

If your knees bent the other way, what would chairs look like?

UVic's Engineering Student Newspaper

# The Fish Wrap

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## UVic Geers Win Big at WECC/CEC

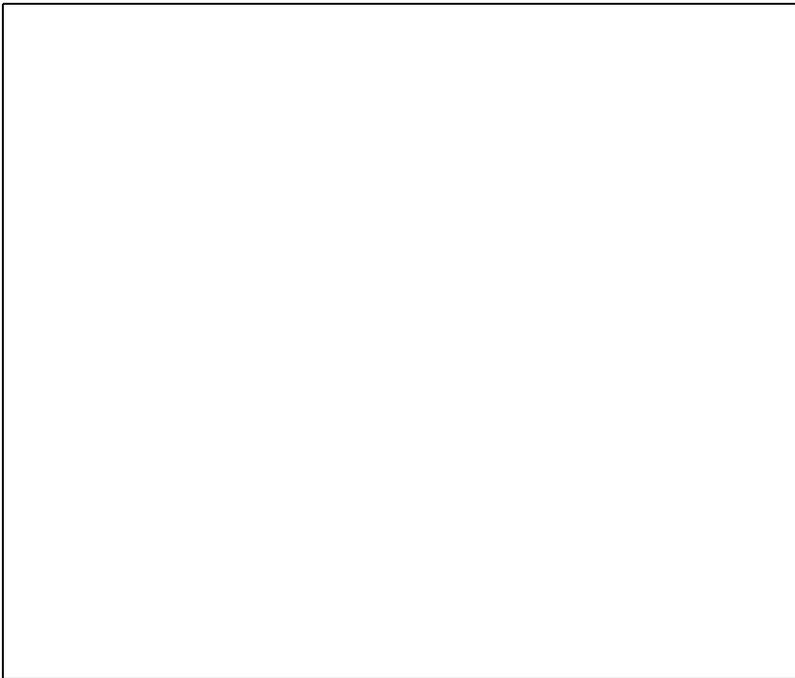
UVic went out in full force to this year's Western Engineering Conference and Competition (WECC), held March 3-7 at the University of Saskatchewan (U of S), sending six teams to compete in four of the five different categories. UVic's lack of experience (this was our first time competing at WECC) proved to be of little consequence as three teams placed in the top three of their respective categories! Team Mech, consisting of Thomas Congdon, Dean Curry, Mark Ellens and Randy Lamb, easily glided past the competition in the Entrepreneurial Design category and took first place. Although unable to use their overheads due to technical difficulties, Kaldean Brown and David Garrison showed grace under pressure by taking second place in the Editorial Communications category. In the highly competitive Corporate Design category, Tony Antoniou did an excellent job to take third place.

Because of their high standings, the three winning teams had an opportunity to compete at the nationals; the Canadian Engineering Competition (CEC) was held in Halifax at the Technical University of Nova Scotia (TUNS) this past March 19-21. Although small little UVic was up against the "big guns" from schools such as UBC, Queens and U of Toronto, Team Mech didn't seem to notice and proceeded to blow the doors off the competition by not only placing first in the Entrepreneurial Design category but by also winning the prestigious Social Achievement Award!

*(Please turn to page 4 for a full report on WECC & CEC - ed.)*

**A Profile of Dean Provan - Page 2**  
**Welcome Back Party - Page 8**

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**Who Dunit?**

Kaldean Brown	Ryan Haksi
Dave Garrison	Tom Lochbichler
Cam Lesiuk	Peter's Mom
John Jordan	Mr Magoo

A new term begins and the Fish Wrap is here,  
The artwork so fine, the writing so clear,  
Full of gossip and lies,  
And some words from the wise,  
It's a must for every undergrad engineer.

