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Something About September

Afternoon scenes from campus on the last weekend before the start of classes: a mother and her daughter walk arm-in-arm on the sidewalk by Ring Road, sharing one last heart-to-heart, one last long goodbye. Across the way, sprawled on the grass, a camera-toting dad gets a great close-up of a local rabbit before climbing in the car and heading home, leaving his son to his studies.

Bittersweet September. It’s one of those times every year when campus really becomes a place of family milestones. Convocation is like that. But while convocation symbolizes accomplishment, the start of the new school year brings with it something less certain, especially for new students, the majority of whom leave home to study here. It’s the start of the journey, not the finish, that contains the mystery and the sense that adventures are about to unfold.

Anxiety. Enthusiasm. Excitement. Minor fits of panic. They are all part of the back to school vibe that students bring to campus each and every September. Summer isn’t so quiet, with bands of young kids taking part university’s various summer camps. There are summer studies and conference delegates from around the world. But nothing compares to the first days of September.

Even if you are years removed from classroom, somehow the days between the waning summer and the first chills of autumn bring an urgency, a fresh charge of energy. It’s a time for new and renewed friendships and a new set of challenges for the mind.

“Day One,” our cover feature this time around, is a photo essay. Through the talents of six photographers we bring you back to campus to share the life of the university as it was on September 8—the first day of a new year of classes. We hope these portraits bring back memories of your own UVic Septembers, and the feeling that just about anything is possible once again.

—MIKE McNENY, EDITOR
SETTING THE BONES STRAIGHT


My interest in this article is more than casual since I am the individual who wrote the original proposal to conduct a palaeontological investigation of K1 cave, and who brought the first samples back to UVic.

I am the 2002 recipient of the Jubilee Medal for Social sciences, a two-time recipient of the President’s Scholarship for Part-time Studies, an NSERC PGS-A holder, and the recipient of a field experience bursary from the Royal Tyrrell Museum in 1999.

By the omission of certain facts, the article seems to imply that the discoveries at K1 were somehow the work of Daryl Fedje (of Parks Canada) and the UVic Anthropology department. This notion, which has been widely propagated, is incorrect. The original expedition to K1 in 2000 was privately funded by Paul Griffiths, who, having seen my proposal and discerned my keen interest, invited me to go along. Barring the fact that I happened to be attending UVic at the time, this expedition had no affiliation with, funding or in-kind support from either UVic or Parks Canada. (As an aside, your article erroneously states that K1 is near Gwaii Haanas Park. It is not. Nor is the second cave referred to in your article located anywhere near K1.)

Though Rebecca Wigen and others at the Anthropology department were informed of the expedition well in advance, they declined to become involved. Indeed, I encountered great skepticism and a distinct lack of support in this venture from individuals in the Anthropology department. Mr. Fedje did not become involved until 2001 and was a guest of the expedition in that year.

I returned to UVic with specimens from K1 in early September of 2000, and took them almost immediately to the Anthropology department. Ms. Wigen was most helpful in identifying the specimens, but did not believe them to be very old, and I was told unequivocally that no one in the department was interested in studying them further. Convinced of their significance, I carried the specimens around in my backpack for perhaps three weeks before lodging them in another department. By the time I returned from a holiday in India some months later, the bones were in the hands of Fedje et al., and had been sent off for dating. I learned of the results second hand, through Mr. Griffiths.

Since that time, my involvement has been slowly andsystematically marginalized, misrepresented and almost completely purged from the public record. This is particularly ironic in light of the fact that I produced a successful PGS-A NSERC proposal based on this material before Fedje et al. ever got involved. These individuals were well aware that I had intended to make the K1 material the subject of my master's research. As well, there has been a consistent failure to acknowledge the crucial role that volunteer speleologists played in the discoveries and ongoing research at K1.

I have remained silent as article after article has come out implicitly attributing the K1 discoveries to the UVic Anthropology department and Fedje et al. It is time the record was set straight.

CAROLYN L. RAMSEY, BA ’01
VICTORIA

I am writing to express my concern about your article entitled “Bear Bones Evidence of Early Life.” Your article contains a blatant oversight: Ms. Carol Ramsey was present at the very outset of the work being done at K1 cave. She was the one who facilitated the involvement of the other researchers at the site—she was in fact the originator of the bone research.

She has had to watch as others have effectively taken over her original research project. What must be particularly galling to Ms. Ramsey is that her research ideas for K1 were initially met with resistance in 2000. Those earlier academic naysayers have since jumped on the K1 site, displacing her from her own research site and a promising academic research program.

PAUL GRIFFITHS, BSC ’73
CAMPBELL RIVER

IN MY ENTHUSIASM FOR TALKING ABOUT THE BONES, I MISSED MENTIONING all the people who have been involved in this project. I apologize for that lapse.

My memory of the events around the early work on the bones from K1 is truthfully rather hazy. Ms. Ramsey, an undergraduate student at the time, was offered the opportunity to go on the project with Paul Griffiths. I encouraged her to go and made some suggestions about collecting any bones encountered. When she returned with the bones I did identify them, but certainly could not tell their age just by looking at them. Daryl Fedje was sufficiently interested in their potential to find money to carbon date them (an expensive procedure). We were all thrilled and surprised to find out how old some of them actually were.

I have always offered encouragement and support to undergraduate students in any project and have supported Ms. Ramsey in her pursuit of a graduate degree to the best of my ability.

REBECCA WIGEN
DEPARTMENT OF ANTHROPOLOGY

AN EARLY FLIGHT

From time to time I see reference in the TORCH and elsewhere to the existence of an army camp at the present location of the university. I never see, however, any mention of the use of that property before the war.

I have fond memories of my first flight in an airplane at the Gordon Head airport when I was about 12 years old. It was a two-seater, open-cockpit biplane that must have gone all of 70 miles an hour, but what a thrill for a young lad! I was so small they could not adjust the seat belt to fit me, so just let me float around as they circled the field.

When the Victoria Times originally announced the flights they stated that the cost for each child would be one cent per pound. I distinctly remember asking my father for 79 cents, only to discover at the field that they had established a minimum price of one dollar. (A major investment in those days, when 10 cents would get you into a movie.) In 1932 airplanes were still relatively rare, and very few people had ever had the chance to actually fly in one. There must have been 100 kids lined up for flights that day.

HAUOLD (NED) YOUNG, VC ’37
THETFORD MINES, QUEBEC
REMEMBERING ELZA MAYHEW
I was saddened to read of the death of Elza Mayhew this last January (“Coast Spirit,” Spring 2004).

On a summer day in 1932 Elza and I were entertained by the Women’s Canadian Club for “Tea” at the Empress Hotel. We had won $100 scholarships for having the highest marks for a girl and a boy graduating from high school in Victoria and district that year. Elza had better marks than I—and another girl also beat me. Sadly I’ve forgotten her name and more sadly she didn’t get a scholarship.

Elza wore a yellow dress—she was very beautiful—that reminded me of a daffodil. We were a pair of shy 16-year-olds with little to say to each other.

That $100 paid my tuition, books and streetcar fare for my first year at Victoria College

RAY JONES, VC ’33
HORSEFLY, BC

CORRECTION
One of the buildings identified in the “Rhodies” feature photo in our last issue was incorrectly identified. It is All Souls College.

LETTERS: We always make room for your thoughts, opinions and reactions to these pages. Send correspondence to:
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Train Here, Practise Here

TWENTY-FOUR UBC MEDICAL STUDENTS—INCLUDING FIVE UVic ALUMNI—will arrive on campus in January in the first phase of a plan to decentralize and expand doctor training across the province. Their classroom headquarters will be the new Medical Sciences Building—a $12-million, 3,900-square-metre complex near the Cunningham Building.

Training based in Victoria and Vancouver Island is expected to encourage more new doctors to practise in the region. “We want them to learn in communities where physicians are needed,” says Dr. Oscar Casiro, the head of the Island Medical Program at UVic.

President David Turpin says the IMP will help to meet “a very pressing societal need—the shortage of doctors in this province.” Along with similar programs at the University of Northern BC and expanded training at UBC, the IMP is part of a provincial government initiative to double the number of medical students admitted by UBC, to an annual total of 256 students by 2010.

The new campus facility includes an anatomy lab, lecture theatre and video links with UNBC and UBC. UVic’s strengths—including nursing, gerontology and addictions research—will form part of the curriculum for the IMP students.

