "Trendy Asian Bitch"

Occupation: Asian Pop Star.
Hobbies: Singing "Promiscuous Girl."
Super Power: =W= FOREVER.

Top 5 Albums of 2006



1. **Muse, Black Holes and Revelations.** It's kind of hard for this album NOT to be at the top of my list. They pretty much blow my mind when it comes to creating songs of intergalactic grandeur.
2. The Strokes, *First Impressions Of Earth*.
3. Billy Talent, *II*.
4. Shout Out Out Out Out, *Not Saying/Just Saying*.
5. Lady Sovereign, *Public Warning*.

Top 5 Shows of 2006

1. **Ozma and The Rentals. July 25th at Richard's on Richard's.** The fulfillment of a very specific geek fantasy. Almost more exciting than Dungeons & Dragons. (And let me tell you... for some people, D&D is VERY exciting.)
2. Mogwai. May 24th at The Commodore.
3. The Strokes. May 17th at the Plaza of Nations.
4. Lady Sovereign. November 10th at The Commodore.
5. Shout Out Out Out Out. September 28th at Richard's on Richard's.

Sam "Goddamn" Landa aka "Ghetto Booty"

Occupation: Drum Bum.
Hobbies: Playing with long wood.
Super Power: Using that wood for good, not evil.

Favourite albums of 2006

- Foo Fighters - Skin And Bones
Tenacious D - Pick of Destiny
George Carlin - Life Is Worth Losing



Watch for these artists in 2007

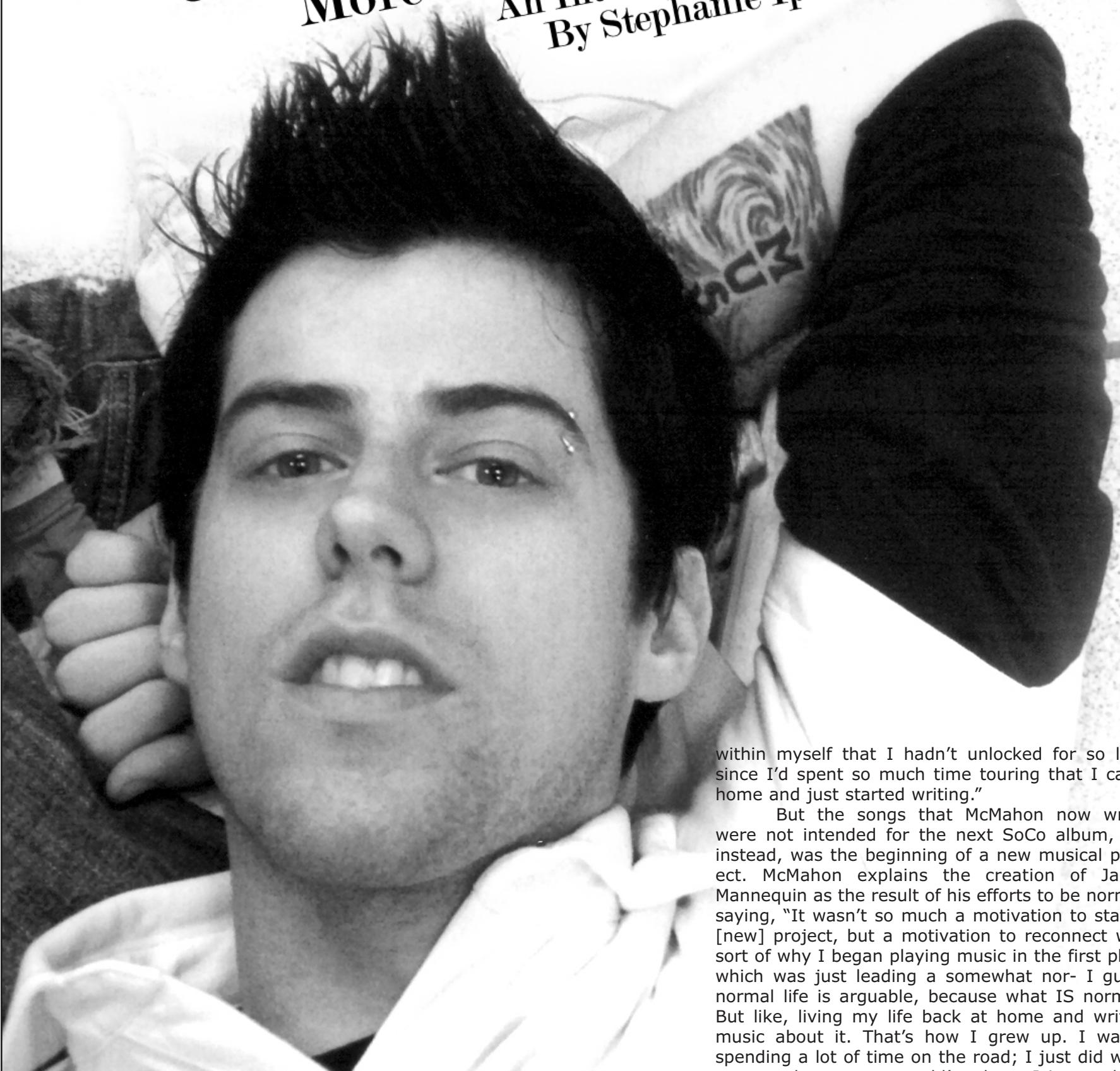
The Cliks
(www.thecliks.com)

The Fray
(www.thefray.net)

Jack's Mannequin

More Than Just A Piano Man

An Interview with Andrew McMahon
By Stephanie Ip



For those individuals who are lucky enough to have a taste of success in the music industry, returning home can only signify the end of a long journey or another rest stop before the next album. But for 25 year-old Andrew McMahon of piano-rock group, Jack's Mannequin, it was both the end and the beginning of two completely different realms of his life.