The new national champs display their hardware

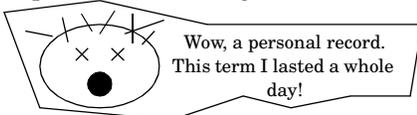
# UVic Invades Saskatchewan

Back at the beginning of March, when most of us were relaxing on our workterms, about 80 engineering students from across Western Canada converged at the 1993 Western Engineering Conference and Competition (WECC) held at the U of Saskatchewan (in Saskatoon). Of the 80 students attending, approximately 66 were competitors in the five different competition categories: Entrepreneurial Design, Corporate Design, Editorial Communications, Explanatory Communications and Extemporaneous Communications (for a full explanation see the sidebar Competition Categories). UVic went in full force sending 13 students, 12 of them competing on six different teams and one attending as a delegate.

Mark Morrison (VP Internal) was our delegate and the teams were:

Stream A:

Thomas Congdon, Dean Curry, Mark Ellens & Randy Lamb, *Entrepreneurial Design*, "Wheelchair Wheel Cleaner"



Stuart Robinson, *Entrepreneurial Design*, "A Hearing Aid for Directional Sensing"

Kaldean Brown & David Garrison, *Editorial Communications*, "Public Perception of Engineering and How to Improve It"

Stream B:

Mat Hepton, Brian Kingham & Eric Englert, *Entrepreneurial Design*, "The Brownian Motion Beverage Thermal Inducer"

Kjell Wooding, *Explanatory Communications*, "The Physiological Effects of the Undergraduate Engineering Program at UVic"

Tony Antoniou, *Corporate Design*, "VHM-5000 Vocalist Pro: Proposed Product Design"

The conference began Wednesday night with an all you can eat (as long as you can't eat too much) dinner at a local pub. Thursday and Friday were occupied with industry tours (including the incredible Cory potash mine), guest speakers, round table discussions

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## Competition Endowment Fund

Attending competitions is a very expensive proposition; it was only through the kindness of our many sponsors that we were able to keep the cost to competitors to a minimum. Unfortunately there is no guarantee that such funds will be available in the future. Because of the many benefits to UVic, the ESS, and to competitors, Mark Ellens & Kaldean Brown are setting up an endowment fund to help ensure that students will be able to attend in the future. People requesting money from this fund will have to meet a few criteria with project excellence will be stressed. If you want more information or wish to help set up this fund, please contact Mark or Kal.

## WECC '95 at UVic

UVic successfully put in a bid in Saskatoon to host WECC in '95. The bid was spearheaded by stream B (as WECC '95 will occur when they are on campus in '95) but the organization of such an event will require cooperation and work by both streams. If you are interested in helping with this once-in-an-undergrad-career opportunity please talk to your VP Internal Mark Morrison (email: mmorriso or leave a message in the office).

Mark's Picture

Mark Ellens works on the winning design

## UVic continues to **Invade Saskatchewan**

(from page 4)

and LOTS of last minute work on projects and presentations. Things really began to heat up Friday night with the opening rounds of the Extemporaneous Communications (spontaneous debate) category. Saturday was a tense day as the rest of the competitors congregated in the Midtown Plaza mall, downtown Saskatoon, for a full day of competition. A weeks worth of pent up anxiety and uncertainty were washed away as several teams headed to the indoor waterslides at the hotel following the competition.

At the formal awards banquet, Saturday evening, competitors nerves were pushed to the limit waiting for the results through an excellent after dinner speech from George Sparks of Atomic Energy Canada Limited. The wait was well worth it however, as UVic took three placings: Team Mech took first place in the Entrepreneurial Design category, Kal and Dave took second in the Editorial Communications category and Tony placed third in the Corporate Design category.

The results of our top three finishers were good enough to allow them invitations to the Canadian Engineering Competition (CEC) which was hosted by the Technical University of Nova Scotia (TUNS) in Halifax at the end of March. The top two (who are able to attend) from each category from each of the four regional competitions (West., Ont., Que., Atl.) compete for money, power, glory and cool looking trophies.

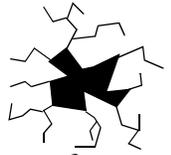
After a long flight which arrived in a major snowstorm our heroes spent most of their first day registering, practising their presentations and enjoying(?) the snow.