The Medical Sciences Building is also the first campus facility designed to qualify for Leadership in Energy and Environmental Design (LEED) accreditation. That means it has been built to meet “green” standards of energy efficiency (a 30 to 50 per cent improvement over older buildings). It has a state-of-the-art storm water management system, the interior maximizes natural light and recycled construction materials have been used wherever possible.

Home Rooms

The landscaping still needed work but three new residence buildings were completed in time to greet students arriving for classes this fall, providing living quarters for 480 more students, including residence advisor Danya Fast (right). About 3,200 students and family members live on campus during the school year. The new buildings mark the first expansion of campus housing since 1994 and enable the university to offer accommodation to all students admitted to first-year studies directly from high school. Fees for a single room and meal plan start at $2,895 per term.

A Sacred Place

First Peoples House—a special campus space to support Aboriginal students and their fundamental beliefs and values—has reached the design stage, with consultation meetings set for November.

The design reflects traditional Coast and Straits Salish cedar longhouses and is based on advice offered to a university task force by Aboriginal leaders, faculty, staff and students. The 1,130 square-metre house would be located near the University Centre, between the Clearihue and Cornett buildings. The university is seeking private funding for the estimated cost of construction, $5.5 million, and an art budget of approximately $1 million.

Consultation sessions will be held at the Student Union Building (Michelle Pujol Room) on Nov. 8 from 2 pm to 4 pm, and Nov. 18 from 4 pm to 7 pm.
Eternally Fascinating

Dennine Dudley could hardly believe it when she found out priceless ancient Egyptian masterworks from the British Museum would visit the Royal BC Museum this summer. “I was pretty excited,” says the History in Art PhD-holder and sessional instructor. “I waved (the British Museum catalogue) at the front of the classroom and said, ‘Look what’s coming!’”

The “Eternal Egypt” exhibit, closing at the end of October, turned out to be more than a unique teaching opportunity. The RBCM asked Dudley to serve as consultant, providing journalists with her analysis of the 144 rare and beautiful pieces from the tombs and temples of Egypt’s greatest rulers.

“There’s a culture behind the pieces. While they’re aesthetically beautiful, they had a function in a living society. They meant something to people,” says Dudley, noting that subtle details in statue carvings can reveal allegiance to ancestors and gods, levels of historic authority, or political influence—“a really rich history.”

“Working with older cultures, and living in Victoria, you don’t often get a chance to interact with the real artifacts,” says Dudley, whose teaching duties include ancient near-east Egypt and museum exhibition courses. “There’s that interplay of academic theory and the real world which is really nice.”

Legacy Awards Nov. 16

Legacy Awards night is November 16 at the Victoria Conference Centre. Co-chaired by UVic supporters Murray and Lynda Farmer, the annual gala recognizes the outstanding achievements of alumni, professors and Vikes athletics.

This year’s Distinguished Alumni award winners are: Allen Halverson, BEd ’77, a PE teacher at Ballenas Secondary in Parksville, who offers unique training in eco-tourism and adventure travel; Eric Jordan, BFA ’93, co-founder of PureEdge Solutions, a secure software firm that started at UVic; Ian Mcdougall, Victoria College ’56, a jazz trombonist whose career includes more than a dozen recordings with Rob McConnell’s award-winning Boss Brass band.

The Alumni Award for Excellence in Teaching goes to Nursing Prof. Gweneth Doane, who considers herself a learner as much as a teacher—one way that her approach to teaching is so effective.

UVic Sports Hall of Fame inductees are: Al Morrow, national women’s rowing coach and an early leader of UVic’s rowing program; swimmer Jon Kelly, BA ’90, seven-time CIAU gold medalist and 1986 Canadian university swimmer of the year; Debbie Scott, BEd ’82, the great track and field and cross-country runner who had 26 Canadian titles and a stunning victory in the New York Mile; and the 1984 Women’s Field Hockey Team, whose CIAU championship was the first of 10 for UVic, making it the most successful Canadian university sports program.

More than 400 university supporters attended the Legacy Awards last year, helping to raise funds for scholarships and athletic awards.

Tickets are available from the Alumni Services office or online at alumni/uvic.ca/events.
Image and the Modern Vampire

PETER GÖLZ HAS A NEW PAIR OF TRICK VAMPIRE FANGS THAT HIS DENTIST ADVISES against wearing because the glue might not un-stick from his real teeth. So the canines sit displayed in a small plastic box—proud additions to the vampirologist’s kitschy collection of clothing and capes, books (scholarly and not), DVDs, a lunchbox—all dedicated to vampires.

Gothic ghouls have been, well, in the professor’s blood since his doctoral studies and the interest continues in his teaching and research in the Germanic and Russian Studies department. Gölz teaches a popular course on cinematic and literary vampires and, in time for Halloween, he’ll give a public talk about the ways the image of vampires has evolved from repulsive and rat-like to modern versions that seem neither good nor evil.

The vampire myth has been around for centuries and maintains current prominence on TV and in theatres with *Buffy the Vampire Slayer* and the *Blade* trilogy. “There isn’t a figure that has occupied our imagination for so long and in so many ways. That’s because, I think, they’re our double, our dark side,” says Gölz.

Academic interest in vampires is thriving and includes a Norton Critical Edition of Bram Stoker’s *Dracula*, which Gölz considers the “academic stamp of approval. Basically every literary theory could apply.” There’s also an explanation of American cultural history based on vampire movies called *Our Vampires, Ourselves*. Current debate is focused on vampires and the post-human condition. “If you think of the classic vampire on film, the story was often set in the historical past. Nowadays there seems to be more interest in what will become of us, what makes us really human…what sets us apart?”

Seventy-five students signed up the first year Gölz’s course was on the calendar. This year, enrollment has grown to 150 with another 25 on the waiting list. “The feedback (from students) is incredible. Pop culture has come a long way. If you take it seriously, it’s just as fascinating as any other classical text. There’s more to it than meets the eye.”

Cancer Fighter

ProtoxTherapeutics, with UVic-based research that holds promise for prostate cancer patients, has become the first UVic spin-off company to be listed on the TSX Venture Exchange.

UVic biochemist Tom Buckley has engineered a protein—Aerolysin—that punctures cancer cells. “We believe we can also tailor Aerolysin so that it can selectively destroy a variety of other types of cancer cells,” says Buckley, the new company’s chief scientific officer. Ongoing research is being conducted jointly with Johns Hopkins University.

The university’s technology transfer arm, the Innovation and Development Corporation, encouraged Buckley to go commercial. This summer the company began trading after the close of a $4.5-million public offering. In return for licensing the technology to Protox, UVic receives a stake in the company, royalties on product sales, plus other payments if certain milestones are reached.

Heard on Campus: Stephen Lewis

UN Special Envoy for HIV/AIDS in Africa

“People say to me we have to rescue Africa because it could be grounds for extremism. People say to me we have to rescue Africa because we want them to be a trading partner. I say, just use the old and wonderful Biblical injunction: respond to the human condition abroad because we are fundamentally our sisters’ and our brothers’ keepers. And the beauty of being a graduate at this moment in time is that the world is open to you. And they need you.”

Honorary degree acceptance speech, Spring Convocation, June 3.

Travelling Light

Sara Ellison can tell you all kinds of things about a distant galaxy, like its chemical components, stage of evolution, or distance. She does it by looking at the light from distant quasars and the ways its spectrum gets jumbled and absorbed by the dust, gasses, and stars it encounters on its long journey across the universe and into a telescope. Ellison, the Canada Research Chairholder in observational cosmology, is a new member of the Astronomy department’s talented galaxy research group.
Origin of the Eye

New research focuses on poorly understood workings of the retina.

Bob Chow is fascinated by the eye, its scientific puzzle of nerve cells and circuitry. It’s a passion that began with his doctoral work at New York University and grew during post-doc research at the Toronto Hospital for Sick Children. The developmental biologist is a recent arrival to campus and he’s building a new lab to examine the retina, its construction, and the molecular blueprint that may contribute to future cures for genetic vision defects. He took time to talk about his research with the Torch.

Torch: I couldn’t help noticing your glasses. Just a coincidence or is it an indication of a personal interest in your research?
Bob Chow: No, that’s just a coincidence. (Laughs.)