Soon after he completed touring with his pop-rock outfit, Something Corporate (which was founded while McMahon and his band mates were still in high school), McMahon quickly found himself itching to get back on the piano and write "honest" songs. He says, "In the three or four years that Something Corporate was a signed act, I'd kind of gotten away from it just because we'd spent so much time on the road. I was never really in a position to be at a piano and connecting – the piano's really a conduit where I can be honest with myself, if that makes sense. I was really bottled up and had stored a lot of that stuff in places

within myself that I hadn't unlocked for so long since I'd spent so much time touring that I came home and just started writing."

But the songs that McMahon now wrote were not intended for the next SoCo album, but instead, was the beginning of a new musical project. McMahon explains the creation of Jack's Mannequin as the result of his efforts to be normal, saying, "It wasn't so much a motivation to start a [new] project, but a motivation to reconnect with sort of why I began playing music in the first place which was just leading a somewhat nor- I guess normal life is arguable, because what IS normal? But like, living my life back at home and writing music about it. That's how I grew up. I wasn't spending a lot of time on the road; I just did what anyone else my age would've done. I just so happened to be a songwriter and I would write songs about it." McMahon's return to honestly is evident in Jack's Mannequin's material. His songs chronicle everything from the disintegration of a relationship while he was on the road to missing the old drunken days of his hometown.

The product of his time at home soon became *Everything In Transit*, McMahon's first album under the pseudonym of Jack's Mannequin. The album is chock full of piano melodies that illustrate his lyrical, but bittersweet homecoming. But it wasn't long before McMahon's normal life began to get crazy again. On June 1st, 2005, three months before the release of *Everything In Transit*, the young musician was diagnosed with acute lymphocytic leukemia. He was then forced to cancel all of his upcoming concert dates in support of his new album and instead, spent week after week in the oncology ward at UCLA. On August 23, 2005, McMahon both celebrated and prepared himself. The 23rd marked the release of *Everything In Transit*, an album consisting of songs that were extremely personally and close to McMahon's heart. It was also the day of his stem cell transplant, an operation that would eventually serve as the first step to McMahon's long road of recovery.

After was finally a 2005 was h (Editors Not ally the one to the stag recovery ar recovering i It probably they would y'know? But bear a lot m of the demo to tour thro a support a tour has be been the firs I'm back to a single hin his music or ues to pound of his throat

On Mannequin's announced medication taken later t now long s has not left called the D we had a lo ing, 'Where to be involve channeling Pediatric Re cancer char was getting - if people v course, I w to be throughout having a fo people cou and I could from that o Since the the De Foundation, has trekked America, h support of the Cure. Tour has ra \$100,000, v ed since the er this mor players, hall donated to plant progr McMahon e charity as a dfferent Along Mannequin from merch music maga get behind and flip-flop raise awar McMahon sa all-star conc works well a [Dear Jack] asm, he de hopes will p like to perfo completely "Truthfully, 'Cause I wo sounds hor that's wealth

After an extensive hospital stay, McMahon was able to return to touring. December 2nd, was his first performance in over six months. Note: The date of this interview was actually the one-year anniversary of McMahon's return to the stage! When asked about balancing both his medical needs and touring duties, he says, "I think recovering in general was always going to be hard. I probably unearthed a lot of things earlier than I would've been if I had just been home, but I think it also brought a lot of things to bear more quickly. It helped me to face a lot of demons of it head on." McMahon continued to tour throughout 2006 both as a headliner and as a guest for O.A.R., but says that the current tour has been the most comfortable. "This tour's probably the best one that I would argue that I feel like I'm being myself." True enough, there is not a trace of remorse, sadness, or bitterness in his performance. On stage, he continues to drift away at the piano and draw notes out of his fingers as if it were like the past had never happened.

On July 9th, 2006, during Jack's Summerfest performance, McMahon addressed the crowd that his last dosage of chemotherapy for his cancer treatment was to be given that evening. Although the leukemia has since left McMahon's system, McMahon still battles the leukemia. "I started a foundation called the Dear Jack Foundation and it was because of all the people who were donating and asking, 'Should we send donations, if we want to be involved in the cause?' and we were sort of consolidating all of our donations to one source, the Pediatric Cancer Research Foundation which is a great kids' charity. But I kind of thought, y'know, as I got back on my feet, a great idea would be to still be committed to the cause and of course continue to be committed to my life - to a foundation that I could donate to and then donate to another organization."

In the conception of the Dear Jack Foundation, McMahon traveled across North America headlining in support of the Tour for the Cure. To date, the foundation has raised close to \$1 million with more funds continuing to be donated. The second leg of the tour launched earlier this month. McMahon describes the new DVD as a "two way art," and other additions that will be added to the oncology ward and research team at UCLA, where he was treated. He explains, "Basically, [I'll be] using my platform as a conduit to other charities that are making a difference in leukemia."

Along with the Tour for the Cure, Jack's Foundation has also donated much of its proceeds from merchandise sales to the Foundations. Various magazines and websites have also begun to support McMahon's efforts, selling wristbands and shirts through the Dear Jack Foundation to raise awareness for leukemia. But ultimately, McMahon says that his goal for 2007 is to host an all-star concert in New York and L.A. "Hopefully, it will be a success and it'll kinda be the benchmark of the year for Foundations," he says. With enthusiasm, he describes the red carpet event that he will be a part of. When asked which bands he would like to perform at the event, McMahon smiles and is refreshingly honest. His goal? Cash. And lots of it. "It'd be a lot of old-timers, y'know. I would want them to – frankly, I know it's terrible, but – really target an audience that's not there. To be honest, the goal is to raise

money [and] channel it towards this disease and put it on the map." McMahon lists Tom Petty, Stevie Nicks, and Maroon 5 at the top of his picks. "Generally speaking, pop culture icons that could hopefully help us draw and sell tickets from \$100 to \$500 a seat, y'know?" He goes on to compare the struggle of raising awareness for leukemia to that of breast cancer in the 80's. "We could really take a huge chunk of money and get exposure for the disease and try to do what they did for breast cancer in the 80's, where women were dying left and right, but now? There's less than a 10 percent chance of dying when you're diagnosed with breast cancer. I feel like we could channel the same sort of energy towards leukemia and other blood diseases that are becoming so prevalent now and hopefully raise the survival rate of this disease."

