

the

father Press

Potting. Weeding. Add a case of beer and you
have summer made.

Summer Issue #2 June 2nd, 1999

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The Other Press is Douglas College's autonomous student newspaper. We've been publishing since 1976. *The Other Press* is run as a non-hierarchical collective, which means that if anything goes wrong, blame it on Tom.

The *OP* is published weekly during the fall and winter semesters and monthly [as a magazine] during the summer.

We receive our funding from a student levy collected every semester at registration, and from local and national advertising revenue.

The Other Press is a member of the Canadian University Press (CUP), a cooperative of student newspapers from across Canada. We adhere to CUP's Statement of Common Principles and Code of Ethics. *The Other Press* reserves the right to choose what to publish, and what not to publish, but usually we print everything, unless it is racist, sexist or homophobic. If you have any quibbles with what we choose, maybe you should get your lazy butt down here and help.

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Our own Tim Frick gets the highest honour BC has. And it's not a salmon... or a soap stone carving... or jade.

Wrestlers grapple with new found notoriety

Two DC women wrestlers slam their way to a place on the national team

Where have all the flowers gone?

The flowers are all in here. How to start a grow operation—of roses. How to play in dirt, and lots about pot selection...for flowers.

We accept all letters for publication, but we require your name (which will be withheld on request) and phone number so we can verify that you are the author. Also, sometimes we must make changes or cut your letter to fit the space we have (although this happens very rarely), in this case we will contact you and ask your permission, however we can't do that if we don't have your phone number, so please write it on your letter.

Outstanding College Coach honoured Tim Frick to receive highest award

ANNETTE MARTIN

Douglas College coach Tim Frick will receive this province's highest award, the Order of British Columbia, on June 17, 1999.

Frick of Port Coquitam has been a coach for 30 years, 11 of those coaching wheelchair basketball, and he has had a positive impact on the lives of thousands of athletes.

Frick has guided the National Women's Wheelchair Basketball team to several titles including the Gold Cup World championship in 1994 and 1998, and Paralympics [check spelling] titles in 1992 and 1996.

He was also instrumental in the planning and implementation of the Rick Hansen Man in Motion Tour, which raised the world's awareness of the potential of people with disabilities and the barriers they face.

He is the "winningest" coach in womens wheelchair basketball, and the only coach in Canada to win a gold medal at the World Championship or Olympic Games.

"I think it's fantastic after all this time, Tim finally got his due," said Hansen. "He's incredibly selfless, a true supporter and giver. He believes in teamwork first. He's a leader, a mentor and a friend and he has impacted on a lot of people."

"I don't know if I did anything special or different," Frick said. "I took the same kind of approach I always have taken [to] coaching—a humanistic one. Everyone in life has differences and varying abilities, it's just a matter of tapping into them."

The Order of British Columbia awards will be presented to 14 recipients in the June 17 ceremony to be held at Government House.

In making the announcement, Premier Glen Clark said, "These outstanding British Columbians have made a difference in their chosen fields and given generously of themselves. The Order of British Columbia recognizes their outstanding achievements and their positive impact on the lives of thousands of people."

Montessori Teacher Training Program



The North American Progressive Montessori Teacher Training Center program commences each September. It is 3 hours long. This program is for people desiring to obtain their Montessori Teaching Diploma.

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Letters

RE: Article in the May issue "Magazine for Young Masturbators"

I found this article to be extremely offensive. I have no idea why this newspaper would be interested in writing such a tasteless—useless article. Who wants to read this kind of stuff? I can assure you no one I go to school with does.

This is a continued expression of the kind of slander that women put up with on a daily basis and this paper is contributing to it. I found it interesting that I could not locate a name attached to these words. I would think whoever wrote this article would be pleased to include their name with this women-bashing article.

The low quality material this paper prints rarely surprises me; however, this article has reached an all time low. I am ashamed that I (as a student) am forced to contribute to this garbage.

Yours truly

Stacey O'Halloran

I was surprised to see the recent issue of *the Other Press* feature titled "The magazine for Young Masturbators," especially since you say you do not print material that is "racist, sexist or homophobic."

I have had conversations with a number of students and college employees during the last few days, who clearly find the issue offensive. I have also personally handled a number of external calls from individuals living in our community who have told me the issue is offensive to them.

Although you are an autonomous student newspaper and this issue was intended to be a spoof, you do need to understand that not everyone is clear about this autonomy, and many assume that *the Other Press* is an integral part of Douglas College.

I hope that you will consider this when contemplating any future issues of *the Other Press*. Obviously for many this issue crossed over the boundaries in comfort, taste and content.

Thank you.

Susan Witter

Douglas College President

about that S P O O F...

The Other Press is a student run newspaper. All our writers, editors, coordinators and employees are students of Douglas College. Being a bunch of students, we print a lot of things you won't see in a big daily paper (or mainstream magazine) and some of that skirts the lines of good taste. And sometimes we step over those lines. But we are by students, for students and autonomous, which means that we print the paper and pay our employees from a student levy and by selling advertising. Essentially, all students help pay for the paper and your opinions, ideas, letters and such are welcome, especially if you feel we've crossed some personal lines. If you don't tell us you disapprove, we can't make changes. Of course, praise for doing such a wonderful job is also warmly welcomed. The ideas and opinions that we publish in our paper are just that—ours. They in no way reflect the attitudes or opinions of any employee, administrator, faculty member, or staff member of Douglas College or the DCSS. We try not to print anything sexist, racist or homophobic, but again, we sometimes stray over the line. If we do, it is never, EVER meant to be a malicious attack on any individual or group.

Society? Not likely

Dear Mr. Smith,

RESPONSE TO LITTLETON

In reading your opinion piece on Littleton, Colorado in last month's issue of *the Other Press* I found that you are exactly the type of person I don't want running this

country. That's not to say that you're alone in this, it's just that you are part of a huge number of people that doesn't want to take the blame for anything. You and your group instead, blame things on "society" or "television" or other such ambiguous entities.

I will take a great leap of faith and assume you are an educated man and being an educated man, you may have read Aldus Huxley's, *A Brave New World*. In that book, society could be blamed for the actions of its people because the people in that novel were grown and created to think, act and look a certain way. However, in this world, we are created by a sperm fertilizing an egg, which means that usually we have a set of "parents." These parents should take it upon themselves to not teach about right and wrong, but to explain the options open to their offspring and let them choose for themselves. This would mean "communicating" with our children and young adults beyond "how was your day at school."