Kind of thought so, but had to ask. You mentioned earlier that you really got interested in this area during your doctoral work. Once I developed an appreciation for the developmental biology of the eye I started really appreciating all of the defects that have a genetic basis in a lot of the things I was studying. So there arose a real connection to human disorders, an additional reason for studying what I’m studying.

You’re focusing on cells in the retina that help transmit visual signals to the brain. What intrigues you about them?
These cells are important because not only do they transmit signals from the photoreceptor cells but they also add an extra dimension to the way these signals are interpreted. We’re starting to understand a bit of their function but we’re only at the tip of the iceberg. The things that I’m studying now—bipolar cells, and trying to integrate that with visual signaling and retinal functioning and circuitry—are things that people haven’t really started looking at. People have either studied the developmental aspects or the circuitry—I’m trying to combine the two.

How has genomics opened the door to this type of work?
Many of the genes had been individually isolated in a painstaking manner. Now with the mouse and human genome sequenced you can scan for anything you want. It provides an invaluable tool that we use on a daily basis. A lot of genetic disorders affecting vision have been genetically mapped.

How widespread are the disorders you’re investigating?
Twenty-seven per cent of human heritable disease groups affect the eye and the reason for that is because the eye is not an essential tissue. We can live without it.

What’s your motivation for doing what you do?
It’s like a puzzle I’m trying to solve. It’s like a mystery I’m trying to unravel. I’m very interested in developmental biology and all of the molecular aspects that underlie the formation and function of the retina. That, in and of itself isn’t a cure, but it provides the understanding that is required to implement the cure. If you’re going to fix something you have to understand how it’s put together.

You must be a patient guy.
You have to be patient because the successes are measured in periods of months and years. But once you start getting interesting results, you really do feel that eureka moment. It’s exciting. Most people in the world won’t appreciate it except for you. But it’s fun, still.

So, when you’re meeting people and they ask you what you do...
People always ask about laser surgery, (laughs) something I’m totally not qualified to address.

What are your biggest dreams for your research?
I think my most important role is in the training of students or young scientists—undergraduates, graduate students and post-docs. There are super labs that have 30 or 40 people in them with post-docs that might speak to their supervisor once or twice a year. I don’t want that. I want to do experiments alongside students—they’ll learn better in that environment.

Bob Chow holds the Canada Research Chair in Retinal and Early Eye Development.
Pumped

Hydrogen-fueled vehicles may be some distance over the horizon, but a group of forward-thinking students has developed a winning design for the filling station of the future.

A nine-member team of engineering, business and economics students led by Mechanical Engineering Prof. Andrew Rowe, won the grand prize in a competition sponsored by the U.S. Department of Energy and Natural Resources Canada. Their hydrogen station concept includes technical details, environmental impacts, safety issues, profit margins, and public awareness strategies. The results were chosen ahead of competitors from 16 other North American universities.

UVic’s hydrogen pump would store liquid hydrogen at -20°C for vehicles that could produce 95 per cent fewer greenhouse gasses and require 42 per cent less energy. Rowe calls it “a beautiful solution.”

Stephanie’s Haul

Stephanie Dixon came home from the Summer Paralympics in Athens with eight—count them—eight medals. The swimmer’s individual and team performance included gold in the 100-metre backstroke, six silver medals and a bronze. She has a total of 15 medals in her career, including five gold medals at the Sydney Paralympics in 2002. The psychology student, who was born with one leg, is the reigning Vikes female athlete of the year.

Compendium

PEOPLE: Visual Arts master’s student MARK NEUFELD has won the first Joseph Plaskett Foundation Award, worth $25,000. The prize will enable Neufeld to travel and study in Berlin...BARNEY WILLIAMS, BA ’99, earned a silver medal at the Athens Olympics with the Canadian men’s four rowing squad. In all, more than 20 alumni and students participated in the summer games and the Athens Paralympics...CLINT HAMILTON, MED ’92, has been named the university’s new director of Athletics and Recreation. The former Vikes basketball player succeeds Wayne MacDonald, who suffered a stroke in 2002. The university earned 20 national titles during MacDon-ald’s tenure. Hamilton comes from the University of New Brunswick where he is credited with having a major impact on the success of the school’s varsity teams and increasing their presence in the community...JOHN NEWCOMB, MA ’94, a senior lab instructor in the Geography department, earned a 2004 Saanich Environmental Award (Individual Citizen category) for spreading awareness about water conservation in more than 30 public talks booked through the UVic Speakers Bureau. The UVic POLIS project on environmental governance was also awarded for its contribution to long-range planning for a sustainable campus.

RESEARCH: The Centre for Addictions Research of BC at UVic offers a new Web portal (silink.ca) to help families, friends and caregivers spot clues to addictions to substances like crystal meth. It’s the only source of substance use information selected and developed specifically for a BC audience. The portal is the first project by the new centre, which welcomed director TIM STOCKWELL in August. He comes from Australia where he was the director of the National Drug Research Institute...A major exhibit at the Maltwood Gallery explores the significant role of women in the early development of Victoria’s arts and culture scene from the 1860s through to the 1920s. “A WOMAN’S PLACE” includes more than 200 examples of painting, photography (left), basketry, embroidery, pottery and design. The exhibition continues to January 11.

RESOURCES: Twenty-nine kids took part in the university’s first summer mini-university camp for ABORIGINAL YOUTH. They spent a week on campus, living in residence and getting immersed in robotics, computer animation, law and visual arts. The point is to encourage young people, especially in Grades 9 and 10, to stay in school and focus on a future in higher education. Only 52 per cent of Aboriginals between the ages of 20 and 24 have completed high school, according to Statistics Canada...Construction is underway on the new ENGINEERING/COMPUTER SCIENCE BUILDING, with provincial funding of $222-million, adjacent to the Engineering Lab Wing. At six storeys, it will be the tallest building on campus when it’s completed in early 2006 and will bring to 300 the number of student spaces available for undergraduate and graduate studies in engineering and computer science.

ODDS & ENDS: It’s the next best thing to being there. The 2005 Finnerty Gardens Calendar is now available in all of its floral glory. This is the third edition of the fundraising effort—featuring the fine photography of Daphne Donaldson, MA ’98—in support of improvements and additions to the campus gardens. The calendar is available at the UVic Bookstore and selected Greater Victoria bookshops and garden stores.
THE DAY’S SCHEDULE WAS FULL. A MORNING WORKOUT WAS TO BE FOLLOWED BY AN AFTERNOON PRACTICE. THE LOOMING BASKETBALL SEASON PROMISED TO BE A SPECIAL ONE FOR GUY VETRIE, ENTERING HIS 15TH SEASON AS HEAD COACH. AMONG THE ROOKIES BATTLING FOR PLAYING TIME WAS HIS SON, RYAN, A 5-FOOT-11 GUARD FROM THE CLAREMONT SPARRTANS WHOSE ARRIVAL AT THE UNIVERSITY OF VICTORIA WAS THE CULMINATION OF A FAMILY DREAM.

Vetrie was a demanding coach with a reputation for being temperamental if laziness or sloppiness disrupted so much as a drill. His mood was foul after the morning workout. “He was kind of fiery,” said assistant coach Craig Beaucamp. “He was mad at me. He was mad at one of the players who hadn’t showed up.” As they lifted weights at the Ian Stewart Complex, the two talked basketball. It was a language they shared, a topic guaranteed to animate both men, so far apart in age and experience, yet drawn to the obsession that is university hoops. The exertion of hoisting weights eased the tension.

Beaucamp was in his office at St. Andrew’s Regional High School in the school gym, where he was teaching full-time, when the phone rang on the afternoon of September 15 last year. The university’s athletics coordinator was on the line. “He just said that Guy had suffered a heart attack when he was out running. And it was serious. I knew it was serious if they were calling me at school.” Beaucamp raced to the university.

Vetrie had hired him two years earlier. Beaucamp had built a comfortable role for himself at Melfort Collegiate in Saskatchewan, where his men’s and women’s teams reached the final four of their division for nine consecutive seasons. He could have been coach for life, maybe have had a gym named for him someday. But his ambitions were larger than what was on offer at a prairie high school. He quit his job and moved to Vancouver Island, a gamble not all his friends thought wise. Vetrie, in turn, took a chance by hiring the wiry, intense Beaucamp.