"I think recovering in general was always going to be hard. I probably unearthed a lot of things earlier than they would've been if I had just been home, y'know? But I think it also brought a lot of things to bear a lot more quickly. It helped me to face a lot of the demons of it head on."

-Andrew McMahon

But that's not to say that McMahon is once again drifting away from home. His tours with Jack's Mannequin and efforts with the Dear Jack Foundation have taken him away from his home in Orange County, California, but McMahon is careful to note that he takes time out to enjoy a vacation here and there. When asked what he misses most about home, he is quick to reply. "The beach. But no, I think there's a certain lack of responsibility, I guess. I know it sounds silly. [...] Knowing that you gotta get on stage in front of 15,000 people at the end of the night, every night, there's a certain amount of pressure – well, I don't internalize it as pressure, per se – but still, a responsibility to take care of yourself and to not let your voice get bad and not run yourself down and stay up 'till 6 in the morning." McMahon pauses here for a second, as if he were rifling through memories of home. He continues again, "For me, when I go home, there's a certain reckless abandon that comes along with that. Maybe it's slightly irresponsible but maybe slightly overcompensating as well, but that I don't have to worry about being seen by people. It's like... if that's how I wanna spend my day, that's how I spend my day. I think it's that freedom, that flexibility to always be near a piano so that I can always write down whatever's going on and whatever I feel like I needed to."



ABOUT LEUKEMIA

Andrew McMahon was diagnosed with **acute lymphocytic leukemia**, also known as acute lymphoblastic leukemia. It is a cancer of the white blood cells, characterised by the overproduction of the white blood cells and continuous multiplication of malignant and immature white blood cells (referred to as lymphoblasts) in the bone marrow.

Acute lymphocytic leukemia (ALL) usually affects young children and adults over 50 years of age. Some symptoms include anemia, frequent or unexplained fevers and infections, weight loss and/or loss of appetite, and enlarged lymph nodes, among others.

For more information on how you can help fight leukemia, please contact the following organizations.

Dear Jack Foundation
<http://www.dearjackfoundation.com>

Pediatric Cancer Research Foundation
<http://www.pcrf-kids.com/>



SHOW REVIEWS

The poster features a black and white photograph of Kim Deal, the lead singer of The Pixies, looking out from behind a counter in what appears to be a backstage or rehearsal space. She is silhouetted against a bright window. In the foreground, there is a circular logo containing text: "THE BEHIND-THE-SCENES DOCUMENTARY OF THE PIXIES REUNION TOUR" and "Totally Riveting — Mojo". Below the photo, the title "loudQUIETloud" is written in large, bold, white letters, followed by "a film about THE PIXIES" in a smaller, grey font.

I'll admit. I don't really know that much about the Pixies.

Other than they're pretty good, have inspired countless bands, Kim Deal went on to form the Breeders, and that they broke up. So when I heard they were reuniting back in 2004, that was kind of exciting. Maybe I'd get more of a chance to see what they were about. But still no luck. I missed out on getting tickets for their show when they came through Vancouver and soon after that, didn't really put much effort into getting to know them.

Two years later, I hear the Vancouver International Film Fest is starting soon so I take a gander through the roster of films. Of course, like any intelligent person would, I search using the Topics function and start with 'Music'. And what do I find? None other than a lovely little film entitled, "LoudQUIETloud: A Film About The Pixies". My excitement? Through the roof. I figured seeing a rockumentary about the Pixies was definitely more feasible than trying to see them live.

The film begins with the familiar howl of "Where Is My Mind?" and already, we can tell that we are in for quite the story. The film then fades into what seems to be the video diary of the rehabilitation of the Pixies.

There is hope that maybe time has weathered Black and made him more humble but this is shot down when a scene is shown of Black performing a phone interview. When asked about the reasoning behind the Pixies original break up, he replies sarcastically, in an almost maniacal manner, "Well, it's MY band!"

Kim Deal and Frank Black are still not on entirely agreeable terms (Black laughs and tells Deal, "Oh, you'll be fine in two weeks." when she shows him her fingers, completely demolished from their reunion show.) but are slowly making their way there. Deal has been making progress herself during the down time, but this is ambiguous, as she claims she has not had any "drugs or alcohol or anything" in a long while. But throughout the film, there are scenes of Deal freaking out about whether she's drinking non-alcoholic beer or not.

It's the precious moments of hilarity like these that make "LoudQUIETloud" such an entertaining documentary, but not once does it feel like a documentary. Or a video diary. It's simply a visual retelling of The Pixies, their way of letting the world know that they were okay and that they were back at it. The film is laced with such sardonic lines and images, that you can't help but think that The Pixies might have gone off the deep end in their time away from the spotlight. The scene that is the epitome of this kind of humour is one in which a young girl (young, but not little... if you get my drift) attempts to give Deal a gift after a show. To see a pudgy, bespectacled, young high school girl (who probably wasn't even alive when The Pixies were first popular) squeeze her arm through a metal gate, reaching for Deal while tears stream down her face... I don't know if that's touching and sweet or just plain out mockery. In the case of The Pixies, I'm almost pretty sure it was mockery. But on the plus side, at least we know that The Pixies don't take themselves COMPLETELY seriously this time around. Maybe then they won't have to break up again.

STEPHANIE IP

loudQUIETloud: a film about The Pixies

Director: Steve Cantor and Matthew Galkin

DVD Release Date: November 7th, 2006

Brazilian Girls

November 6th, 2006

Richard's On Richard's

When it comes to Brazilian Girls, one thing remains clear – Italian-borne lead singer Sabina Sciubba is HOT. A sultry vocal style with five different languages to choose from and a body worthy of the word "Brazil" - what more could a band ask for? How about a jaw-dropping drummer (Aaron Johnston), a sassy bassist (Jesse Murphy) and a dread-locked keyboardist who adds that imperative electronic element (Didi Gutman). Together, you've got an eclectic, experimental and improvisational dance-pop quartet. On Monday, November 6th, Brazilian Girls performed for a full house at Richards on Richards, which proved to be a playful, energetic and interactive performance. Sciubba struts around stage, kicking her heals, clapping her hands and beckoning the crowd to join in. She wears a sheer, sheath-like mask with fake lips painted in a crude geisha pout. It's delightfully creepy, allowing Sciubba some artistic licence through self-possessed anonymity. Her innate songwriter's sensibility combines effortlessly with the talented musical backings of her band mates. The resulting sound flirts with more genres than one can count. One minute it's floor-shaking lounge house, the next, a sentimental French ballad, the next, The Doors if Jim Morrison took up salsa. All the while, everything is infused with a dance factor that keeps the crowd moving.