Speaking of school, how do you intend to implement this "teacher

on every corner" policy? Have you ever taught at an elementary or secondary school? Do you have friends that do? I have friends who teach in these environments and I can tell you that their days are full enough without having to give up their lunch hours and recesses to supervise children that they must look after for six hours every day. Also, we hardly have enough teachers in this province to just teach our young people, are we going to raise taxes to pay for these "supervisors"? Are you willing to pay for that Mr. Smith?

If these "supervisors" that you request in your article are put in place, bullying and other abusive behaviour won't be wiped out, it will simply be driven underground where it will become more violent with more gruesome results. Do you remember the problems Japanese schools had a few years back with bullies? How the bullies would conduct their business out of the public's eye, often with the result being the suicide of the victim. Would you like to bring that over here Mr. Smith?

People need to stop blaming ambiguous entities like "society" and start taking responsibility for their own actions. Your article didn't persuade me Mr. Smith. It frightened me.

Hamish Knox

Congratulations

to Rick Smith for catching and grinding the hypocrisy of Clinton and helping to surface the real issues at stake in his article "Society to Blame for Littleton Massacre." (OP, May 1999)

I'm sure anyone who has been the victim of bullying or teasing could understand where the two boys who went on the shooting rampage were coming from. It was not the best way to solve their problems, but killing someone's self confidence is not a crime society should overlook either. Sure, getting teased and picked on happens to everyone and helps build character, but there's a limit to everything. How long can someone function normally while knowing they're literally an outcast in their own society, despised and mocked by everyone? Is it really wrong to suggest being a little kinder and more considerate with the people around you? Or, at least have respect for their feelings. Treat people the way you want to be treated; it's not such a big sacrifice considering the aftermath you could be avoiding.

I can only hope we all take a look at the "man in the mirror" before pointing our finger at whoever is portrayed in the mainstream media as villain.

Zahra Jamal

News

ANNETTE MARTIN

The memo, signed by Kelli Semple and other members of the executive,

Vanishing magazines

states, "the only reason we are requesting

Only one day after last month's publication appeared on news stands around the New Westminster campus, copies of *the Other Press* summer magazine vanished—removed by a person (or persons) unknown.

this is to ensure that the views of the Union are consistent with what is being portrayed in the public." The message continues, "The public must

Flying rumours

see the DSU as having one solid opinion of the current issues."

At least two members of the DCSS Representative Committee—who declined to identify

themselves—interpreted this memo to mean, "We can't talk to anyone at *the Other Press*."

Members of the newspaper collective were then informed that a Security guard had witnessed the wholesale removal of magazines from the news stand closest to the Security Booth, and that the female perpetrator was recognizable, although her identity could not be absolutely verified.

The DCSS had also heard rumours and sent out another memo addressed to Terry Leonard, Director of Facilities at the college.

In this memo, Amanda Wheeler, External Relations Coordinator, and Kelli Semple, Internal Relations

Coordinator, claim, "We have had several College personnel inform us that they took part in disposing of the OPs and [we] were also warned that the college was going to try to blame us."

The memo, however, goes on to accuse security personnel of misinformation, claiming that Melinda Read had been named as the person seen removing magazines. And that Melinda, along with five other members of the DCSS executive and rep committee, was out of town at the time of the alleged incident and could not, therefore, have been responsible.

The person who was allegedly seen

and Speeding memos

What triggered such a desperate attempt to control the autonomous paper?

The controversial summer issue contained stories questioning the validity of the March DCSS elections, which were held under new bylaws that have not yet been filed and approved by Victoria.

It also contained a spoof on YM magazine, which generated several complaints to *the Other Press*.

The disappearance of the magazines, and the ongoing investigation into who removed them, produced a flurry of innuendoes, rumours and memos.

The first memo from the DCSS executive advised representatives and staff that communication with "non-members of the Students' Union" should be restricted to the executive.

(Editorial note: Membership in the DCSS is not restricted to executives and representatives. Any student enrolled in any Douglas College class is automatically a paid-up member of the Student's Union.)

scooping the news stand is not one of the people named by the DCSS memo as being out of town at the time of the incident.

Armando Fernandez, Security Supervisor for the New

Westminster campus, said he's not concerned about the unsubstantiated accusations.

"I wouldn't know Melinda," he said, "And neither does the guard who witnessed the person removing the papers so we

didn't bring up her name."

In a letter to Leonard dated May 25, 1999, Fernandez states, "At no time did security ever accuse anybody by name for the removal of the news letters...we did witness someone removing the letters and gave



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them [the OP] a description of that person. I feel that at no time did security give out false or damaging information."

Five days after the accusatory memo was received, a copy of another memo addressed to Leonard winged its way into the OP office.

Signed by Beverly Bouma, this memo states, "I would

like to address the derogatory comments made about security by those who purport to speak for the entire society." It continues, "It appears that these allegations of wrong-doing were made quite hastily, with no thought to any consequences that may arise from accusations which likely have no basis in fact."

Following the removal of the magazines, "an anonymous caller" informed one of *the Other Press's* regular advertisers that their ad copy had been placed in the issue next to what was described as, "questionable material."

The ad in question faced the end of a serious opinion piece about youth violence, and was in front of an innocuous sports story, leading to suspicions of mischief-making on the part of the anonymous tipster.

So the questions remain unanswered; who did remove *the Other Press* magazines? And who is the DCSS trying to protect with their "red herring" memos?



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The 1999/2000 College Budget

Funding changes allow for growth at Douglas

ANDREW MARCHAND

New funding from the Ministry of Advanced Education, Training and Technology will yield 120 new full time student spaces (FTEs) to be opened next September. Thirty-one new sections will be offered, allowing for an increase in sections from University Transfer to Arts and Adult Basic Education classes as well as the adoption of a Computer Software Specialist Program.

Offered primarily at David Lam Campus, the new student spaces will further Douglas College's attempts to keep the campus open during the summer semester. David Lam currently operates at 54% capacity and is the only public college to close its doors during the summer. To fully utilize the campus, Roy Daykin, Director of Finance for Douglas College, stated that the David Lam summer semester must operate at the same level as regular semesters. This would require further funding for an additional 200 FTEs. Susan Witter, President of Douglas College, believes that the Provincial Education Ministry and the

MLAs are aware that this is an area requiring consideration.

College administration will also institute a reallocation of funding to remedy areas in need of assistance. Growth in college enrolment has left a need for more sections and staff, and so \$448,000 will be reassigned for two full-time spaces each at the Registrar's Office and Systems and Computing. Money will also be made available for an additional 44 new sections, 20 of which were opened this summer to compensate for a surprisingly large enrolment. Some areas that will incur a loss of funding include Centre 2000, the New Directions Program, and the Centre for Sport, Recreation and Wellness as well as *Event*, the Douglas College Review.