The competition began Friday evening and took all of Saturday to complete. The formal awards banquet began after all the competitions were finished on Saturday. The results of the day put 'UVic on the map' as Team Mech was awarded both first place in the Entrepreneurial Design category and the prestigious Social Achievement award! Much celebration occurred afterwards as the many teams investigated the city with the most number of bars per capita, some of which stayed open till 3:30 am.

Congratulations to all of the competitors!

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## Competition Categories



### Extemporaneous Debate Competition

The objective of this category is to encourage debate of an issue using an open, parliamentary style. Both the affirmative (or government) and the negative (or opposition) sides are informed of the subject by the chairperson shortly before the commencement of debating. Each team of two people are given time to discuss the issue and plan a strategy for logically arguing their side of the case.

### Editorial Communications

In this category, a sociotechnical problem must be completely and accurately analyzed. Subsequently, a policy, be it governmental, corporate or personal, must be presented and justified.

The emphasis for evaluation is on an effective communication of ideas, quality of presentation, accuracy and thoroughness of research, care in the adaptation of viewpoints, and logical argument for the proposed solution. Also, the judges attempt to determine the degree of the competitor's understanding during a short question period following the presentation.

### Explanatory Communications

The object of this category is to have the student bridge the gap between the specialized researcher and the layman or specialist from a different discipline. Competitors are to research a technical topic of social significance and objectively communicate the important aspects of this topic to the audience. A short question period will follow the presentation where the judges will attempt to determine the degree of the competitor's understanding of their topic.

Continued on page 6

## SPORTS

• David Garrison •

There are several sports activities in the works for the summer: Inter-mural volleyball, softball and a Bike Polo tournament.

Dean Curry is our new sports coordinator so if you have any ideas for sports events talk to him (email: dcurry). If you can't find him try talking to Hung (4A Elec) or Mark Grambart (2B Mech).

# Engineering Student Fees

• Kaldean Brown •

It's been an ongoing battle for over four years now, but things are FINALLY nearing an end (for better or for worse). When I ran for President way back in July of 1991, one of my 'campaign promises' was to continue the work being done on the establishment of an ESS student fee. At that time, it had already been passed in principle at \$35 and later \$20. The Final proposal, which was presented to the Board of Governors, was included in our constitution with a nearly unanimous vote by both streams back in 1992.

At the time our proposal was submitted to the BoG there was an extreme lack of communication with the UVSS...well, there was communication - they didn't want to deal with the issue at that time. Since then, the BoG has issued an ultimatum; they gave the ESS and the UVSS almost one year (until end of February '93) to work out some arrangement between ourselves where it would actually be the UVSS collecting the fee which would then be transferred directly to the ESS. So, it was back to the drawing board. There was extensive communication between the ESS and the UVSS after this order from the BoG and since then we have worked out the transfer of funds and the appropriate constitutional changes required to the UVSS constitution to allow us to collect this fee and this was passed at the UVSS General Meeting in February. We are no longer a Course Union, we are now known as a

Professional Development Union, or PDU for short.

We presented our agreement to the BoG and the issue of the university's liability was then brought up. This happened just two weeks ago and all these problems seem to have now been addressed but there are still at least two more meetings which I will be attending with Accounting Services/UVSS/ESS and the University Secretary as well as another BoG meeting which will be required to actually make all this 'official' within the university administration's eyes.

It's been a long tough road but I think we will achieve what we set out to do. There is a catch still though...we need you to bring your \$20 to the ESS Office for at least this one last term! I can't imagine that there will be any incentives to do this...there won't be discounts, free items, etc. because the whole idea behind the fee is that it is refundable without the loss of status within the society.