Vetrie had endured his share of dreamers and wannabes. The university game was fast, the tempo so rapid some were shocked to realize they could no longer read the pattern of play on the floor. Beaucamp was an obsessive who studied strategies, picked the coach’s brain, learned not to disappoint a boss who expected practices to be run efficiently and with purpose.

Rebounding

Craig Beaucamp dreamed about leading a basketball team. But nothing could have prepared him for this.

BY TOM HAWTHORN
PHOTOGRAPHY BY ADRIAN LAM
On road trips to the Lower Mainland, Vetrie had Beaucamp drive and the two would discuss strategy and tactics. At lunch, they talked basketball. After work, they talked basketball on the telephone. They went on a fishing trip to Tofino, the conversation less about hooks than hook shots. When Vetrie took a leave of absence, Beaucamp was the natural choice to fill in.

Beaucamp’s boyhood passion was soccer, but as he was about to enter Grade 9, his father moved the family to Birch Hills, an isolated town of 1,000 south of Prince Albert, Saskatchewan.

Soccer was foreign. “The only sport anyone knew was hockey,” Beaucamp said. “If you’re in Grade 9 in rural Saskatchewan and you haven’t skated and you haven’t played hockey, you’re not going to be seen as an athlete.” So, he took up basketball.

“I was just a skinny little kid who loved the game,” he said. “I was a tireless worker. I was competitive. Hated to lose.”

In Beaucamp’s junior and senior years, the Birch Hill boys made it as far as the provincial championships. The town rallied around the team.

Beaucamp completed a diploma in recreation technology at the Saskatchewan Institute of Applied Science and Technology, where he was named male athlete of the year. After graduation, he was hired as recreational director in Outlook, a town which boasts Canada’s longest pedestrian bridge. He also became volunteer coach of the high school’s Outlook Blues, leaving after three years to complete a teaching degree at the University of Saskatchewan.

The basketball Huskies were a dream beyond the reach of his own modest skill. “I was never quite good enough,” he said. The Huskies had long been moribund until an intense coach by the name of Guy Vetrie had revived the program in the 1980s before coming to Victoria.

In Beaucamp’s late senior year, he met Vetrie at the Cordova Bay Golf Course, where the coach’s wife Lil worked. The coach had been through many assistants over the years. Beaucamp remembers Vetrie telling him: “We’ll see how things go. The bottom line is the success of the team.” Beaucamp understood. The team came first, the needs of an ambitious assistant somewhere after that. The new hire thought it fair, and respected his new boss’s commitment to the Vikes.

Two years later, as he hurried into an office at the campus gym, he could read the bad news on the faces of his colleagues.

A man goes out for a jog one afternoon three days before his 52nd birthday and does not return. In that simple, stark fact, the world changed for so many.

Counsellors were available the next day. Practice was cancelled for a week. After a few days, the gym was opened. Some wanted to play, some did not. The first practice went well, the second one less so. Some players tried hard, some players didn’t. Some were moody.

Beaucamp was named interim coach. He moved into the coach’s office, but could not bring himself to sit behind the desk. Instead, he sat in a chair along one of the cinderblock walls. He felt like an interloper. He had achieved the goal for which he had risked everything years earlier by leaving Saskatchewan, only there was no celebration, no sense of accomplishment. He had a vague feeling of guilt.

“It’s obviously something I dreamed about forever, but at the same time you’re suffering the loss of a friend. It was...” Beaucamp searched for a word. “Weird.” He had second thoughts. “I don’t know if that’s the way to put it.” He paused again. “Awkward. Uncomfortable.

“I had so much respect for Guy. I think one of the first things I told the team was that I wasn’t Guy, nor would I be Guy, nor could I be Guy.”

The team pulled together in their grief. An emotional memorial to their late coach at McKinnon Gym was cathartic. On display was a large photograph of Vetrie—as shaggy as an extra from Starsky & Hutch—from his playing days at Laurentian University in Sault Ste. Marie, Ont. He wore uniform number 14 in the swinging ’70s, so the time clock had been set to 14:14. His 530 career coaching victories were cited, as was his triumph in leading the Vikes to a national championship in 1997. The memorial attracted hundreds.

A man goes for a jog one afternoon three days before his 52nd birthday and does not return. In that simple, stark fact, the world changed for so many.
Beaucamp had little time to mourn. “As much as everybody feels for our team, when we go out on the court they’re going to try to beat the daylight out of us,” he said. “We got a game. We still have to go out on the floor. We still have to prepare. We still have to work hard.” He had to make decisions about strategy and personnel. Foremost among those was a grieving rookie. “I know Guy looked forward to coaching Ryan and Ryan looked forward to being coached by his father. I wasn’t supposed to be in that equation.”

The pre-season opened with two losses, but a surprising victory over the taller, stronger, more experienced Bluejays from Creighton University in Omaha, Nebraska seemed to prove to the Vikes they had the chops. Fans gave them a standing ovation at the final whistle of the 80-72 exhibition upset.

The routine of practices and games settled the team. “Guy’s passion was the Vikes,” Beaucamp said. “He would want us—to move forward. He would have expected nothing less.”

Conference play started with a narrow loss to the University of British Columbia. The Vikes then rolled off a six-game winning streak, including a thrilling 109-105 overtime win at Regina, with guard Chris Trumpy recording 36 points.

Beaucamp remembers a changed attitude. “Within a short period of time the questions changed from ‘How’s the team?’ and ‘How are things?’ to ‘How come you guys lost last night?’”

A post-Christmas tournament, renamed the Guy Vetrie Memorial, saw the Vikes win two of three. The team ended the season at 11-9, missing out on the playoffs only on a tiebreaker. A consolation for Beaucamp was being named conference coach of the year, an honour won by his mentor six times. In April, the word interim was removed from his title.

“Guy was the reason I was able to do what I did,” Beaucamp said. “Guy put me in a position where I felt prepared when the opportunity arose.”

He now sits behind the desk in office No. 186 at McKinnon, a sign on the door reading, “If you have to duck, don’t bother to knock.” He now feels he belongs.

The rookie guard who had to cope with the sudden loss of his father enjoyed his best game in an early two-point loss to Waterloo. “I had five steals, a couple of points, some assists,” Ryan Vetrie said. As the season progressed, though, he found his playing time reduced. “My confidence got shattered. I didn’t even have the nerve to shoot the ball sometime.” Basketball had lost the meaning it once held. Every practice, every drill, every game had been performed with his father as teacher and cheerleader. “When he went, my feeling was, ‘Who am I playing for now?’” He is taking a break from school and the court for a season, a hiatus he hopes will allow him to regain his desire to play the game at so high a level.

Tim Hawthorn is a Victoria-based freelance writer.
Day One

On September 8 not even midday downpours could diminish the wave of energy that rolled through campus with the arrival of 17,000 students and the start of a new school year. Our team of photographers went out to capture the essence of that spirit and feeling, starting in the early hours and working through the evening. They focused on the people and places that define UVic’s culture and surroundings. What they’ve given us are portraits of the life of the university on one special day.

—MIKE MCNENY, EDITOR

FEATURING THE PHOTOGRAPHY OF

JULIE B ANDERSON
HÉLÈNE CYR
VINCE KLASSEN
ROB KRYUYT
ADRIAN LAM
DAVID LEE
The first morning of classes. (RK)

9:12 a.m. Skating to class. (RK)
8:16 a.m. Bus loop, Finnerty Road. (RK)

8:45 a.m. Elena Chue (left) and Ericka Munoz, bus loop. (HC)

7 a.m. Jay Bowles prepares for parking permit buyers, Campus Security. (RK)

9:30 a.m. Andy Attard and Mark Hatherly seek navigational help. (RK)

8:20 a.m. Cycling in, Quadrangle. (KK)

8:20 a.m. Cycling in, Quadrangle. (KK)

10:08 a.m. Student Union Building. (KK)

9:30 a.m. Andy Attard and Mark Hatherly seek navigational help. (RK)
Wearing it well: what’s the first day of school without a few declarative fashion statements? (JBA)
10:30 a.m. Jen Lindquist takes a study break, Quadrangle. (JK)

10:43 a.m. Dan Bennett, Quadrangle. (HC)
WEB EXTRA: Visit the Torch online (www.uvic.ca/torch) for a gallery of all the Day One photos that we couldn’t fit in the magazine.
Raising the Stakes

Grad Studies programs are growing fast. So is the competition for top students and the need for dollars to support them.