Numerous letters of complaint were received in reference to the decision to cut *Event's* funding. Witter commented that the magazine's directive must be to reverse its trend of deficit and become self-sustaining. Over the next five years, their funding will be reduced by allotments of 20% until the magazine becomes completely financially autonomous.

Despite such cuts, the budget is good news for most within the college. The Ministry gave a further \$47,000 to offset the continued tuition freeze, and Douglas's FTE funding was the largest

amount allotted from the Ministry to all Colleges and University Colleges. A portion of it will also allow for the upgrade of a variety of equipment.

There is still continued concern over the restoration of funding for post-secondary education among educators and students across the nation. The College Institute Educators' Association of BC (CIEA) and the Canadian Federation of Students (CFS) make it clear that without persistent efforts from the federal government, post-secondary education will still be at risk. The threat of rising tuition fees could easily make higher learning inaccessible for the average Canadian. Both the CIEA and CFS concede that the Western Premiers are acting responsibly by putting the issue on their agenda.

In the interest of keeping the budget decision process both open and informed, College Administration distributed newsletters and consulted many people from all levels within Douglas. A College-Wide Budget Forum, attended by 75 people, was held May 5 to provide comments from the college community. A final forum will be held 5:30 pm, June 14, and the conclusion of the budget process will be decided at the College Board meeting at the end of June.

News

Environmentalists, or a Bunch of Jerks?

ZAHRA JAMAL

Dressed in black as Darth Vader from *Return of the Jedi* and carrying a neon sword, an environmentalist marches down the stairs and along the panel of Greater Vancouver Regional District (GVRD) speakers. As Councillor Marvin Hunt, Chair of the GVRD Water Committee, starts his introduction, Darth Vader yells, "Welcome to the dark side of the GVRD!" and points his sword into a speaker's face, accusing the GVRD of wasting \$6 million of our tax money.

On Friday May 15, the GVRD held a Watershed Management Consultation at Robson Conference Centre to give Greater Vancouver citizens a chance to provide their feedback on Management Plan No.5.

The GVRD has recently completed a \$6 million forest inventory to explore different options for managing Greater Vancouver's watersheds. Now, they're asking for public opinion on these options and how to improve the water quality. Heather Malone, from the Society Promoting Environmental Conservation (SPEC), warns, "The whole thing is a sham; as soon as this debate dies down, there's nothing stopping them from logging our watersheds."

This new proposal has outraged environmentalists who claim the Plan is nothing more than a new rationale for logging. They say the GVRD's only objective is to preserve the 1967 Amending Indenture, a legal mandate for logging the watersheds.

"The Management Plan is being developed as a condition of the Amending Indenture, which means they have no intentions of getting out of their logging agreement," raves Malone.

This widely-held opinion is causing some members of the GVRD staff to detonate. "Look, we don't log up there now and haven't for years," yells Bill Morrell of the GVRD's Communications Department. "I seem to say this ten times a day, but no one wants to believe it."



"The Patch" for trees

During a recent edition of *People and Policies* on Rogers Cable, Marvin Hunt made the GVRD'S position quite clear, "It does not come into the equation...there's no logging for profit going on."

Morrell specifically states, "The purpose of this Management Plan is not to renew logging plans in the watersheds, but to improve the quality of our drinking water."

News

"Are they really concerned about water quality," Malone wonders, "if their staff has no hydrologists or ecologists, but a whole bunch of foresters?" Her claim is somewhat unfounded—the panel of GVRD speakers at the consultation included a biologist, geologist, ecologist, and entomologist. These were just a few of the scientists hired to complete the six-year ecological inventory.

The danger with logging is that it causes deregulation in the natural flow of water and exposes the watershed soil. Once logged, there are fewer canopies to filter rain water and snow melt so exposed soil quickly fills our reservoirs and drinking water. As debris travels into our water pipes, it releases bacteria and pathogens, creating a need for higher concentrations of chlorine to fight these bacteria. Excessive chlorine in tap water is why many Vancouverites—including people at the GVRD—are purchasing bottled water.

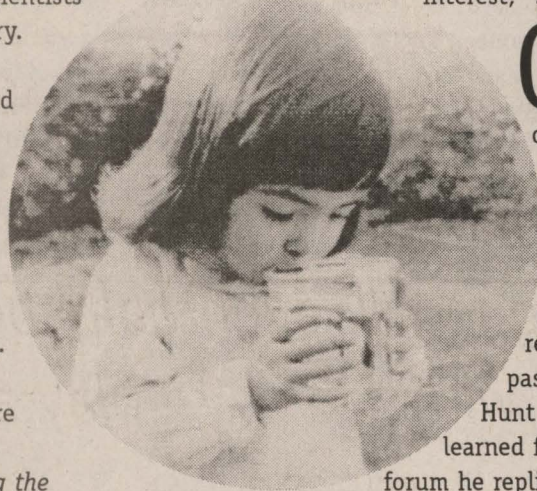
Author William Koop's critique, *Misinforming the Public*, gives a scientific analysis on the effects of GVRD's "managing" in the watersheds. He explains that since they've logged 5000 hectares of plantations, they've created 5000 hectares of land more prone to forest fires.

The GVRD claims that many of these areas were logged because canopies of the same height have a greater chance of catching fire. They take responsibility for their clear cutting and all the other controversial decisions made in the past, and suggest the ecological inventory and public forums are being done to find new, more acceptable ways, to manage our watersheds.

Why not stop logging all together? Hunt explains the GVRD already has a 999 year lease with the province to "deal" with these lands, and as part of the agreement, a Management Plan must be submitted to the Ministry of Forests. "I, personally, don't have a problem with getting out of any agreement requiring us to log," assures Hunt, "Since 1991 we've been formulating a 200 year Management Plan. In the first year, we can get out of the Amending Indenture, but a plan is needed for the rest of the 199 years."

The GVRD's efforts to include public opinion in the decision-making process should be given credit, not criticism. What more can we ask for than to be

heard? Why decide what the outcome will be when the decision-making process hasn't even begun? "I would be flabbergasted if politicians decided we should start logging the watersheds on a commercial scale. They know this is not in the public's best interest," says Morrel.



On *People and Places*, Scott Hanna, Manager of Acres International for Environmental Services, literally took notes while listening to the public's concerns regarding the GVRD's past practices. When Hunt was asked what he learned from coming to the forum he replied, "What I'm

hearing is the need to have different groups get together, share their information, and come up with a solution that's going to work."