We don't force you to be a member of the ESS and we certainly aren't going to force anyone to pay a membership fee because we know not everyone can afford it, not everyone uses the services we provide, not everyone will read this article in the Fish Wrap which costs a substantial amount and no student/professor/faculty employee/co-op employer/other ESS's pay subscription fees for, and not everyone will come to ESS sponsored social or sports activities, and not everyone is interested in guest lecturers or engineering competitions.



## Competition Categories

(cont from page 5)

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### Corporate Design

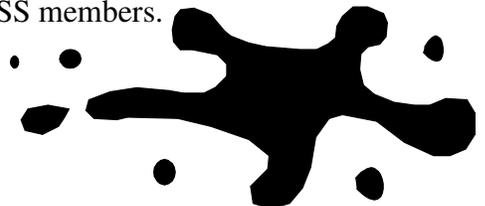
The aim of this category is to have engineering students tackle an authentic engineering problem, analyze, and design a solution to it. The emphasis is on ingenuity.

Problems for this category may originate from a company project as part of a co-op program, summer work, or a design project in a company through school. Problems from other sources are acceptable provided the student does the work and the design serves the above objective.

### Entrepreneurial Design

The object of this category is to encourage engineering students to design a marketable product, process, or service. Emphasis is on innovation and its benefit to the public or industry. While submissions in this category need not have reached a marketable stage, the team must attempt to demonstrate a market success. Competitors should present both the technical and economic feasibility of their design with the greater emphasis being placed on the economics. Projects for this category may originate from design course projects or personal hobbies.

Please, if you do enjoy any of the services we provide, think about it for a minute and consider what we could accomplish if we could actually produce a proper budget each term if we had a known income source. Trust me, the sky is the limit and we are only bounded by the efforts and imagination of each of the ESS members.



## Letter from Home

*This letter is reported to have been received this last term by a student in the other stream - ed*

Dear Peter,

I am writing this slowly because I know you can't read too fast.

We don't live where we did when you left. Your dad read in the paper that most accidents happened within twenty miles of home, so we moved.

I can't send you the address as the last family that lived here took the numbers with them, they didn't want to have to change their address.

It rained twice last week; three days the first time and four days the second time.

About the coat you wanted me to send you. Aunt Sue said it would be too heavy to send in the mail with those heavy buttons, so we cut them off and put them in the pockets.

We got a bill from the funeral home and it said that if we didn't make the last payment on Grandma's funeral, up she comes.

About your sister; she had a baby this morning! I haven't found out whether it's a boy or a girl so I don't know if you are an aunt or an uncle.

Your Uncle John fell in the whiskey vat. Some men tried to pull him out, but he drowned fighting them off. We had him cremated and he burned for three days.

Three of you friends went off a bridge in their pick-up truck. One was driving and the other two were in the back. The driver got out okay, he rolled down the window and swam to safety. The other two drowned; they couldn't get the tailgate open.

Aunt Mabel is knitting you some socks. She would have sent them by now. I told her you had grown another foot since she last saw you, so she has knit you another one.

Not much more news this time. Nothing much has happened.

Love Mom

## Reach Out

• Kaldean Brown •



Have you ever wondered what other engineering students are up to at other schools? Well, it's really easy to find out! There are many electronic mailing lists that you can subscribe to through your UNIX account. These mailing lists serve as a forum for discussions about national and regional engineering student issues. They're also a great way to meet engineering students across the country.

The National mailing list is called CCES-L (Congress of Canadian Engineering Students - Link) and is based at the University of New Brunswick. To subscribe to this list, send mail to [LISTSERV@UNB.CA](mailto:LISTSERV@UNB.CA). The body of your message should read SUB CCES-L <Your name> and there should be no subject in the subject line. That's it!! Real easy...but be forewarned, the volume of mail is quite high and if you don't check your e-mail frequently, you'll come back to several HUNDRED messages waiting for you.