If you haven't heard Brazilian Girls yet, pick up their second full-length release, *Talk to La Bomb*, a sunny album that will warm you up on those wet Vancouver days or rock your Saturday pre-funk cocktail hour. This is world music at a whole new level. **CHRISTER**



**Know of a band coming to town? Want us to review them?
Let us know. Drop us a line at grounder@gmail.ca.**



CD REVIEWS

Dave Matthews Band

The Best Of What's Around
Warner Music



Solid, folks, solid. The basic gist of this album is, if you rounded up the basic hits of the Dave Matthews Band and compiled them with some of their most coveted live performances, you'd have *The Best of What's Around*. First time listeners of DMB will thoroughly enjoy the saxophone-packed performances as well as the popular hits such as "Crash into me" and "The Space between." Note to avid Dave Matthews Band fans: if you have a friend wanting a sample of various goodies the DMB has created, just slap *The Best of What's*

around in their sweaty little palm. Although the album hits on the first disc make you want to grab a beer and jam, the highlight of the entire album has to be "Louisiana Bayou," and "Warehouse/ Louie, Louie" which can be found on the second disc (it'll ignite a sudden craving for some corn bread and deep fried pork). My biggest tiff with DMB would be the serious lack of harmonica in both of the songs, but I'm pretty sure I'd get mauled by the legion of loyal Dave Matthews fans out there if I were to take it further. **JUHEE JANG**

The OC
Mix 6: Covering Our Tracks
Warner Music

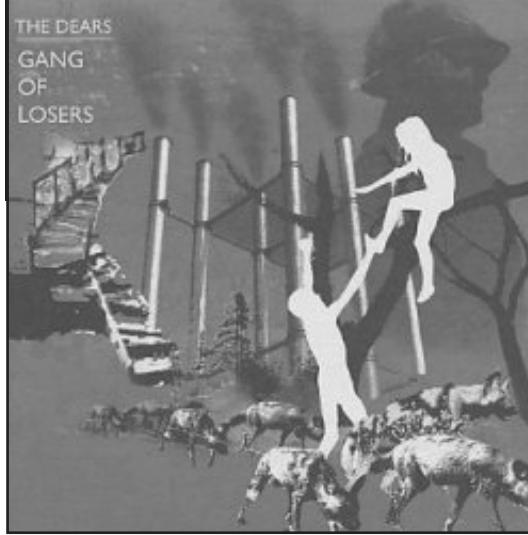


So The OC took your precious Death Cab and gave them to the rest of the world. Now Death Cab is doing incredibly well, selling out stadiums, and The OC is releasing its sixth compilation soundtrack. Are you done crying yet? Good. GET OVER IT.

The OC's *Mix 6: Covering Our Tracks* comes on the heels of Season 3. The compilation reflects this turn in the show's life, with its characters embarking on a post-high school journey and Marissa Cooper disappearing under car tires. (Oh yes, I just went there.)

Melancholy but with a hint of hope, many of the tracks are covers of old favourites by new darlings. The show's popular theme song, "California", originally performed by Phantom Planet, is covered by Mates of State on this compilation. UK grime artist, Lady Sovereign does an interesting take on the Sex Pistols' "Pretty Vacant".

The OC has gained a reputation for showcasing some of the most promising indie bands around, many of which have been toiling to break through for years. And it turns out, they actually have pretty good taste in music. So if that comes at the cost of sharing your little indie band secret... maybe it was worth it. **STEPHANIE IP**



"Think Death Cab
and Jack Johnson's
love child."



XM: Various Artists
Live @ The Verge
Warner Music

This is the kind of soundtrack you'd find in a Zach Braff movie. This is a good thing. Murray Lightburn's silky, sultry voice croons and sooths. The lyrics are gorged with poetry and the music that carries is so perfect, it'll make you forget about the midterm that just murdered you (trust me). Each track is unique and holds its own so that when you're listening to it for the 100th time, (I'm listening to it for the zillionth time already) you'll hear it just like you did the first. It's like chocolate for your ears. You'll get passing cravings for it when it's not there and you'll swim in its yumminess when it is (or that could just be me). It's mellow and soulful but with just the right amount of edge so that it doesn't come across as folky (Think Death Cab and Jack Johnson's love child). Do not eat this album. **KIRSTIN ESPERAT**

If there's one reason to start listening to more Canadian bands, this album is one of them. Including various bands from the well-known Pilot Speed and The Stills, this has a pretty decent variety of tunes to keep your head bobbing (slightly) for a while. The best performance on this entire album has to be "Killing Time" by Jets Overhead, while few of the other songs sell the artists short, such as "Stay" by Small Sins (although a decent live performance, it lacked the toe-tapping element that was present in their actual album-version). Overall, this album is a good one to have if you want to be introduced into a section of the Canadian music scene, but it is unlikely that *Live @ the Verge* will be a staple in your stereo. **JUHEE JANG**

Memphis

A Little Place In The Wilderness
EMI Music Canada

The word "dream" appears exactly twenty-two times throughout the liner notes for this debut album from Memphis, which should come as no surprise for fans of Torquil Campbell, the Stars frontman who leads Memphis with friend and album producer Chris Dumont. The instrumentation is delicate, with a host of guests such as Metric's Jimmy Shaw providing dreamy, distorted guitars and meandering trumpet calls; meanwhile, Torquil's wife, Moya Campbell, is among the vocalists. Each song is its own complete story – or dream, if you will – and the heart-on-sleeve romanticism so characteristic of Stars' efforts is in full display here, everything bursting with love lost, love found and love longed for. Opener "I Dreamed We Fell Apart" is particularly stunning in its own quiet way, fading in gently with the humming of frogs, while "Incredibly Drunk On Whiskey" documents a drunken misadventure that ends with Torquil cooing cheerfully, "I need you to help me be sick!" This is an album meant for those transcendent seconds before you, too, begin to dream the night away. **LUISA IRENE FISHER**

memphis
a little place in the wilderness

"...heart-on-sleeve
romanticism..."