Environmentalists are not displaying the same attitude. Even though guests were given a twenty-minute question and answer period after each presentation during the consultation, most environmentalists barely gave the GVRD a chance to speak. One environmentalist wasn't even happy when he was given a chance to speak. "Thank-you for your indulgence," he said sarcastically after being thanked for his patience.

Maybe Hanna's note-taking or Hunt's hope to learn from the public is all a sham, or some sort of political stunt, but instead of deciding what their motives are, shouldn't we be focusing on our watersheds?

Before you decide whether the GVRD is the scum of the earth or the gatekeeper of our precious water, contact them by phone, fax or e-mail and give them your opinion on the issue.

Phone: 432-6339

Fax: 432-6399

Email: comm_ed@GVRD.bc.ca

Sports

Why can't you play together?

HE WHO WALKS BEHIND THE BENCHES

A new season of professional women's basketball tips off June 10, but eventually the NBA and the WNBA will have to play together.

...the league will eventually be too crammed with teams to play a real season.

Right now, the WNBA is the perfect size for the bush league status given to it by the NBA. Twelve teams competing over two months (June\July) with the playoffs covering two weeks in August is fine for now, but with the NBA's goal being to put a women's team in every franchise city, the league will eventually be too crammed with teams to play a real season. Therefore, once the WNBA expands past its current 12-team format the NBA should look to playing the seasons simultaneously.

The problem with that scenario is that while Kobe and the Lakers are dazzling a sold-out arena in Westwood, the equally dazzling Sheryl Swoopes is playing in front of friends and family in Houston. However, this is the plan to fix that problem—play double-headers. Say Utah and Minnesota are scheduled to play. Start the women's game at 5pm local time and start the men's game at 8pm. Now, the women's game won't be a novelty showcase, like the US likes to make of its women's soccer team; it would be a *real* basketball game

put on by *professional* athletes. And, as anyone who follows basketball knows, the women's game is far better to watch as a purist because they can a) dribble, b) pass, c) shoot and d) play "D."

Most NBA games today are dunkfests interrupted by an occasional 3-pointer and a lot of missed jump shots. If you want to watch *real* basketball click on the WNBA, or better yet, catch the University of Tennessee when they play the University of Connecticut. That's real basketball in action.

These changes aren't going to happen overnight. A lot of arguing will go on, especially over television times. Well screw television! Basketball was here a

...the plan to fix that problem—play double headers.

long time before television, and if some "fans" don't want to catch a WNBA game because they won't see any Vince Carteresque highlight dunks, too bad for them. They're missing an excellent game.

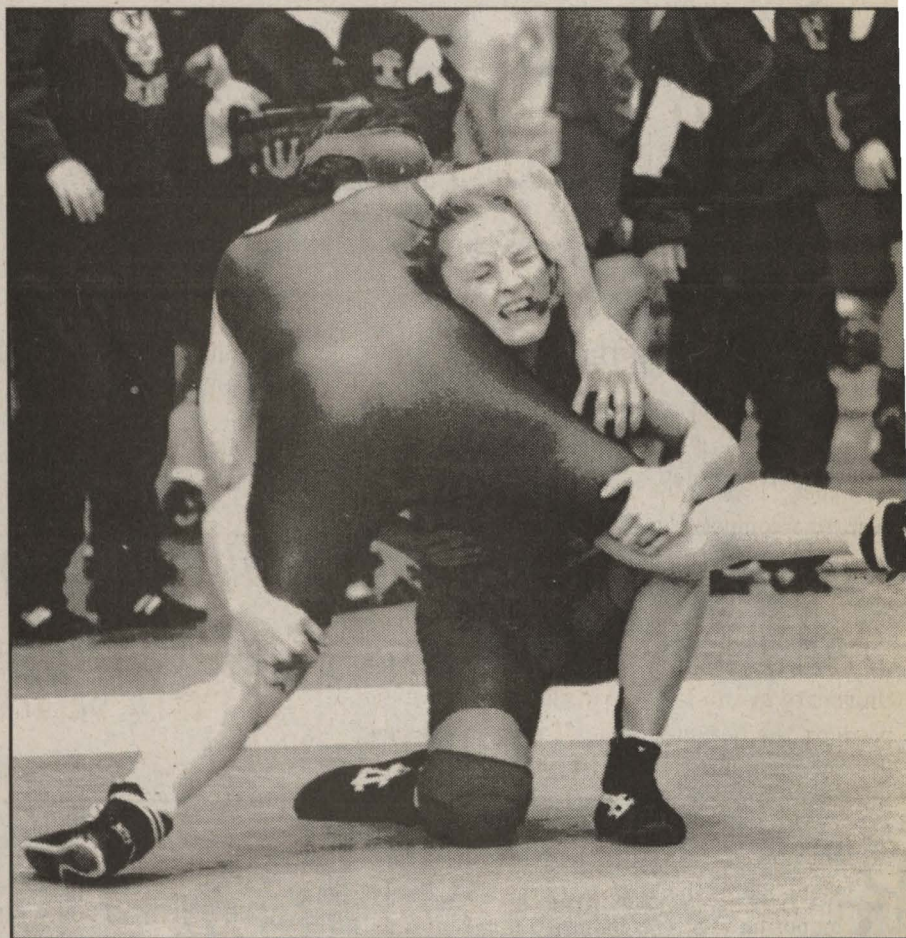
Sports

DC wrestlers make national team

HAMISH KNOX

*Lyndsay Belisle
and Jane*

*Hofweber, both wrestling
for the Douglas College
Wrestling team, secured
places on the Canadian
Senior National team
with victories at the
National Senior team tri-
als in Hamilton two
weeks ago.*



This past wrestling season has been very good to Belisle. She won the Canada Cup tournament by defeating an Olympic gold medalist in the final; a gold medal at the Pan-Am games by beating a five time World Champion and she was a finalist for the inaugural BC College Athlete of the Year award.

"Lyndsay is a gifted athlete. One of the strongest wrestlers in Canada," said her coach, Dave McKay, before the tournament. "She's technically sound and very mentally tough."

Competing in the 46kg class, Belisle ripped through the field, eventually pinning her final opponent, Tanya Mair of McMaster University, to take the gold medal and a spot on the Canadian team. "This year I'm more mentally prepared," said Belisle. "I wrestled with confidence and believed in myself."

Sports

The final match was a good test of her skills according to Belisle. "In the first period (matches are contested in two three minute periods) I was up 3-0, then in the second period she [Mair] started in the down position and I used a crotch lift to expose her shoulders and pin her."

