

## Administration delays divestment

By EVELYN JACOB

UBC's decision to divest itself of its holdings in South-African linked companies has been put on hold indefinitely, the vice-president Academic said Tuesday.

Daniel Birch said the Hart Report — a federal government commission which identifies Canadian companies doing business with Pretoria — does not analyze companies' compliance with the Canadian Code of Conduct, and has therefore been deemed unreliable.

The code calls for companies to improve the wages, benefits and working conditions of black employees, pay equal wages and assist with housing, education and training.

Birch said UBC would be taking the "easy way out" of its investments if it divested without examining how the companies operated in South Africa. "That would be 'irresponsible,'" he said.

Of the six companies holding investments for UBC — Alcan Canada Products, CIL Inc., The Hudson's

Bay Co., Inco Ltd., International Thomson Organization Ltd., and Noranda Ltd. — only Alcan, Inco, and International Thomson appear on the federal government list, and according UBC vice-president of finance, Bruce Gellatly, Alcan has since divested itself of all financial dealings with Pretoria.

Gellatly said of UBC's investment portfolio, totalling \$235 million, \$1.7 million is locked into the South African linked companies remaining on the list.

UBC's investments are made up of an endowment fund and a staff pension plan.

Gellatly said the Board of Governors is currently examining the legal implications of divesting its pension plan and the possible detriment to staff.

"The board faces both an internal and external morality in deciding whether to divest itself of its South African linked holdings," said student board representative Holubitsky, noting the university has a duty to its staff

to guarantee future pension funds.

But Emery Barnes, NDP MLA for Vancouver Centre, called apartheid "uncivilized" and "evil" and said UBC at the very least should obtain a mandate from its depositors on what to do with its investment portfolio.

"We're all investors in South Africa," said Barnes. "The more people forced to make a decision on issues such as these, the more people will become enlightened about the South African struggle."

Barnes said UBC should not wait for government guidance on its investment policies, but should take the lead in condemning the apartheid regime.

But Birch said the board will continue to seek reliable information on how its companies operate in South Africa until the Canadian government demands stronger action by the universities.

"Federal policy may well emerge in the next few weeks which will supersede our action," said Birch.

At a Commonweal meeting earlier this week, prime minister Brian Mulroney said sanctions are the only thing that will influence the Pretoria government.

Canada, along with India, Australia, Zimbabwe, Zambia and the Bahamas, pledged to use whatever influence they have to pressure the world to impose sanctions on the South African government. The Canadian government has said it will impose a ban on new bank loans and investments to South Africa, and on contracts with South African majority-owned companies.

## Government grants called inadequate

By SVETOZAR KONTIC

A new government funding proposal will not offset the enormous cost of research already facing universities, said the director of research services.

Richard Spratley said the new program — created by the federal government — will cause industry to grow, but will reduce university research grants significantly.

Under the present system, UBC applies to the National Science and Engineering Research Council of Canada (NSERC) which supports funding for companies interested in research. NSERC provides two dollars for every dollar raised by individual companies.

"This is an effective method, a super program," said Spratley.

But under the new program, NSERC will provide only one dollar for each dollar spent by industry, up to a total of six per cent. UBC, in addition, must canvas industry for funds which would be turned over to NSERC. The money obtained would then be allocated to universities across Canada.

But Spratley said the new program is unworkable. "Why should we get money for NSERC when we can get it for ourselves?" he asked.

Vice-president of research Peter Larkin said at least a portion of the money received by NSERC should be sent back to the person or institution that collected the funds.

"The money has to come back to the person who made it work," said Larkin.

He said the biggest problem facing universities is the indirect costs of research programs.

See page 2: High



— dan andrews photo

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those funny computer stripes on food, and why Raveen staunchly refuses to play centre for the Canucks.

## Wreck beach flushed with feces

By SVETOZAR KONTIC

High fecal-coliform counts at Wreck Beach may be caused by Expo, said the Wreck Beach Preservation chair.

Judy Williams said despite government allegations that the runoff from the Fraser River is causing the water's contamination, extra sewage caused by heavy toilet flushing of Expo visitors may be contributing to the problem.

"In the winter, fecal-coliform counts go up because of higher runoff. Expo may be imitating that condition," said Williams.

But provincial public health inspector Stella Peterson said the beach is heavily affected by sewage because of the current flow from the Fraser River.

"The Fraser runs through agricultural lands and collects a lot of pesticides used in agriculture," said Peterson. "When there is heavy rain-fall, there is much more runoff, and consequently more primary effluent in the river," she said.