MARK VAN MANEN/VANCOUVER SUN

PANIC! SMALLPOX EPIDEMIC AT THE DISCO

BY SAM LANDA AND
STEPHANIE IP

Sex sells. No, Seriously.

The lights dim, creating an ambiance of tension; the kind of tension that only presents itself at inappropriate situations or when something a little sexy is about to go down. Thousands of dewy breaths amalgamate in a fog above the crowd and lightly tease the beads of sweat on every forehead. The suspense builds as the audience starts to chant the name of their heroes. Louder, louder, stronger, faster, harder; up and up and up grows the volume until, with a burst of chords and cheers, music begins spewing from the stage, drenching the crowd with much-anticipated epiphany.

In all honesty? We finally understand why Panic! At The Disco has achieved the status that they have. December 2nd, 2006 had them headlining the Pacific Coliseum and Grounder had the chance to catch them in action. No, really. We mean... action. Jack's Mannequin (see interview on page 3) and Cobra Starship did a pretty alright job setting up the evening with their PG-rated performances but the "parent-friendly atmosphere" was quickly quashed by the lack of sexual inhibition of the headliners. Normally, this wouldn't really be too shocking. After all, in the entertainment business... sex sells, right? But maybe times have changed since we were 14.

The ages making up the audience ranged from 12 to 17, complete with eyeliner,

unwashed black hair, Amy Lee-style floor length dresses, and knee-high black boots to... well, boot. The majority of the tweens in the crowd were, thankfully, clothed. The throngs of women 'accompanying' the band were not. We felt somewhat overdressed, so we pulled down our collars to expose our clavicles. We felt better.

'Open Sundaes' on West 10th was essentially replicated on stage that night. Colours, stripes, and all possible candy-store essence dominated the costly theatrical props. The drummer was anything but hidden on a twenty-foot platform, and the keyboardist sat atop a cage filled often with prowling women. A line of dancing girls peeling off their ballerina suits to reveal frilly undergarments made the touchy, leather-clad couple seem modest. After several uncomfortable whispers to each other as we commented that 'we'd never expose our children to this garbage, we realized one important fact. This is the new rebellion.

Remember when we were in early high school? Seeing local bands at the community centers was considered "rebellious". Nirvana was considered rebellious. Even the uptight (but strangely aesthetically pleasing) geek chic of Weezer... was considered rebellious. Heck, as long as it was loud and cranked up to 11 - not 10, 11 - it was rebellious. These days,

rebellion is nothing short of engaging in a half-dressed, under-aged mosh pit orgy. The realm of mosh pit orgies has not self-created but has descended from a lineage of sex-encrusted artists. We maintain that Panic! At The Disco—contrary to qualms and protests of self-proclaimed, twelve-year-old 'scene' kids—is in the league of Britney Spears, Bloodhound Gang, Circle Jerks and B4-4 (not to mention that song by Akon). All of these artists (mostly in different genres) have numerous songs containing material that we wouldn't have understood at age ten if it had slapped us in the face. Let us rephrase that. These artists have been able to enter the market based on sex appeal or sexual content of the songs. It's rebellious to listen to dirty songs. Our parents don't like it. Even band names like Circle Jerks, Sex Pistols and Swollen Members imply that our generation possesses numerous euphemisms and a greater vocabulary than the Oxford Dictionary. It isn't surprising that preteens eat this up:

"Is it still me that makes you sweat?

*Am I who you think about in bed?
When the lights are dim and your hands are shaking as you're sliding off your dress?*

*Then think of what you did
And how I hope to God he was worth it.*

When the lights are dim and your heart is racing as your fingers touch his skin.

*I've got more wit, a better kiss, a hotter touch, a better fuck
Than any boy you'll ever meet,
sweetie you had me"*

It wouldn't be surprising to find similar lyrics—in Ebonics—in a gangster rap. All in all, P!ATD (every teenybopper-worthy band seems to be using abbreviations nowadays) is taking sexually-charged young people and sexually charging them even more. Every twelve-year-old—male or female—wants Brendon Urie to make them sweat and have his hands shake as he slides off their dress.

In conclusion: Times have changed. Ways of marketing ourselves have changed. Panic! At The Disco has done what most popular bands have done: used a blend of catchy pop music, sex appeal and a dramatic stage show to snag many music appreciators' lazy eye. This isn't to say that P!ATD is negative in our opinion; their marketing techniques are superb and their hooks are catchy. The music market and its expectations are what should be addressed.

We have never been to a dirty burlesque show, but by association we can now say that we have.

- Sam Landa and
Stephanie Ip

BoG Candidate: Darren Peets**+ What does the BoG do?**

The BoG is in charge of things like tuition, campus development, university-wide policy, and interactions with government.

+ You were once considered the "Fire Hydrant". Why do you now wish to be taken seriously?

In fact, the Fire Hydrant was considered the Fire Hydrant; I was merely its interpreter.

+ Do you find that people still try and hook up hoses to you?

I presume you mean Hydrant. Hydrant has spent most of the past year sitting next to my television, where there are very few hoses. I think it had a problem with either a hose or a dog a week or two back, but it doesn't seem inclined to talk about it.

+ Do you think Jeff Friedrich's 'condom-snorting' skill can come in handy as a president and/or member of the Board of Governors?

Anti-slate rules forbid me from answering that, but I can say that I have many more pointless skills than Jeff.