Joining Belisle on the Canadian team is Jane Hofweber, who already had the experience of one national championship victory going into this year's trials. "I was confident going into the tournament," said Hofweber. "I was a bit concerned because we hadn't had been to a competition in two months, but when I got to the trials everything fell into place for me."

Like her teammate Belisle, Hofweber tore up her division (62kg), defeating Tara Hedican of Guelph University by pin fall to win the gold medal and a place on the National team. "I used a head snap into an ankle pick to get her down," said Hofweber. "I guess she wasn't very experienced because she kept falling for the same trick."

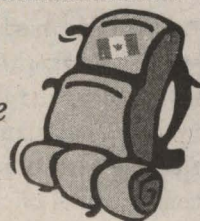
The next major competition for both wrestlers is the Canada Cup to be held July 9 in Guelph, then it's off to the World Senior Championships in Boden, Sweden, September 7-11. "Being on the team really means a lot to me," said Belisle. "I'm very honoured to represent my country."

Hofweber also feels honoured to be representing her country, but it's the international experience and camaraderie she treasures most.

"Canada has such a great international reputation so people are really eager to meet you. They'll teach us some of their language and we'll teach them some English. It's also great to have teammates like Lyndsay who really encourage you. It's important to train hard, but having supportive teammates gives you that extra bit of confidence."

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Features

Gardening for \$10 per month

Your summer balcony garden:

Creating a summer garden is more economical than you think

KATHRYN GUENETTE

Balconies lined with baskets overflowing with the purples, yellows, and reds of summer flowers are not luxuries suitable only for people with large disposable incomes. Living on a limited budget doesn't have to limit your desire for a beautiful balcony garden. You can indulge in the beauty of the season's colours and fragrances, and have the satisfaction of cultivating and nurturing plants for as little as \$10 per month. And what better time of year to start planning your garden than right now as the gardening season begins to pick up momentum.

Planning makes a difference

Before putting your hard-earned cash on the counter, do some planning. First, figure out how

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much space you have to work with. Do you want your containers to sit on tiers? Do you want hanging baskets? How about a trellis for your climbing beans or sweet peas? You can find items to build structures for containers at minimal cost at garage sales or in the back of lumberyards where they keep their wood scraps.

Do you want your garden to have a theme? You may prefer a particular colour scheme or style, a certain collection of scents, or a garden that attracts butterflies or birds. Or if you want your garden to serve a practical purpose, you may want to consider a vegetable or herb garden.

One of the keys to planning is budgeting.

If this is your first attempt at creating a balcony garden and you want to work with a \$10 per month budget, you may have to build it one container per month throughout the season. But by the end of the summer you can have six or seven containers spilling with colour. By the end of the season you will have pots, a balcony plan, and a summer's worth of experience to add to next summer's garden.

Your local garden centre should be able to help you get started. Throughout your gardening excursions, a garden centre is a

tremendous resource. Not only can you purchase what you need, but you can also ask their experienced staff questions about your gardening needs and concerns.

Pots that show your style

When you think of pots for your plants, don't be constrained by the traditional bucket-type of container. Explore your creative side and see what you come up with.

Try an old boot or tire, wooden boxes, cups, tin buckets, tin cans, pitchers bowls, or baskets.

By foraging through tables at garage sales or thrift stores you can dig up some creative and inexpensive containers for your plants. Some garden centres have pot exchanges, at which you can trade smaller pots in for bigger ones for free or at a minimal cost.

The most important requirement of any pot is its good drainage. If your pot is going to sit directly on the

Features

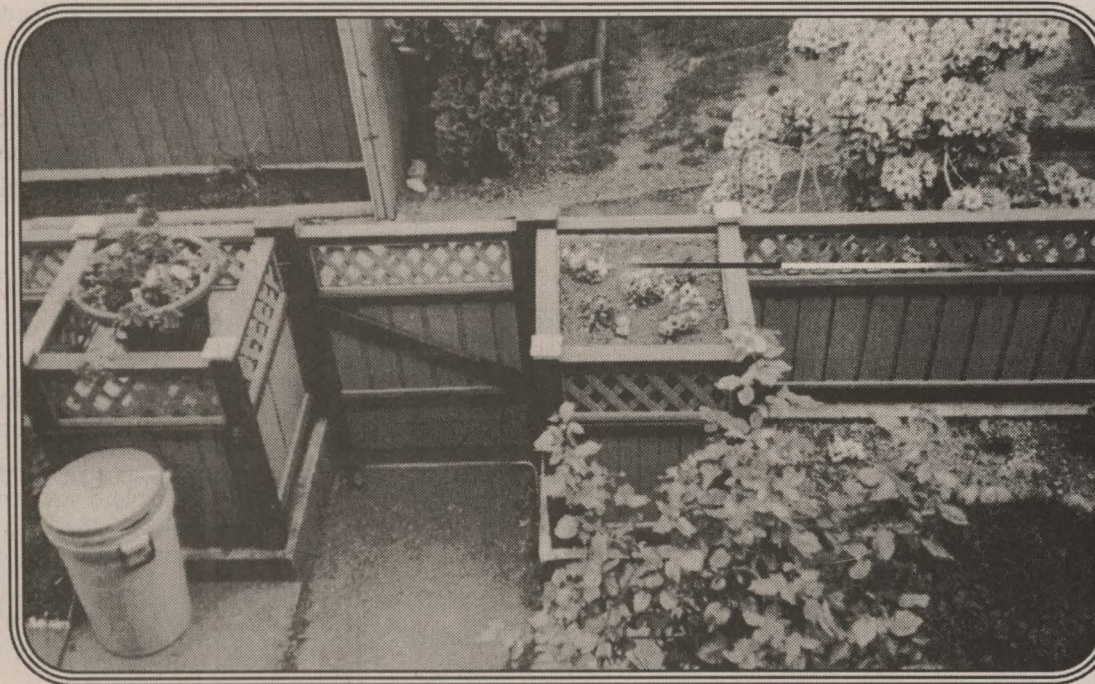
ground set it on something high enough to allow the water to filter out through the bottom. You can also put pebbles, broken dishes—anything that won't degrade—in the bottom of the pot to increase drainage. And don't forget to put something under the pot to catch the run off so it won't stain your balcony.

Pots will range in cost depending on where you find them—from no cost to \$1.50 to \$20.00 or more.