But Williams said the ministry's tests were conducted on an "extreme" day, when there was a heavy westerly wind. As a result, fecal counts in some areas of the beach were very low. She said contamination is located in sediments, and the mouth of

the Fraser cleans it up.

But the majority of the tests conducted on various positions of the beach were disturbingly high, suggesting that runoff from the Fraser was not the only cause, according to Williams.

City health inspector John Blatherwick said the Fraser River flow is the highest it has been in the past 18 years, and that salinity counts in the ocean show the Fraser is definitely responsible for the problem.

## AIDS research gets money

Two UBC researchers have received \$25,000 from the B.C. government to look for a better diagnostic tool for acquired immune deficiency syndrome.

James Hudson and Patrick Dennis expect to begin research by spring 1987 into the connections between the AIDS virus and the clinical symptoms associated with it.

The research will be done either at St. Paul's Hospital in Vancouver or at the proposed provincial AIDS health centre expected to open by the end of this year.

Hudson said Wednesday the research would involve using an artificial DNA probe to detect the presence of viral-genal products which may be the result of AIDS. The test would be carried out on blood samples donated by AIDS patients in Vancouver. "If the viral-genals are there, then the virus would be present," he said.

Present diagnostic methods involve testing for ailments which are commonly associated with the AIDS virus.

"My feeling is that the current testing methods are not very reliable," said Hudson.

Hudson said the grant was small, and more money would be needed to develop the study's expected findings into a practical testing method. He said he would approach either the federal government or some other national body for additional funds should the initial DNA probe study prove successful.

# High cost of research hurting

From page one

The Canadian Association of Uni-

## Letters

### Jacques and gel

I find it hard to believe that authorities have not acted on the immediate danger of hair gel to our youth. I have become an infected youth suffering the brutal effects of hair gel damage to my mind and hair body.

When I go camping all I can think of is if there will be an outlet for my hair dryer. Otherwise I will not be able to use my hair gel and make my hair stick up in all sorts of beautiful, poetic designs.

Once my friends see me in with dull flat hair that does not shine they will surely abandon me. Nobody will like me at all and I will become an isolated, sick young man. I will become an angry young man burning with hatred for the society that has rejected me.

Soon I will walk the streets of Vancouver a total derelict not caring about anything or anyone. Death and depression will be a way of life for me and I will spend day after day listening to depressing polka music.

God will no longer exist in my life and I will begin to worship Satan every night. Drugs will then become my life. I will freebase every hour, setting myself on fire daily.

And to think that all of this will be caused by the evils of hair gel. It is impossible to fully understand the huge danger we face from gel.

Jacques Orlando  
Arts 5

versity Research Administrators (CAURA) and the Canadian Association of University Business Offices (CAUBO) provide approximately 50 cents on each dollar toward indirect costs such as equipment and facility maintenance.

Larkin said the provincial government has not provided adequate funding to offset the high cost of research at UBC. "It costs us (UBC) something to spend the money that government gives us. We don't get paid anything extra for that," he said.

UBC has received two separate grants of \$2 million each this year for equipment and research, and the provincial government has covered

the cost of patent charges, according to Larkin.

Spratley said B.C. can only stay in the front ranks of research if the level of training remains high at the university level. "We need direct funds to accomplish this," he said. He agreed with Larkin that the high cost of research funding at UBC lies in maintaining research facilities.

"UBC's operating budget is not in very good shape this year, but the influx of money from the provincial government has been better than in the past few years," he said.

Still, Spratley said five years of government cutbacks have contributed to inadequate research funding.



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**TESTIMONIAL**  
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— Bert Smegg  
Fashion Editor



# Rob Lowe laughs, cries, feels deep emotional pain

By DAVID FERMAN

Rob Lowe in a love story...need I say more?

About Last Night is his latest film — a film so daringly original it makes the A-Team seem avant garde.

The film (or as I should say, movie) follows the intense and sudden affair of Danny (Lowe) and Debbie (Demi Moore), two Chicagoan type people.

After meeting in a true swinging style — over a suggestive water pump at a softball game and then again that the local meat market/pub — the two enjoy sex. They enjoy it so much they quickly move in together.

The movie is restricted and has plenty of dull sex. Why do popular films insist on portraying snugglebunnies in slow motion renditions of those smelly Obsession perfume ads? The "love" scenes when coupled with the putrid soundtrack (the worst of Lionel Richie and Phil Collins combined) are nothing but filler.