+ You say that one of your qualifications is "spotting holes in otherwise sensible proposals" I've made a list of three sensible proposals and we'll see if you can spot any holes:

1. "Put the 1300 waitlisted children to work on the UBC Farm, thus keeping the Farm running (no one wants to build on children), and solving the childcare shortage"

2. "Build a Skytrain to UBC under English Bay and have a terminus station on one of UBC's useless green spaces"

3. "Fiesta Hat Day! All students required to participate!"

1. Building a daycare at the Farm and having children run around outside with sheep isn't a bad idea. But expecting them to do useful work (or expecting their labour to fund construction) is a tad unlikely. It doesn't solve the Farm issue either – there's a top-notch research building in South Campus that's being turned into a school because UBC decided to build a suburb around it. In the case of a daycare, they could just build around it.

2. The main flow of commuters to UBC is from the east and southeast, not downtown. Such a line wouldn't be a bad idea, but it's not the best route. A Skytrain station would be worth sacrificing some green space for.

3. Enforcement would be expensive, particularly for students without classes that day, and we'd need to set up a financial aid system for those students unable to afford their own hat. If the hats were particularly wide, it could also cause problems on the buses, which are somewhat full already.

+ Voter apathy is often talked about in this election. What do you think would attract**more voters?**

a) Attractive, single, polling officers

b) A Child-Circus

c) A television at the polling station showing Jeff Friedrich's condom video

Definitely a), although c) isn't that far behind. Actually, the poll clerks wouldn't have to be single. By the time a hapless voter discovered they had no chance and lost interest, they would already have voted.

+ Finally, which slogan out of the two would you use if you could only use the ones I suggested?

1. What's Red, tough, and squirts the TRUTH?! Darren "The Fire Hydrant" Peets!

2. Darren Peets picked a pack of pickled peppers and proceeded to propose a plan for childcare! BAM!

Option 1) has much more of a ring to it.

"Put the 1,300 waitlisted children on the UBC farm, thus keeping the farm running—no one wants to build on children."

BOARD!OF!GOVERNORS!

The Exclusive Interviews

BY CARMIN CAROTENUTO

Jeff Friedrich: Presidential/BoG Candidate

I was conducting this interview with Melody Ma at the SUB and the Starbucks guys wanted to kick me out 'cause they were closing. I still think it was because they fear journalists with cajones.

+ What exactly does the Board of Governors do?

They determine whether your tuition will increase by 200% this year, whether you swim to class, whether you get a place to live on campus, whether you have enough plant-produced oxygen to breath on campus.

+ Have you seen the video of Presidential, and Board of Governors candidate, Jeff Friedrich snorting the condom up his nose and out of his mouth?

Yes, that's, um, a very creative way of using a condom. I wonder how he found out that talent in the first place...

+ I'll name an object and you decide whether Jeff Friedrich can snort it up his nose and out of his mouth or not...

Toothpaste - No

An iPod, or if he's a PC user, a Zune - Yes, if he wanted

Maxwell-Maxwell to win by default

Maxwell-Maxwell - No, Maxwell-Maxwell wouldn't have let him in the first place

Birth Control (for that added protection) - Definitely!

+ Recently the SFU student council was impeached. If the AMS student council were to be impeached what would it be for and how long would their downfall take?

They would be impeached for being overpaid and under worked.

+ If you were running a smear campaign against Maxwell-Maxwell which words would you use to ruin him?

Maxwell-Maxwell has done a good job and hilarious job in representing the common complaints about the AMS: that we're irrelevant, that we don't affect issues that he cares about, and that we waste money. Maxwell-Maxwell works for CiTR so he gets \$140,000 check every year from the AMS, no questions asked, he gets free rent in the building, and he's also a member of Pride which gets free money, no questions asked. He also uses the UPass, and the dental plan, and he says that he's concerned with campus development issues. People should be asking him to demonstrate why the AMS is irrelevant and why it wastes money because he clearly uses it everyday, and it affects issues that he cares about, or that he says he cares about.

+ You are wanted for a motor-vehicle offense in Australia; aren't you afraid that the Australian police will notice you in such a lofty position as AMS president?

How do you know that? Man, that is an awesome question. I guess I should be concerned about that and that's a risk I'll have to take if they track me down. Please don't tell the police.

+ You were raised in the State of Maine, USA. How is your potential presidency NOT a risk to Canadian sovereignty?

That's right, the pine tree state. You're very Nardwuar-esque. I'd also be the first international student elected to the board. I think the Canadians would do well to swallow Maine because we border more provinces than states.

+ Voter apathy is a hot topic in this election. Is this because UBC students hate, or fear democracy?

Um... They probably hate it.

+ Are you now, or have you ever been a member of the Marxist-Leninist club?

I'll reserve comment.

+ Final questions, I'll say the type of student and you say the first word, or phrase that pops into your head. [Plain text is his words]

Arts Student – Buttons on blazers with sweatshirts underneath

Science Student – Blue jackets and a new building

Holistic Medicine Student – Free Food (they seem like they're keen to get people out and serve free food)

Film Student – Some of them are horribly pretentious. Expensive equipment

Frat Boy – Ownership of Greek letters. They have some strange thing going on about the ownership of the Greek alphabet

Underground Contributor – You

"You are wanted for a motor-vehicle offence in Australia. Aren't you afraid the Australian Police will notice you in such a lofty position?"

Voter Funded Media:

Your guide to who all's tryin' to cash in.

The VFM contest is supposed to encourage campus media to provide excellent coverage of the AMS elections so that more students vote. But I think VFM encourages media to get students to vote for media so they can win mad cash. I mean, look at this tripe—wouldn't it be exciting if all this time and effort went into novel intellectual pursuits instead of covering the same content over and over?

When asked his opinion of VFM, presidential candidate Jeff Friedrich said "I don't think the logic's quite right on it." He went on to say "The Ubyssey [is] shitty [and] pissed me off. [It's] irrelevant." Thanks, Jeff. BoG candidate Melody Ma weighed in "VFM needs VFM for themselves if they want this to be a successful experiment." In short, VFM's fucked up. Oh yeah, and vote for the Underground.

The Thunderbird shamelessly exploits women's images to gain readership.