Soil—a basic ingredient

Soil is cheap and very accessible. Your local garden centre should sell an all-purpose potting soil that is adequate for container gardening. The cost for a 20-litre bag of Planter Box Mix will run you approximately \$3.99.

Most potting soils contain enough nutrients to last for approximately six weeks. After that, however, plants need to be fed or they will slowly starve. There are several types of plant foods available. One option is a slow-release plant food granule. This type of food lasts for the entire season. A 250g container will cost you approximately \$4.99. Another option is a basic 20/20/20 soluble



fertilizer that you administer every two weeks. A 250g container will run you around \$3.99.

An organic food option for your garden is compost.

Compost is a natural fertilizer you can mix in with your container soil, and your soil will love it. It improves plant nutrition, drainage, and water holding capacity of soil, as well as providing a home for lots of worms and bugs. The city of Vancouver sells worm composts for \$25.00—including worms—in which you throw vegetable scraps, coffee grounds, tea bags, garden clippings and shredded newspaper.

You can build your own compost. Make a container out of cedar siding, chicken wire, or anything that will allow adequate air circulation. Use Rot-It, an environmentally friendly compost building product that accelerates the rotting process of compost, and apply it to your layers of scraps. A 2.25-kg container of Rot-It will cost you about \$4.00. Rot-It also publishes a pamphlet with information about the benefits of compost and how to build your own composter. Environmental organizations like Greenlinks will have information on how to build your own compost as well.

Plants, of course

If you are just learning to garden, you may want to begin with annuals, as they are easy to care for and last for only one season.

Features

There are many varieties of annuals—such as nasturtium, salvia, verbena, marigold, and fuchsia—and they bloom throughout the season. At your garden centre you can purchase a flat of mixed plants of your choice for under \$20, and that would probably be enough to fill your balcony's allowance for pots.

Your plants must be watered daily, sometimes more depending on the day's temperature.

Knowing how often to water your plants comes with close attention to the plant's soil.

Begin by watering the plant in the evening, allowing the water to soak through the container and pour out through the drainage holes. In the heat of the following day stick your finger deep into the soil to test for dryness. If the soil has lost its moisture, a second watering each day will be needed.

Other tips for keeping costs down

Check your local paper for home gardeners who have sales—like a garage sale—at their homes. In most cases, home sales will sell plants for much less than you would pay at a garden centre. You may even find some unique plants that avid gardeners are breeding. Check to see if your community has garden clubs and find out what kinds of deals you can strike with them. They usually have spring sales too.

Remember that saving money in anything requires a little planning. Build your garden slowly and treasure each plant as you receive it. It will give you tremendous pleasure.

Check out these books:

The Ultimate Container Gardener
by Stephanie Donaldson,
Select Editions. \$24.95

Practical Small Gardening
by Peter McHoy, Barbara Segall, Stephanie
Donaldson, Lorenz Books. \$21.95

The Creative Container Gardener
by Elaine Stevens,
Whitecap Books. \$17.95

Annuals by The Classic Gardening Series,
Whitecap Books. \$8.95

Your local bookstore will have a wide selection of books, and your garden centre will be able to tell you of good books to look into as well. You may find interesting information on the Internet: urbangarden.com and www.almanac.com.

Culture

JEN SWANSTON

It's come and gone again. The NewMusicWest festival ran from May 6-8 featuring Vancouver's local bands who put on a show for talent agents, radio stations and the public at large. With up to 21 venues hosting at least three bands on any given night, it was indeed an event to behold.

WEST FEST

walk in a straight line, the radio station CFOX had a bus that made a tour of all the clubs, picking up and dropping off passengers.

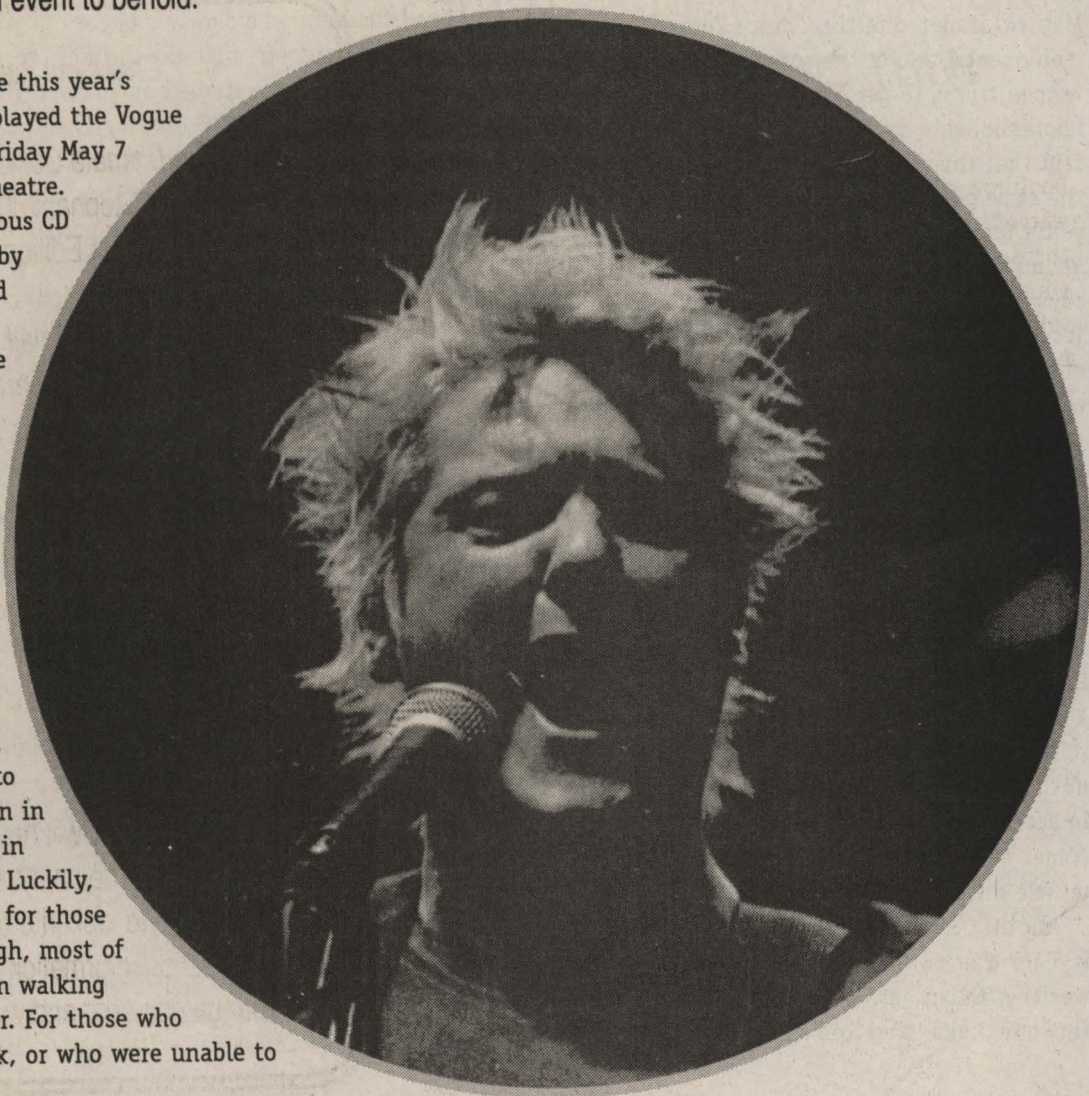
NewMusicWest was a time for bands trying to make a name for themselves—to showcase who and what they are. It will be interesting to see who makes it, who will be returning to