**About Last Night**  
Starring Rob Lowe and Demi Moore  
Directed by Edward Zwick  
The Bay, Oakridge

Nothing is as nauseating as watching a blissful couple caught up in their sticky sweet selves. And these two are Nutrasweet come alive. For example, Danny's idea of opening

up is revealing his shocking secret of desiring to own a cafe. Gadzooks, will she still love him?

Luckily after a while cracks start to show and their problems become the strength of the story. The movie, to its credit, portrays many universally held concerns: doubts about love, marriage, trust, taking one another for granted, dominance versus equality, God forbid — children, and, most importantly, arguments over Tampax wrappers.

Sadly, the movie makes either no comment on these problems or settles for perpetuating tired and unequal sexual roles. Perhaps this is asking too much for just a love story, but if you want to make the zillionth romantic comedy you have to do something different than guy meets gal, loses her, and gets her back.

## Organized B.C. dogs invade, occupy gallery

By JEFFREY SWARTZ

An elaborate animal experiment is taking place at the Pitt International Gallery. Twenty-two art doctors have offered individual contributions to the project. This experiment is funded by the Canada Council.

It uses dogs. Painted dogs and cartoon dogs. Dogs in bronze and mechanical steel dogs in plexiglass. Dog-hair clothes and headless porcelain mutts. There's even a shrine to the dog, for "dog" is "god" spelled backwards.

**Dog Days**  
The Pitt International Galleries  
36 Powell Street  
681-6740  
until August 29

The show is John Thompson's idea. He, along with Annette Hurtig, curated the results. "This show is a three-and-a-half year old idea of mine," says Thompson, who also has a piece in the exhibit. "This is the way I best express myself, with animals."

But why dogs and not some other animal? "The dog is the first domesticated animal," says Thompson. "So there is an interesting marriage between humans and dogs." But Thompson feels the marriage has been unequal. "There is no beast left, all the wild animal has been taken out."

Appropriately, the strongest works in *Dog Days* exemplify this tension between the wild and the tame, between dog as unpredictable nature and dog as an artifact of consumer civilization. The results are sometimes serious, sometimes lighthearted.

The finest work in the exhibit is an untitled work by Pennie Umbrico. A dog and his house are rendered simply in black and white and evergreen. The dog is seen in profile, like a cardboard cut-out, and he is shaped like the house he is inside. Where his ear points up, so does the peaked roof of the house.

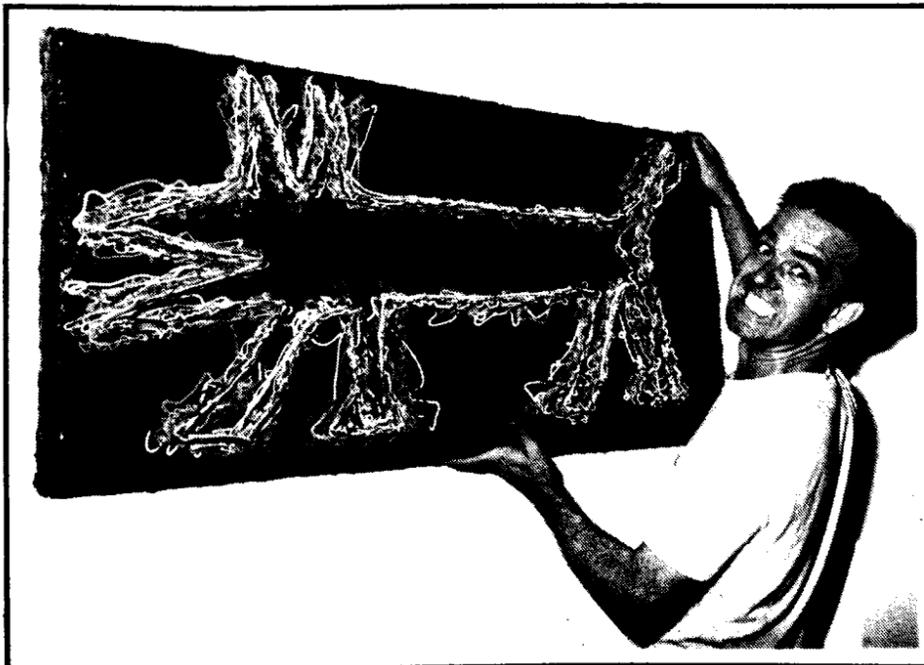
Though the painting hints at the dog's complete domestication, this is not a dog we can walk up to and pet, or call to and command "Roll over!" For Umbrico has muddled the canvas so it seems we are gazing through the

dirty window of our car. Strange — the dog is supposedly our best friend, but here we cannot even touch him.