By spring time the doctoral candidate will have done her final experiments in cognitive psychology, published original research on the unpredictable nature of human memory and, if all goes well, she’ll cross the stage at convocation to accept her PhD. The grad student’s research “apprenticeship” will end and she’ll embark on the next stage of her career, probably in academia.

The Canadian university system will need a lot more people like Michelle Arnold in the coming years—people with finely honed expertise and research skills, people with a graduate level of education. The federal government wants to place Canada in the world’s top five research-intensive nations within six years. At the same time, roughly 40,000 new university and college instructors will be needed by 2015 as professors retire and demand grows for post-secondary education.

At UVic, national trends translate into an ambitious plan to expand graduate studies: 17 new master’s and doctoral programs are either available or will be offered by 2010; the grad student population is forecast to grow by 32 per cent—to about 2,900—by 2010; and within the same period, the university intends to offer more fellowships that compete with what other universities offer. “Our goal is to support reasonably—not gloriously, but reasonably—the top 20 per cent of students. To do that, we’re looking at another $10 million in addition to what we’ve already got,” says Aaron Devor, the Dean of Graduate Studies.

Devor finds himself looking to external sources—private donors, governments—for financial support for grad students. It’s a role he didn’t anticipate but it’s one that he has embraced. “It was not in my job description. At the same time, I hear some heart wrenching stories about what happens to people when they run up against significant financial difficulties. Sometimes people fall by the wayside simply because they can’t pay the rent. That’s a tremendous loss when you have people with passion and ability. If they can’t make use of that, it’s a real waste.”

Back at the Cornett Building’s Psychology office, Arnold says she is, financially, one of the lucky ones. In her time at UVic she’s supported herself with graduate scholarships from NSERC (the Natural Sciences and Engineering Research Council), departmental scholarships, her work as a teaching assistant, and through funding from her supervisor’s research grants. But still, she’ll graduate a year later than she had hoped.

“This is a full-time endeavour,” says Arnold. “If you’re not doing research, you’re getting ready to do research, or you’re analyzing research, or you’re teaching or taking classes. It’s full. Financially, that’s why you see a lot of students scrambling to get whatever scholarships or whatever funding they can get. I think that’s the biggest struggle.”

Concern about graduates’ financial support is shared by the people who rely on them most: faculty researchers. Finding the right fit isn’t easy. The year before last, the cognitive psychology program didn’t admit any new grad students—partly because they’re highly selective but mainly because of funding. “Frankly, my perception is that that is our biggest challenge,” says Prof. Steve Lindsay, Arnold’s supervisor and the head of the “Cog Prog’s” core group of eight faculty members. “We have a lot of struggles with the physical limitations of...
our research spaces. But in my work at least, the grad student thing is even bigger.”

Ideally, a new grad student comes into a program with his or her own funding from external agencies like NSERC or the Social Sciences and Humanities Research Council. But those students are the exception. They’re able to choose among competing universities who, like sports teams vying for free agents, will enter bidding wars for the best and the brightest recruits. Where UVic is concerned, that bidding war often happens in a different financial league. The university offers a top-up of $4,000 for students who hold external grants but older universities with deeper pockets may offer richer, guaranteed financial packages.

“One place is saying, ‘Look, you’ve got $1,500 a month. You can count on it.’ And the other place is saying, ‘Well, I’m sure we’ll be able to work something out.’ That definitely hurts us, I think,” says Lindsay. Arnold agrees. She volunteers advice to prospective grad students who have questions about the university and avenues of financial support. “We lose a lot (of students) to eastern schools, where if you’re accepted you’re guaranteed a certain level of funding.”

UVic fellowship amounts have increased nine per cent, to a maximum of $13,500 for up to two years for master’s students. Doctoral students receive a maximum of $15,000 for up to three years, a 13 per cent increase. But the competition is fierce and meeting the standards (an A- minimum grade average) doesn’t guarantee success. Tuition fees have also increased—seven per cent this year, after increases of 15 per cent and 30 per cent in the past two years. Annual graduate fees for domestic full-time students now stand at $4,404. Chris Hurl, chair of the Graduate Students Society, says tuition costs remain at the top of his group’s agenda. “If we get a teaching assistant position or a scholarship, a significant amount of that will go to tuition and the money leftover isn’t enough to live on.”

Some provinces, like Ontario and Alberta, offer provincial scholarship programs for graduate students. B.C. doesn’t, and often when a student chooses to go elsewhere, provincial support is the difference. “I would like British Columbia to start a graduate studies fellowship program,” says Devor. “I would like the province to put us into that game. When we’ve lost students it’s usually to Alberta or Ontario institutions. I don’t believe they can offer better faculty members but I do have lots of evidence that they can offer better financial packages.” The other key factor is university endowment funds. Generally, the older the university, the bigger the fund. So UVic, being relatively young, is at a disadvantage, says Devor. “I would very much like to see our endowment grow, and grow rapidly.”

A university’s quality of research goes with the talent of its graduate students. They contribute original ideas, help to advance research programs, and as teaching assistants they can be a bridge between the lecture hall and the laboratory. When they leave, they often go to leadership roles in any number of social and economic areas of society.

“We’re at a critical juncture at the University of Victoria,” says Devor. “I see the leadership on campus, a great number of the mid-career faculty, a larger number of our senior faculty and just about all our junior faculty wanting to put UVic on the map as a significant research institution. We won’t turn our back on being a solid undergraduate teaching institution, we want to build on it.”

On the Web:
Graduate Studies: web.uvic.ca/gradstudies
Giving to UVic: alumni.uvic.ca/development
A Perfectly Beautiful Place
MICHAEL ELCOCK, MEd ’78
A penetrating memoir that spans continents—from Belfast to Malta, Hawaii to Prague and Paris—to offer a clearer view of places and people and an embrace of anecdote, absence and history.
Oolichan Books, 2004 • 350 pages • $22.95

After Goodlake’s
TERENCE YOUNG, BA ’79
Young’s first novel is about Fergus Goodlake—owner of Goodlake’s Deli, happily married for 25 years, and involved in an affair with a younger woman. The relationship starts carefree but eventually destabilizes and collapses the foundations of everything in his life.
Raincoast Books, 2004 • 360 pages • $21.95

Cool to be Kind
VAL LITWIN, BA ’01, CHRIS BRATSETH, BA ’99, BRAD STOKES, BA ’01, ERIK HANSON
In 2002 four friends crossed the country committing as many random acts of kindness as possible. Here they offer all the resources and inspiration needed for your own randomly kind acts.
ECW Press, 2004 • 258 pages • $19.95

Cutty, One Rock
AUGUST KLEINZAHLER, BA ’73
With the passion and intensity rooted in early manhood in New Jersey, the Griffin Prize-winning poet offers memoirs that have been called “swaggering, bleak, hilarious—full of piercing and mournful assessments of life and art.”
Douglas & McIntyre, 2004 • 168 pages • $25.00

Fantastic Feats and Failures
DAVID GARRISON, BEng ’94, SHANNON HUNT, MA ’91, JUDE ISABELLA
From the editors of Yes Magazine comes a book that helps kids (ages 8-12) explore the odd and surprising story of engineer-
Nanaimoites can sip their double-doubles while planning next year’s May Two-Four, assured that those and 2,200 other made-in-Canada words and terms have the official endorsement of the new Canadian Oxford Dictionary.

The Oxford is the standard reference for a decidedly Canuck take on the English language. While the majority of the 300,000 entries are not exclusive to Canada, each has been given a specifically Canadian context—which explains why there are 648 references to skate, skating or hockey.

“It’s really important for Canada to have its own English dictionary because we are not properly represented in American or British dictionaries,” says Heather Fitzgerald, one of two former UVickers (a term not yet in the dictionary) in the four-person lexicography department of Oxford University Press in Toronto. “I read a lot of Canadian literature when I was an undergrad and it was sometimes a challenge to find the meaning of specific words.”

While the first edition was welcomed in 1998, it soon became apparent that gaps and revisions would require an updated second edition. Fitzgerald, who graduated from UVic in 1995 with an English BA, and Tom Howell, who finished a double major in English and Writing in 2001, tapped the words on the tips of many Canadian tongues.