NewMusicWest next year and who will have faded into oblivion.

The Watchmen were this year's headliners; they played the Vogue on the night of Friday May 7

to an almost packed theatre. There were also numerous CD release parties hosted by both radio stations and record companies. Stickers for bands were being handed out freely and for a nominal fee you could also purchase the CD of a band that you had just 'discovered.'

Bands played in venues ranging from the Vogue Theatre to smaller clubs like the Starfish Room. There seemed to be something going on in just about every club in downtown Vancouver. Luckily, the weather held and for those who were sober enough, most of the shows were within walking distance of each other. For those who were too tired to walk, or who were unable to



Flick Culture

Tea for Two?

ALAN SAMUEL

Take four top-flight actresses, thrust them into a tale full of political intrigue, and you may just come up with a tour de force. This is precisely what happens in *Tea with Mussolini*, a tale of triumph and tragedy presented by MGM studios, which opened nationwide on May 14. Italian director, Franco Zeffirelli, puts forth a monumental tale of the sorry plight of four wayward women trying to get by in Florence during the impressionable days of the Second World War. It could be said that this film is of the same class as last year's foreign hit *Life is Beautiful*, but without some of the scope. In *Tea With Mussolini* the emphasis is on top acting and a sweeping story that blend perfectly with the subtle mayhem on view.



Known as the "Scorpioni" for their biting wit, a group of noble English ladies seem to run Florence society to perfection. The leader of the pack is Lady Hester, the stuffy wife of a former diplomat. Others in her entourage include a wacky art-loving dog owner and an equally kooky American ex-pat. When Elsa, an American entertainer with a penchant for spending money like it's going out of style, returns to the Mediterranean it really impacts on the local social scene. Real trouble, however, comes with the arrival of Mussolini and his brown-shirted muscle-men.

Another elderly lady making up the foreign contingent is Mary Wallace who works as a translator/secretary to a wealthy Italian businessman who has a little boy. It is this boy, Luka, who forms a common bond between all



the British and American women as they decide to take over the raising of the lad from his delinquent father.

All this "parenting" is set against the menace of Mussolini who slowly manages to turn his people against all foreigners, first the British, then the Americans. All the ladies are singled out, driven from their luxurious homes and sent to dingy prisons. Life is made even more dangerous for Elsa, the American, as she is Jewish.

Cher (*Mask*) shines as Elsa, the ugly duckling show-off American who is harshly humiliated because for being Jewish. Maggie Smith (*The Prime of Miss Jean Brodie*) is terrific as the dragon lady British noblewoman who can't stand Elsa (and vice-versa). Perhaps the most memorable performance of all these standouts belongs to Joan Plowright (*Widow's Peak*) as Mary, Luka's true guiding angel. Rounding out the stellar ensemble cast is Oscar winner Judy Dench (*Shakespeare in Love*) as a ditsy art/dog lover and Lilly Tomlin (*9 to 5*) as another wacky American.

Beautiful cinematography and some warm humour combine with superb performances on all levels to make *Tea with Mussolini* sensational entertainment that's joyous and bittersweet.

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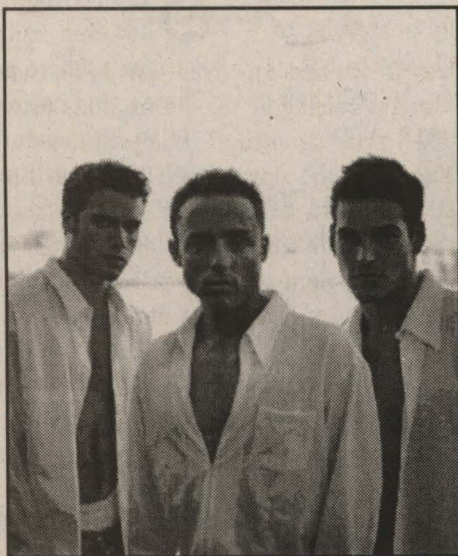
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Feature

ALL THE DIMENSIONS OF 3 DEEP

Not just
a group
of pretty
faces



TARA LEGARE

Another suburban Saturday at the local shopping mall is shattered by 300 screaming, teenage fans crowding Coquitlam Centre's HMV store.

Impatient girls are unsettling security guards and staff with their hum of giggles and an anthem of, "They're so hot" bouncing off the walls. The hot group they've come to listen to and greet is Los Angeles-based 3 Deep.

In this era of pretty-faced boy bands, it is difficult to become recognized as an individual group and easy to become lost in the shuffle of young testosterone and marketing gimmicks. The trend to youthful, rhythm-savvy male groups seems to be lasting, but 3 Deep is trying not to

become just another musical statistic.

HMV is an arena of youthful screams and anticipatory pushes and shoves. The security inside is becoming impatient with the crowd, until the sound of a three part harmony blasts through the sound system, trembles the racks of Donny Osmond discount CDs, and whips the swarm of fans into increased hysteria.