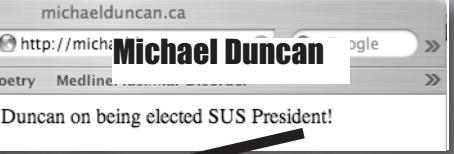
"Congratulations Michael Duncan?"
Why should I voter-fund that shit?



Group, eh? Group...of fools!
At time of printing, this website had no content besides the words "blah blah blah."



This website contains an uncited quotation from Marie Antoinette, in clear violation of UBC's plagiarism rules.



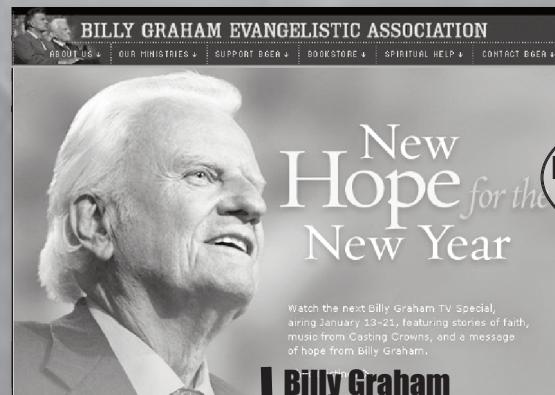
Elections Insider has a lot of intelligent coverage and fancy web design. Ooh.



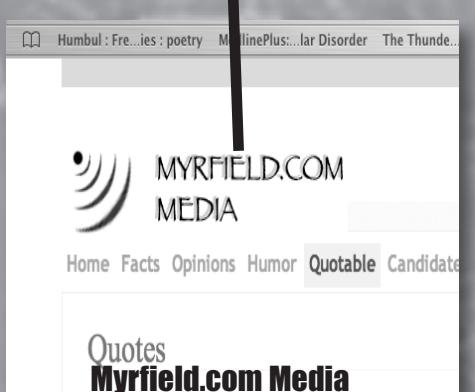
The Knoll's AMS Election Coverage

We're like a slate that isn't running

The Knoll



Billy Graham's VFM site features SUB-related passages from scripture. Candidates testify; Friedrich speaks in tongues.



Quotes
Myfield.com Media



Fox News: ignoring the AMS elections since 1918, but covering Kim-Jong? Bloody ignorant Americans.

THE QUEST TO BE VP ACADEMIC AND UNIVERSITY AFFAIRS

NOW IN A CAH-HUH-RAZY CHART!

Voter apathy got you down? Not sure how to tell those Vice Presidential candidates apart? Looking to cheer up your leprous pal? Well, read on, because the solutions to these three problems and more can be found in this handy elections cheat-sheet chart.

BY MEGAN RASCHIG

Brendon Goodmurphy	Fan Fan	Bruce Krayenhoff	Megan's Two Cents
Why should Joe P. Art-Studentsky vote for you without using the words 'free', 'beer', 'food', 'tuition', and 'jell-o wrestling'?	I have experience with AMS, and know the VP Academic portfolio: I am an AMS Councilor, as an Arts Rep (I represent you!), and I sit on Planning and Development Committee, and Impacts Committee as well as the Coordinators Appointments Committee. I have experience with AUS, and I know the importance of representing the Arts student perspective, and the importance of having strong constituency representation at AMS.	A vote for me is a vote for more efficient management of the AMS. With efficient management of AMS, some otherwise wasted resources can potentially be used so students can enjoy things like fr33 bzzr, 4ree f00d, Zkolarships, j3]]-0 wr3stling, and a lot of other things.	My primary goal is to improve student life [...] through lasting democratic reforms. This will make your AMS fees work harder for you. Specifically, I will work towards creating a miniature Citizens Assembly composed of randomly selected students as a new decision-making body in the AMS. This will be representative like an opinion poll, but also informed. It will provide the ~87% of students who don't vote with better representation, and help those who do to easily make the best voting choices possible come election time by providing them with trustworthy analyses and recommendations. In addition I will work to save you money by working with the UBC bookstore towards implementing a system in which students may use their library cards to borrow textbooks instead of purchasing them.
Which would you rather: hug a leper, or tell cruel lies to your loyal student body?	Definitely hug a leper. I played a leper once in a production of Jesus Christ Superstar... just a sidenote. Well I guess because telling lies to your students is a very bad thing. And if you know me, you know I can't tell lies, so no worries there. And besides, lepers need some loving too.	Would you lie or would you lie? The only legit answer is to "tell cruel lies", because I'm suppose to answer this question without really hugging a leper. Wouldn't I be lying if I said I'd hug a leper without somehow proving it? But the truth is, I am armed with the confidence that even if I am a leper, I'd still seduce any lady, any day, so I'm fine.	Hug a leper - leprosy is curable now.
It has recently come to the attention of many arts students that the engineering department has a number of cool-as-shit laboratories including but not limited to the following: a wind tunnel, an earthquake lab/massage table, and phasers. What kinds of facilities would you lavish upon us to make us feel important too?	I don't know what kind of labs we'd need per se, but we could definitely use better and more classroom space. Did you know that Buchanan was supposed to be a temporary building? Anyway, I think that it is important to give more Arts students undergraduate research opportunities, improve facilities and give better academic support through AMS services like tutoring.	A faculty do not buildings make. It's made up of people, their values, ideal, goals, and what makes up those people. I don't think the students of arts need anything, because your values lie in your spirit and in not any edifice of materialism. But everyone must take a break of indulgence, so I'd say a grand monument in the shape of a spiral, cast of gold and engraved with poetry of the world and footprints of our arts students, with a fountain of beer[...]	This is an important issue, but one that I haven't researched in depth. If I'm elected I will most certainly spend more time on this issue and see what our budget allows.
Should Stanley Park be renamed Rosa Park? Explain.	That would make me smile a lot, but I don't think many others in the community would enjoy that. But maybe we could build a park on campus called "Goodmurphy Park." Nah, I'm just kidding.	No, neither, it should be renamed The Fan Park, to celebrate the glorious struggles one UBC student fought to bring effective representation and fair governance to his student body. In addition, two smaller plots of land should be set aside and named Bruce plaza and Brendon square, in memory of two of his competitors that were worked to death in his name. Rosa park is fine.	Yes! There are so many roses there in the summer...
Please sum up your campaign platform using one and only one song title (barring showtunes/theme songs/Eye of the Tiger).	Showing UBC that students can and want to create change on campus...	"When I'm Gone" by Eminem My interpretation of the song is to do what you do, but don't forget why you're doing them. Eminem.	FAN FAN INSISTS THAT YOU  VOTE!