“Detective work is a big part of what we do. Each word must have appeared in at least 15 different publications to be considered,” says Fitzgerald, who heads OUP’s research reading program. “The Internet is a great research tool but we also read everything from restaurant menus to store flyers and local newspapers—we even read the Torch.”

Cross-referencing their discoveries with a main database of existing words and a second database of emerging words, the lexicographers found dozens of “new” Canadian terms. Among the most commonly used were double-double (a sweet and creamy coffee favoured by Tim Hortons customers), cougar (an older woman who chases much younger men) and May Two-Four (an informal term for the Victoria Day long weekend). Many additional discoveries not unique to Canada were also added, including SARS, cybercafe, studmuffin and energy drink.

According to Howell, a primary editor, the team uncovered fascinating regional differences in Canadian word usage. While Newfoundland produced the largest number of region-specific entries—including distinctive food terms such as bangbelly (a...
Some lexicographers don’t enjoy reading anymore because it involves an element of research—even if you’re just reading a Canadian Tire flyer.”

John Lee is a Vancouver-based feature writer who holds a Harvey Southam Diploma in Writing and Editing.
“A Foggy Drag”

On Monday, September 8, 1969 five thousand UVic students lined up for course registration in Hut S, the old gymnasium.

Mike Farr, BEd ’73, the Martlet’s “education student at large,” warned frosh that “registration is a foggy drag. Each student (or machine) is systematically punched onto the roll of the Registrar and officially becomes another student at UVic. It is not all that fearful, really, and we hope to rid you of your apprehension” with the university’s first student orientation program.

“We’re At Week” offered tips for navigating the Academic Guidebook and choosing courses. The big social events were a Saturday night soc hop in the SUB and a special showing of the classic thriller “The Great Escape” in the Maclaurin auditorium.

These days, course registration is conducted online instead of in line. Much easier on the feet. But waiting lists for classes can still be a bit of a “foggy drag.”

1967

RICH HUNT, BSc, a federal research scientist at the Pacific Forestry Centre, has been named a fellow of the Canadian Phytopathological Society for outstanding contributions to the CPS and the science of plant pathology.

1973

AUGUST KLEINZAHLER, BA, the San Francisco-based poet, earned Canada’s 2004 Griffin Poetry Prize (international category) for The Strange Hours Travelers Keep (Farrar, Straus & Giroux). The honour included $40,000, the largest cash prize for a single book of poetry. The judges called The Strange Hours… “a masterful collection of work from a poet who inhabits the energies of urban life more fully than anyone currently writing.” In interviews, he has said his approach to his craft was influenced by his UVic studies with British modernist poet Basil Bunting in 1971-72. Over the years, August has been a taxi driver, a locksmith, a logger, and a building manager. He has also taught creative writing at major US universities and to homeless veterans in the San Francisco Bay area.

1975

EILEEN CURTEIS, BEd, has self-published her eighth book and CD, Reiki: A Spiritual Doorway to Natural Healing (Trafford). Eileen lives at Queenswood, a spiritual retreat administered by the Sisters of St. Ann. • RHONDA BATCHelor LILLARD, BFA, writes: “I have recently opened Lamplight Books, a secondhand bookshop specializing in literature. It is located on lower Johnson Street, in Victoria’s Old Town. This venture follows more than 20 years’ employment in other bookshops, including 14 years as manager of Hawthorne Books. Also, this summer I took over from LUCY BASHFORD, BFA ’90, as assistant editor of the Malahat Review. As a former student and friend of the journal’s founder, Robin Skelton, and as the widow of Charles Lillard, one of its previous guest editors, I feel this appointment to be particularly gratifying. I look forward to working with the new editor, JOHN BARTON, BA ’81, who was also a friend and student of Robin Skelton and whom I have known for over 30 years.”

1978

STUART BERRY, BA, is a faculty member in the school of business at Camosun College. He completed his MA in distributed learning at Royal Roads University in 2003 and won the Governor General’s Gold Medal. Stuart’s research focus is on the process and creation of knowledge, particularly in online learning environments.

1980

SUSAN FIDDLER, BMus, is a UVic Co-op placement co-coordinator and is married to Victoria artist William Perry. • IAN HYDE-LAY, BA, has joined the Vikes men’s basketball team as an assistant coach. Ian played for four seasons
Aboriginal Alumni: A New Partnership

BY DOUG JOHNSON, BA ’77, LLB ’80
PRESIDENT, UVIC ALUMNI ASSOCIATION

Every convocation ceremony at UVic begins with the chancellor acknowledging the importance of the history of the Songhees and Coast Salish people upon whose traditional territory the university is situated. The chancellor’s chair and other convocation furnishings are also the magnificent products of West Coast aboriginal artists. These are powerful symbols of the university’s respect for aboriginal peoples.

The university’s current strategic plan includes the objective “to increase the number of aboriginal students graduating from all faculties at UVic, building on our commitment to and our unique relationship with First Nations communities.” I have also heard our president, as well as our vice-presidents, speak of the importance of the university’s participation in the process of reconciliation with the aboriginal peoples. It is clear that the university community fully endorses these priorities.

I was very pleased when the graduating class of 2003, as their gift to the university, commissioned the Lekwungen Housepost that stands near the Student Union Building. It confirmed that our students also wish to participate in this process of reconciliation and it brought into focus the thought that the UVic Alumni Association could perhaps take a more active role in the process as well. This is one way we can fulfill our mandate to support the university in attaining its goals.

We have recently begun working with alumni services staff and aboriginal members of the university community to establish an Aboriginal Alumni Chapter of the association. About four weeks from the time I write these words, we will participate in an event at Martin Mungo House in Thunderbird Park at the Royal BC Museum. We will celebrate the achievements of aboriginal graduates, offer inspiration to aboriginal students and extend to aboriginal alumni our desire to join with them in supporting aboriginal students. Hopefully the event will help to create the critical mass required to form a strong aboriginal chapter.

Once established, the chapter will be free to determine its own objectives. I hope that ultimately the alumni association can build more support, with the new chapter, for indigenous students. The chapter might also promote higher education within aboriginal communities and make it clear that aboriginal students are welcomed and respected at UVic.

While we are already fortunate to have several aboriginal members of the alumni association we want many, many more.

To get involved with the Aboriginal Alumni Chapter, contact Karen Whyte in the UVic Alumni Services office at (250) 721-6000.

with the Vikes and was captain of the 1979-80 team, UVic’s first national basketball champions. Last year the team was named to the UVic Sports Hall of Fame.

1981
JAMES FYLES, MSc, a forest ecologist at McGill University, is the new scientific director of the Sustainable Forest Management Network at the University of Alberta. The SFMN is part of the federal Networks of Centres of Excellence program. • Artist and writer FRANKE JAMES, MFA, is co-founder of The James Gang, a Toronto content creator for traditional and new media. During the federal election, the firm launched an online spoof called “Whack the PM” which generated thousands of “hits,” not to mention heaps of national media exposure. • DOUG MUNICH, BSc, reports: “I just got my latest copy of the Torch and saw the picture of Chamkaur Cheema—I remember that! Keep up the great work. I have a BSc in Physics from 1981. I have since worked in government, private industry, and am now contracting as a database developer. I am in Melbourne, Australia with my wife and two daughters. We just recently visited the Great Barrier Reef (see photo). It’s been a blast, but hopefully we’ll be back in BC soon!”

1985
LORRAINE VESEY MACLEOD, BEd, writes from London, Ontario: “I have taught in BC and Ontario at the elementary level since 1972. My teaching assignments have included grades K—8, French second language, and learning resource teacher. I spent several years at home raising two sons, age 21 and 24, both of whom are in university in Ontario. I am in my third term as a vice president of the Elementary Teachers Federation of Ontario.” • MICHAEL PETERSON, BA, reports that he “graduated from Wycliffe College, Toronto School of Theology, in May of 2004 with my Master of Divinity degree. Ordained this September as a transitional deacon in the Anglican Church of Canada with a pastoral charge in London (Grace Church, Ilberton and St. George’s, Middlesex Centre). Classmates, friends and alumni in the London area are welcome to contact me.”

1988
GEORGE PAUL, Dipl., and PAT BOYDEN, Cert., ’70, check-in from Prince George: “Pat has worked as a teacher for four school districts during her career and George has been city manager in Prince George for the last 15 years. George received the 2004 Lieutenant-Governor’s Silver Medal for Excellence in Public Administration awarded by the Institute of Public Administration of Canada. We are both very proud of our daughter Heather who is in her fourth year of study at UVic.”