Four drawings by Brian Collins explore the notion of dog as "cultural furniture." Collins' most intriguing drawing has two dogs circling each other in the high noon, high tension prelude of a fight, their animal nature about to shatter their unseen owners' efforts to train and civilize them. Collins gives his dogs spindly furniture legs, and arches their bodies away from the floor in taut constipated anxiety.

Constipated dogs? Well why *should* the modern dog be able to perform the excretory function? He eats a lower form of his master's reconstituted sludge, and is thus susceptible to the same ailments.

In homage to the canine diet, Phillip McCrum has created a modest home worship centre to doggie eats. The shrine is a composite of items bearing the safety-reflector orange logo of Joy Dog Food, which features a three-eyed pup of questionable breeding.



MANDAD...a gay monstrosity

— donna hagerman photo



ROB LOWE...the many faces of a versatile actor

So for morality we get Debbie wailing, "It's wrong! It's all wrong!" What's wrong isn't "living in sin", but not being deliriously happy 24 hours a day.

Danny's best friend Bernie (Jim Belushi) is a sexist, although often funny, slime who plays the playboy bloated on his own hyperbolic sexual fantasies. He dislikes Debbie for taking away his buddy. Sex roles in the film are strictly traditional.

We are shown men don't want lovers; they want live-in maid prostitutes and women don't really mind. Bernie on Debbie moving in with Danny: "I can understand a guy wanting steady action."

Surprisingly the acting is good. Especially fine are Elizabeth Perkins as Joan, Debbie's ex-roommate and best friend, and Jim Belushi.

As friends the women are supportive and conspiratorial and the men are braggarts and beer drinkers. Joan, the smarter, crueler and predictably less attractive best friend is in some regards a feminist, but only because she suffers an empty love life.

The funniest scene occurs near the end when Joan and Bernie square off as he tries yet again to score with her. Joan's wit and cutting remarks are not only funny but stem from an intelligent, sober mind. Bernie's humour is just oral towel snapping — one can nearly smell the reek of athletes' feet in his locker room bravado: "If you didn't have a pussy there's a bounty on your head." Joan: "You are suffering from a deep homosexual panic."

Unfortunately, *About Last Night* doesn't rise beyond the funny banter of its supporting actors.

## Island history pulsates

By SVETZAR KONTIC

Charles Lillard's *Seven Shillings a Year* is a sensitive and imaginative history of Vancouver Island written in candid fashion.

The 233-page illustrated novel provides easy, enjoyable and informative reading.

Lillard does not seek to glamorize the Island's history nor does he dull the reader's imagination with textbook prose. Lillard's desire to reproach gaudy historical hero-making is refreshing.

He sensitively approaches native issues without ranting. Indians, he contests, were left in shock as Westernization engulfed Vancouver Island. They gave up their old customs and spent most of their time loitering about the village. In essence they are a lost people, left impotent and passive, caught between modern and old worlds.

**Seven Shillings A Year:**  
**The History of Vancouver Island**  
By Charles Lillard  
1986

According to Lillard, the Spanish were the first true settlers, yet credit is given in the history books to an Englishman who spent a year hiding in trees without ever establishing anything.

A great myth of sorts surrounded Vancouver Island and the phony aristocracy that prevailed upon it. James Douglas is characterized as the czar of the Island, a bastard of mixed racial ancestry. He made a name for himself in the colonies, but would never have been accepted in the old country.

Many of the English who came to the Island in the late nineteenth and early twentieth century were of the lower classes, and came with dreams of bettering miserable lives. Most were disappointed for the Island experienced little prosperity before World War II. Living conditions were harsh, the government ineffective and inept.

Lillard discusses the Island's short tenure as an opium and rum smuggling center. Opium was legal in B.C. but not in the States, so a lucrative industry developed transporting the drug and alcohol across the border. When opium was made illegal in 1908, the Island lost up to \$200,000 in annual revenue.

Victoria in the 1870's had the largest red light district on the west coast of North America. A section of town became the hangout for the surliest of rogues, sailors, loggers, pimps, prostitutes and small time hoods.

The history of Vancouver Island, as portrayed by Lillard, is exciting and interesting. The book is well worth reading for study or leisure.