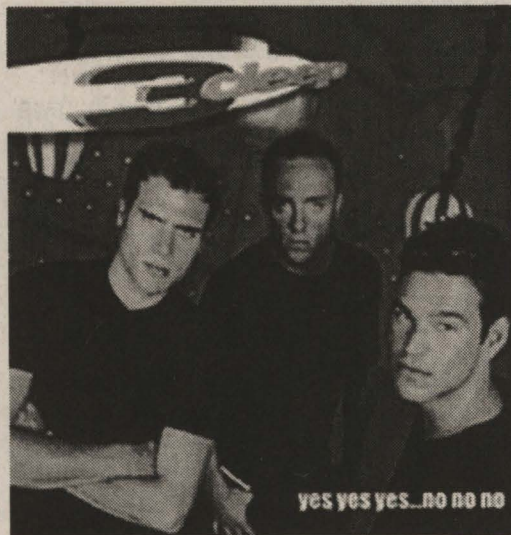
At a taping of the Dini Petty show in 1998, Canadian singer and songwriter CJ Huyer (who had once opened for The New Kids on the Block) was introduced backstage to co-guest, soap opera actor Joshua Morrow. After a lengthy discussion, the idea of 3 Deep was formed. Morrow soon introduced Huyer to his former co-worker Eddie Cibrian. Their debut album, *Yes, Yes, Yes ... No, No, No*, produced their first single, 'Never Gonna Give You Up', that skyrocketed up the Canadian charts. Although American fans have yet to discover 3 Deep, Canadian fans have definitely noticed the charm of the trio.

"There's not much difference really between American fans and Canadian ones, except that Canadian fans are better," joke the boys.

With four singles from their first album now hitting the airwaves all across Canada, and the band debuting in Asia and Europe later this year,

it would be easy for people to assume that the group's ego would probably be hitting the roof faster than their highest notes. But it's obvious to any reporter lucky enough to be given the chance to interview them that they are about as down-to-earth as any normal twenty-something males can be.

"Eddie crochets, CJ curls, I'm actually a grandmaster of origami. I make birds and stuff out of paper," jokes Morrow, as



Feature

the trio sit in a small interview room behind HMV.

After weeks on tour throughout Canada, each member of 3 deep appears to be feeling under the weather; Huyer leaves the room continually to relieve his lunch. But self-pity is absent in their mindset. "We signed up for the responsibility," insists Morrow.

Leaning back in his chair, it is obvious why he is so photogenic. With his brooding green eyes, deep dimples, and six-foot stature, he is more than easy to stare at.

There has been a recent trend

of singers attempting to become actors, such as Jewel and Mariah Carey. However, the opposite action has been taken in the case of 3 deep. Cibrian, a tall, dark-skinned, mysterious-looking actor, showed up at his first audition hoping to land the part of Nick Newman on CBS's *The Young and The Restless*. Unfortunately, he lost the role to none other than Morrow, but he made enough of an impression on the executives that he was later cast as Matt Clark. After three years on

that soap, he was cast on *Baywatch Nights* where he became close friends with the show's famous creator, David "popular in Germany" Hasselhoff. Der Hasselhoff later helped Cibrian earn the part of bad boy Cole Deschanel—a character who fathered the baby of his wife's mother—on NBC's new daytime show *Sunset Beach*. The group is eager to insist that they don't rely on the duo's acting references to sell their albums.



"I don't think people know it's us singing those songs. I think a lot of people recognize the song and have no idea who sings it," says Cibrian. "Everywhere we go, we ask if they've heard of 3

deep and they go 'uh.' And then we sing the song and they go, 'Oh, I know that song. I didn't know you guys sing it'."

As a whole, 3 deep is totally confident in their blessed capability to both sing and perform. Their premier showing took place at Wonderland in Toronto in 1998. Audience members, many of whom didn't know exactly who the group was, began to create a

pulsating echo throughout the amusement park. Many might have assumed that they were screaming because of their attractiveness. But those who heard their synchronized melodies knew otherwise.

Standing on stage, looking pretty and belting out ballads, however, is not what they consider a whole performance. "There's this notion that if you don't play an instrument, you're not a musician," says Huyer. The group has exceeded artistic integrity with the now uncommon ability to also write the majority of their own material. "We're writing the music, we're involved in 80% of the album, but we're still not considered musicians cause we're not playing our own instruments."

The group, two of whom work nine-to-five jobs five days a week in Los Angeles, admit that it is very difficult to be on the road so many months out of the year.

Cibrian, discussing the difficulties of life on an airplane, says the hardest part of being a musician is, "travel, McDonalds food, headaches, CJ in general." Huyer's two bandmates laugh in his direction.

Dealing with the struggles of the musician's life, 3 deep finds a way to remain sane. They use humour as a stress mechanism, and make reporters laugh along with them. "In every paper, CJ's always referred to as the round-faced Canadian," laughs Cibrian. "And I'm the pale, nipple-

Feature

pierced freak." As far as Morrow goes? "I'm the scum of the earth," he answers.

But no matter how much they despise the trials of stardom, they exude a joy unmatched by a normal group of twenty-something buddies. "It's a friendship thing, it's not about battling it out," says Morrow.

"The only screams we ever have is with managers. The last argument we had was cause Eddie wanted to go out on stage wearing red leather jackets. CJ and I denied it. We solved it with rock, paper, scissors, and luckily we won."

With their good looks and smooth sounds, they seem to have no trouble attracting female fans. Other artists, especially those with significant others, may find it difficult to be swarmed with the constant flow of teenaged females throwing panties at them and shoving phone numbers and hotel keys in their pockets. But 3 deep understands their demographic. "Our music is designed for a younger audience. We're not going to write music for 45-year-old men," they explain.

The drawback, however, of being designed to fulfil the musical needs of the younger generation is to be considered airy and un-dimensional.

Many of today's musical groups have been quickly dismissed as flaky because they're singing for people who are not old enough to completely understand the issues and concerns that their songs attempt to discuss—such as true love and meaningful sex.

3 deep is still struggling to become noticed, appearing on lesser-known talk shows such as Seattle's *Northwest Afternoon's Soap Opera* segment.

However, they are also keeping a close eye on the gold. They are sure of their skills and confident in their abilities to keep smiles on their fans' faces.

Trying to be distinct in a time when musical entertainers are a dime a dozen is difficult for a group of young, attractive white males. It is especially difficult when everyone is pressuring them to be even more successful because of the expectations that two television stars and a music enthusiast should be able to pull off another career.

Freeing the Buddha

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Hovel located under Columbia Skytrain station. Must like small, fanged animals.

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Announcements

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Pale, raven tressed agoraphobes craving full-blooded companionship for late night passion fests are cordially invited to join The Colony. Carpenters and spice enthusiasts need not apply

Wanted: Students of all ages, origins, genders and sexualities, to join the Pride Collective. Must be queer-friendly! Meetings 4:30 pm Mondays in Room 110 of the Student Society Building. e-mail: e@dcss.douglas.bc.ca confidential voicemail: 527-5474 ext 4550.

18-year-old female with strong vocal skills seeks band members to form a pop group to send out demo tapes to major record labels. Goal: Fame, Fortune and Self-

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