1990
CHRISTOPHER HAMBLETON, BEd, reports: “This past year I became vice-principal of Osoyoos Elementary School. Teaching duties include teacher-librarian and some primary music classes. I’m enjoying being in ‘Desert Wine Country.’”

1991
GARRY BENSON, LLB, is the senior partner at Benson & Co. of Kelowna. His practice includes...
It’s all @UVic
Monthly e-mail Newsletter

There is a new, free monthly information service for alumni. @UVic is an e-mail newsletter, produced by UVic Alumni Services, that provides links to the latest on-line campus news, event listings, research features and information about alumni benefits and services.

The newsletter began publication in the spring and arrives in your inbox as a brief e-mail message containing headlines linked to assorted university Web pages. Recent editions have directed readers to stories about the 2004 Legacy Award winners, UVic’s leadership in global studies, and offerings from the Alumni and Friends travel program.

“E-mail technology provides a great opportunity to communicate more frequently without a lot of expense,” says Don Jones, Director of Alumni Services. “Our objective is to build strong ties with alumni who are scattered around the world. @UVic is the quickest, most effective way to inform people of events and activities that may interest them.”

About 14,000 UVic alumni already receive @UVic each month. To join the distribution list, send an e-mail request to alumni@uvic.ca. E-mail addresses are only used for the newsletter and to inform subscribers of special events and services for UVic alumni.

Back issues of @UVic are archived on the alumni Web site (alumni.uvic.ca/newsletters/index.html).

Alumni Survey Underway
600 Phone Interviews

The University of Victoria and the UVic Alumni Association are conducting telephone surveys and focus group discussions with members of the alumni community. It’s the largest such endeavour yet between the university and its 70,000 alumni.

In September, the Victoria-based market research firm of Malatest and Associates—working on behalf of the university and the association—began random telephone interviews with 600 UVic alumni to gather their views on alumni services and to gauge their levels of connection to the university. The survey will be followed by a pair of focus group sessions in November.

“By 2010 we want to be among the top 20 per cent of Canadian universities in terms of alumni involvement and support for UVic,” says Faye Wightman, Vice-President of External Relations. “This survey, and views that alumni express, will give us the feedback we need to develop new programs for our alumni and help us achieve our goals as a university.”

Results of the project will be used to shape a new alumni services plan. Currently, alumni members have access to benefits and services that include insurance plans, travel programs, and a free subscription to the Torch, which is mailed twice every year to approximately 55,000 addressable alumni.

“For years we have relied upon our instincts when determining what events to sponsor or services to offer alumni,” says UVic Alumni Association President Doug Johnson. “The survey should help us to make better decisions so that we can use our resources more effectively.”

A summary of results will appear in the next edition of this magazine.

corporate commercial, property development, real estate, wills and estates. • Metchosin writer DOUG MUNICH, ’81

TOM HENRY, MPA, has received tenure at Western Michigan University’s school of public affairs and administration and was promoted to associate professor. He has also assumed the role of doctoral director for the PhD program in public administration.

1993 KIRA HILLIDGE, BA, is an advertising account supervisor in the New York offices of Saatchi & Saatchi. • GLENN LETHAM, BSc, has returned to Victoria after five years on the Florida Gulf Coast where he developed/managed an online GIS (geographic information system) publication. Glenn has partnered with Maryland-based Spatial Media LLC to launch GISuser.com. • SAMANTHA SCULLY, BA, lives in Toronto and works as an executive editor for Pearson Education Canada.

1995 DEREK IRELAND, BSc, writes: “I have recently graduated with a PhD in biology from New York University and now live in Los Angeles, where I have a post-doctoral position at the University of Southern California. My new lab studies the immune response to coronavirus infection in the brain. I was married in September, 2003 to Joanna Lynn Hodges, who has her MSc from NYU and is a research assistant at the Sloan-Kettering Cancer Center in New York.” • PANAGIOTIS RONDOS-

GIANNIS, PhD, and EVAGGELIA KONTOPIDI, MSc ’92, are residing in Athens where he’s an assistant professor at the University of Athens and she’s a high school teacher.

1996 KELLEY LEE, MPA, is part of a team of London School of Hygiene & Tropical Medicine researchers attempting to gain public access to eight million pages of documents on the business strategies of British American Tobacco.

1997 LYNDA W. MILLER, PhD, has self-published Faith and Health: A Framework for Christian Nurses (Trafford) which includes guidance and resource materials for Christian nurses in hospitals, communities, nursing education, research and parish nursing. • LYANA PATRICK, BA, and KIRSTIN CAMPBELL, BSc ’98, are both recipients of 2004 Canada-US Fulbright scholarships of $15,000 (US). Patrick is a master’s student in the Indigenous Governance program. Her award will support studies at the University of Washington where she’ll produce a documentary on the impact of the Canada-US border on First Nations
Doing the Math, for 41 Years

DAVID LEEMING has been around UVic longer than Ring Road. He was there when the McPherson Library opened its doors the first time. His first office was in one of those old army huts. And so after more than 40 years, it’s somehow hard to equate the mathematician, someone who is so much part of the fabric of the place, with the word “retirement.”

In late summer he was still deconstructing his office in the Clearihue building, working through the stacks of books and papers that kind of accumulate over the time it takes to teach three generations of students and witness three of your own kids cross the convocation stage.

For him, it’s not like a big retirement switch suddenly clicks and what you’ve been doing all your life suddenly disappears. He loved—make that, loves—his job. Especially when it comes to the elusive challenge of channelling young people toward the abstract but technologically vital world of math. “It’s as important to be numerate as literate” these days, he’ll say.

With the Pacific Institute for Mathematical Sciences, he remains heavily involved with “Math Mania”—the elementary school outreach effort that makes math fun. He’s also working on a new math magazine for teenagers.

Leeming—a Victoria College graduate from the late ’50s—leaves the lecture room at the top of his game. In his final year, he earned the science faculty’s honour for those who exemplify teaching at its finest.

—MIKE MC NEN EY

Walking history: David Leeming’s retirement ends a career that began with the university’s inception.

Alumni Travel Grows

More options are now available with the UVic Alumni and Friends travel program, traditionally one of the key sources of financial support for the alumni association’s programs and student grants, scholarships and awards.

The association has entered an agreement with the Merit Travel Group, a national agency with four offices in the Victoria area and online vacation and flight bookings. Merit offers alumni vacationers new options for adventure travel, land tours, and family vacations.

The association retains its partnership with University Travel, specializing in alumni cruises and escorted group tours. Check the alumni travel Web page for 2005 vacation offerings (alumni.uvic.ca/travel).

1998

FABIAN WOLK. Msc, is president of Rockland Oceanographic Services of Victoria. The firm was recently selected to plan and conduct measurements of ocean turbulence and internal wave patterns near Honolulu’s municipal waste water outfall. UVic’s “towed ocean turbulence instrument” or TOMI will be leased by Rockland Oceanographic during the year-long project.

1999

MIKIALA CHRISTIE, BA, has opened an acupuncture practice in Sidney after completing the four-year Canadian College of Acupuncture and Oriental Medicine program. Among her specialties are women’s health, sports injuries and arthritis. • RACHEL PETERSON, BA, and her husband Richard are delighted with their son Connor Ralph, born Aug. 27, 2003, at Victoria General Hospital. Rachel is currently tutoring English from home while still keeping a hand in the local film community.

2000

JOHN BOEHME, MFA, is Canada’s representative at the first International Performance Art Festival in Santiago and Buenos Aires as well as the Fix 04 Biennial in Belfast. He teaches fine arts at Camosun College. • SARA DUBOIS, BSc, has been appointed manager of the BC SPCA’s Wildlife Animal Rehabilitation Centre in Metchosin. WildARC treats 1,500 sick, injured, orphaned or distressed animals each year.

2001

WANDA MARTIN, BSN, completed a master of nursing degree at the University of Manitoba before returning to UVic this summer to work as a research coordinator for Prof. KELLI STAJ-DUHAR, BSN ’90, who is investigating challenges faced by home caregivers.