KERFUFFLE? YOU KNOW IT!

The Presidency: Two Pictures of Birds

BY NEALE BARNHOLDEN

The *Underground's* coverage of the presidential race began when I was walking to the bus and I accidentally walked into the middle of the forum between the candidates (whoa, *deja vu*). Stunned, I sat down and paid some attention. That pretty much set the stage for the debate between Jeff Friedrich and Maxwell Maxwell, as Maxwell's opening comments revealed that he was supposed to be a joke candidate, but then he realized that he was actually the *only* other candidate. Later, when asked to describe a mistake he'd made in the past year, he claimed that it was not getting someone else to run in his place.

Both candidates acknowledged the 'voter apathy' problem, though Jeff pointed out that the student body has been pretty apathetic for four decades, so in a way it's like a proud tradition. Again, it would have been pretty hard not to acknowledge the voter apathy problem, since at this forum, the audience seemingly consisted only of media people, other candidates, and friends of candidates.

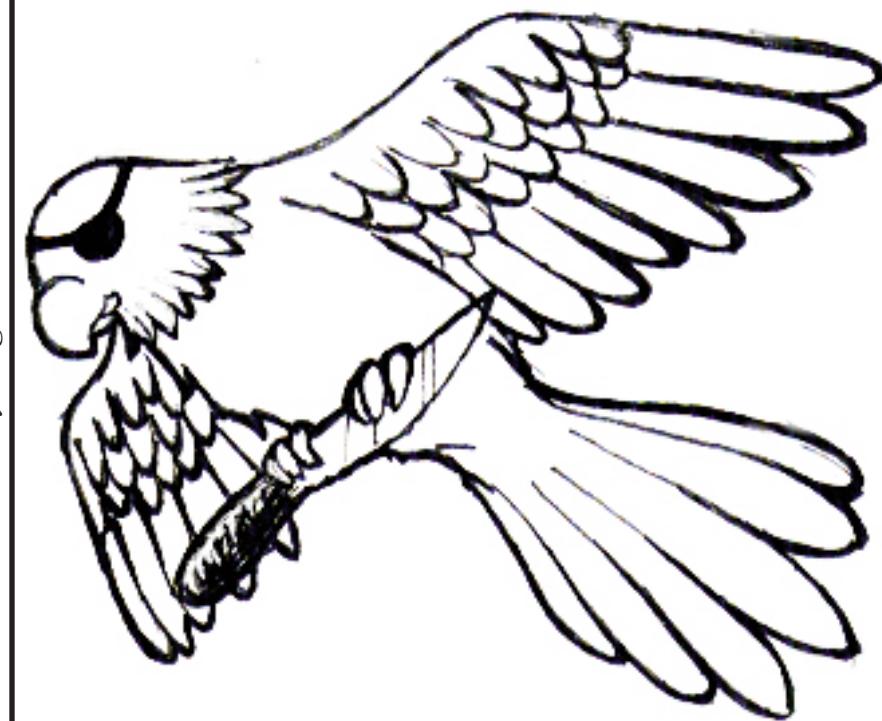
And a pigeon.

Maxwell put forward a platform centering on making things (student fees, beer) cheaper and doing things (parties, increased fiscal transparency) that people would enjoy, which Jeff countered by reminding us all that AMS parties are pretty lame. For his part, Jeff insisted that he would try to engage the student body while trying to, you know, be a good president. The key-stone of this would be more volunteering- as Friedrich later put described his plan to reorient Volunteer Connections, "... not to say we need to stop doing what we're doing, but I think we should look more internally."



One out of every 10 people at the debate was a pigeon.
(File Photo)

Cartoon by Angelina Xia



"Maxwell... Maxwell... Maxwell... Maxwell..."

Maxwell Maxwell did not respond to our requests for an interview. Since he was the joke candidate originally, and we are not really a newspaper, this is most unfortunate. It could have been a real meeting of minds. Instead, more about Jeff:

Jeff Friedrich intends to increase AMS visibility by creating an actual central budget for AMS marketing. I really have no idea what they've been doing before this point. Also, apparently, the AMS isn't able to e-mail you all. Again, I really don't know why.

What it all boils down to is this: Maxwell demands that the AMS stop wasting money, doing meaningless things and selling out to heartless yuppies, while Jeff insists that the AMS actually does do a lot of important things that aren't wastes of money, and the real problem is that nobody knows about it. You decide.

The UBC Kung Fu Association



FIRST CLASS: FREE TRIAL



The UBC Kung Fu Association
Practices: Mondays and Wednesdays
4:30 - 6:30

SUB Ballroom

www.ams.ubc.ca/clubs/kungfu
ubckungfu@gmail.com



BEGINNERS AND NON-BEGINNERS WELCOME

What da Funk is POLE TO POLE?



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TIME: DOORS OPEN AT 8
PLACE: UKRAINIAN HALL, 805 EAST PENDER AVE
TICKET COST: \$15 IN ADVANCE, \$18 AT THE DOOR
TICKETS AVAILABLE AT: HIGHLIFE RECORDS, 1317 COMMERCIAL DRIVE, AND DUTCHGIRL CHOCOLATES, 1002 COMMERCIAL DRIVE
ALCOHOL SERVED & PRIVATE AUCTION

FIVE ALARM FUNK WITH OPENING BAND D&A

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COMING UP IN THE NEXT ISSUE:
HILARY SPEAKS LATIN
NEALE HITS MANHATTAN
AND CAMPUS IS DRAPED IN SATIN