2002

Pipe organists KEVIN DILL, BMus and ROBERT KWAN, BMus ’80, pulled-off a feat of musicianship this spring when they played rare organ duets at a performance in Victoria’s Church of St. John the Divine. Kwan—who served as an organ scholar at St. George’s Chapel Windsor Castle—is completing a PhD in Rochester, NY. Dill is in the master’s program at the University of Alberta. • JEFF GAULIN, MBA and ALANA GAULIN, LLB ’99 are pleased to announce the birth of their daughter Audrey Jael, in Calgary, on August 3, 2004. Jeff is the director of industry and regulatory affairs for Molson Canada. • GRAEME MACDONALD, BFA, provided the art for Tales from the Bully Pulpit—a graphic novel published this summer. It’s a 64-page comic about Teddy Roosevelt, the ghost of Thomas Edison and their time machine. • RODNEY WILTS, LLB, has opened Canada’s first home improvement shop specializ-
Teaching Award Expands

THE ALUMNI AWARD FOR EXCELLENCE IN TEACHING—THE FIRST CAMPUS award of its kind when the UVic Alumni Association introduced it in 1989—will expand next year to include a separate category for sessionals and other instructors.

“This is an opportunity to recognize non-faculty instructors who carry a lot of the teaching load on campus, much more than they did 20 years ago,” says Anne McLaughlin, VC ’48, chair of the association’s grants, scholarships and awards committee.

One award will be for regular and limited term faculty, senior instructors, artists-in-residence or librarians—reflecting the research responsibilities of those positions. The new award is for sessional, senior lab, and lab instructors. The university employs 701 regular faculty and 468 sessional instructors.

“Sessionals play a very important role in teaching at the university,” says Vice-President Academic Jamie Cassels. “Many are superb teachers and we want to recognize them for their skill and contributions.”

Each award includes a cash prize of $2,000 from the alumni association. As well, the McPherson Library stairway features a photo gallery of all recipients of the award.

Prof. Geraldine Van Gyn, director of the UVic Learning and Teaching Centre calls it “a very progressive step. Instructors who don’t hold a regular appointment were somewhat disadvantaged when competing with regular faculty.”

Specific criteria and a possible re-naming of the awards were being set as the Torch went to press. The deadline for 2005 nominations is January 31.

Spotlight on SKAM
Theatre SKAM—known nationally for its provocative, wildly entertaining productions—steps into the Phoenix Theatre’s “Spotlight on Alumni” in the New Year with its presentation of Hippies and Bolsheviks, running from January 27 through February 5, 2005.

The comic flashback to the ’70s by writer and director AMIEL GLADSTONE, BFA ’94, is based on “what was happening to my parents (the peace movement, civil rights, rock and roll) juxtaposed to what we’re going through in 2004.”

The play coincides with the tenth anniversary of the company’s founding, by Gladstone and MATTHEW PAYNE, BFA ’93.

ing in environmentally friendly products such as toxin-free paints, water-saving toilets and roofing made from old tires. Healthiest Home & Building Supplies of Ottawa is an offshoot of Rodney’s work in environmental law.

2003

CHRISTINE BAYNTON, BSc, announces her marriage to Richard Underwood. The wedding took place on May 1, 2004 at the Cordova Bay Golf Course. They are living in Vancouver. • BABA BRINKMAN, MA, launched his debut full-length hip hop recording “Swordplay” in April and spent the summer performing his “Rap Canterbury Tales” at Fringe Festivals in Brighton, Prague, Montreal, Edinburgh, Victoria and San Francisco. His performance earned a five-star review from Edinburgh’s respected newspaper, The Scotsman, which called Brinkman’s recreation of Chaucer’s ingenuity and humour “awe-inspiring.” • RON DANN, MEd, won the 2003 Masters Award for Outstanding Research from the Canadian Society for the Study of Educational Administration. He interviewed six Victoria school principals to assess how they handle budget cuts and the tension between personal ethics and organizational priorities. • STEVE GALIPEAU, MED, writes from the Middle East: “Since October 2003, I have been one of eight Canadian military observers with the UN Truce Supervision Organization. I have divided my time between Syria, Lebanon, Jordan, Egypt, Israel and the Occupied Golan Heights. In February 2004 I was selected to be the training officer for Observer Group Golan, based in Tiberias, Israel. I will return to Canada in October or November to pursue my teaching career.” • RAJI MANGAT, LLB, has been named one of Canada’s 25 “future stars” by Maclean’s Magazine. She worked for Supreme Court Justice Frank Iacobucci as a clerk during the year after graduation. Her decision to become a lawyer was inspired by her studies of the 1947 partition of India and Pakistan. • PHILIP KEVIN PAUL, BA, is the 2004 Dorothy Livesay Poetry Prize winner for the best book of poetry published by a BC author. Taking the Names Down from the Hill is his first collection of poems, one of which was featured in the spring 2003 edition of this magazine.

VICTORIA COLLEGE

HUGH DAUBENY, ’49, has received outstanding cultivar awards from the Canadian Society for Horticultural Science and the American Society for Horticultural Science for his development of Agricultural and Agri-Food Canada berry-breeding program at the Pacific Agriculture Research Centre, the Tulameen has become the world’s leading fresh market raspberry.

IN MEMORIAM

KELLY CURTIS, MA ’03, lost her life in a vehicle accident March 3, 2004. A memorial fund has been established with an annual prize for the most promising student in English 502, a graduate teaching class. More information is at kelly-curtis.org.
How to Keep in Touch

**KEEPING IN TOUCH** notes are collected by the UVic Alumni Services office, which can be reached at (250) 721-6000 or 1-800-808-6828 and by e-mail at alumni@uvic.ca. Your alumni association is on the Web at alumni.uvic.ca.

Entries for Keeping in Touch usually come to us either by post or via e-mail. We also compile entries from other public sources such as newspapers and magazines or news releases. We don't publish pregnancy or engagement announcements, or candidacies for political office. But news of births, marriages and elections to office are encouraged, as are photographs. Obituaries are also accepted. All entries are edited for style, clarity and length.

The deadline for this issue was August 31. Updates received after the deadline and up until February 28 will appear in the Spring 2005 edition of the **Torch**.

Tell Us What’s New

**POST:** If you want to mail us, use this form to submit a Keeping in Touch note or simply to update your mailing address. Send it to: UVic Alumni Services, PO Box 3060, STN CSC, Victoria BC V8W 3R4.

**WEB:** uvic.ca/torch

**E-MAIL:** torch@uvic.ca

**FAX:** (250) 721-6265

Enter to win at [www.alumni.uvic.ca/contest](http://www.alumni.uvic.ca/contest)

Contest closes Nov. 30, 2004

Alumni e-mail addresses are confidential and are only used for the dissemination of university and alumni news, events, and benefits and services.

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**AARON GORDON**, LLB '81, died peacefully at home on May 27, 2004. Soon after starting his law practice, he met and married Judy. Over the next 22 years, Aaron fought and won many legal battles with passion, commitment and courage, particularly on behalf of injured persons, military personnel and members of the immigrant and refugee community. He was a founding member of the Victoria Immigrant and Refugee Centre and served on its board for 15 years.

**GEORGE KIDD**, Victoria College ’36, Hon. LLD ’92, passed away on July 22, 2004. He held several key ambassadorial posts during his foreign service career. He was Canada’s first ambassador to Israel and he was ambassador to Cuba during the Cuban missile crisis of 1962. In retirement he returned to Victoria and gave much of his time to community service, including the UVic Board of Governors, the UVic Alumni Association, and the Art Gallery of Greater Victoria.

**JOHN PITT**, BEd ’70, died suddenly March 19, 2004 at his family home in Duncan. He met his wife Louise (Simcock) while they were studying in the education faculty and both taught at schools in Kimberley. An avid collector, John contributed old postcards to books on the early history of BC.
Convocation ceremonies had ended hours earlier when, across town, the Esquimalt Nation singers and dancers offered a prayer song for 23 indigenous graduates and their supporters. In the Bighouse, as they shared a meal, late afternoon sunlight filtered through smoke rising from a well-kept fire. Blankets were placed on the soil floor to honour the graduates. Into the evening, each spoke of their accomplishments and their dreams. When it was her turn, Laura Fraser (left, foreground) of the Nuu-chah-nulth people, a new History in Art degree-holder, politely declined to use the microphone. From her heart, she appealed for the protection of ancestral traditions and words. “We need our own speech back, our own methods and knowledge to educate young people in the language of their people. Our elders’ voices are not being heard. I will not stand for it.”