There are also regional mailing lists with the one serving Western Canada based right here at UVic. It was set up as a result of the identified need for these regional servers made in January at CCES in Hamilton. The Western Canadian link has been named CWEST-L which is an acronym for Canadian Western Engineering STudents - Link. To join CWEST-L, mail [LISTSERVER@Engr.UVic.CA](mailto:LISTSERVER@Engr.UVic.CA) with no subject and SUB CWEST-L <Your name> in the body of the letter. All information will then be forwarded to you about how to use the mail list.

If you would like additional information about these lists and other regional engineering lists across Canada, contact any of the executive members or mail ESS with your questions and someone will get back to you ASAP.

## Petch and L-Hut Keys

Keys for Petch and for late night/weekend access to our student space over on the other side of campus (L-Hut 41) are now available in the ESS Office. There is a \$20 refundable deposit required to sign a key out for a 3 day period. If you are late returning the key, you lose half of your deposit and \$8 of the remaining \$10 if we haven't seen it after a month. Please do not lose these keys or keep them because then we will have to try to get more keys from the Faculty and you may be preventing other students who need access to these buildings their right to also have access simply because we don't have any keys left. Please be considerate of your fellow students and use this system properly so it can continue in the future.

## Top 13 Things That Never Happen In Star Trek

- 13: The Captain has to make a difficult decision about a less advanced people and decides to blow it off and go fishing.
- 12: Commander Riker and Geordi decide to pull a practical joke on Wesley and beam him into the women's gymnasium shower room.
- 11: The Enterprise goes to visit a remote outpost of scientists, and gets hopelessly lost in the wrong star system.
- 10: The Enterprise successfully ferries an alien VIP from one place to another without his luggage.
- 9: A power surge on the Bridge is rapidly and correctly diagnosed as a faulty capacitor by the highly-trained and competent engineering staff. The part however has not been available for 200 years.
- 8: The Enterprise encounters a vastly inferior alien intelligence, which they spend an entire episode belittling and embarrassing it.
- 7: The Enterprise breaks down in deep space and has to be towed back to a star base by a garbage scow.
- 6: Guinan reveals that on her home planet, all she ever did was work at a McDonalds.
- 5: The Enterprise develops a bad case of 'space rust' and spends most of an episode at drydock with painters wondering how to get the paint to dry in outer space.
- 4: Captain Picard walks off the job for most of an episode in a dispute over vacation and medical benefits.
- 3: The warp engines start acting up a bit, and Geordi gets blown to bits when he drops his visor in an engine while fixing it.
- 2: Counselor Troi tells Worf that he really is an evil rotten person deep inside.
- 1: Data falls in love with a woman on a planet he visits, and stays behind to get married and raise a family.

## C Course

• Kaldean Brown •

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The ESS has been offering the C course now since the spring of 1992 and it seems to have gone very well with dozens of engineering students now having learned C when they might not otherwise have had the opportunity. Now, however, C is taught in CSc 230 taken by half of the engineering students and so we aren't really sure what demand is left...time for the market survey!

We know employers want it, Mech 410 uses it and the 4B Robotics courses require it...but do the people needing it already know it? Come to the ESS Office and put your name on the C Course Sign-up sheet if you would like to see the course offered again this term. If we get 10 people committed to taking it, we will organize 6 - 1.5 hour sessions over a six week period ASAP at the standard cost of \$50.

## Photocopier

• Kaldean Brown •

All the accounts should be activated with the limits set to what it was at the end of last term. We will be printing a list of names of all the photocopier users SOON which we will post along with your limit so you can then keep in mind how many copies you have left. If you have problems with your account, first check with us that we have record of it, then check with us what number we have listed under your name, this should solve most problems. We will try to have specific hours when we will be available in the ESS Office as soon as the executive has had a chance to meet and set up schedules of office hours around our classes. These hours will be posted on the door of the office and in the next issue of the Fish Wrap.

## Attention 4A Folks

• Dave Garrison •

I'm sure I do not need to remind you that we are graduating in twelve short months (at least I hope we all are) and that means we need to have a yearbook. Since no one has come forward to be the editors, two of your illustrious Fish Wrap editors (me and Cam) have proclaimed ourselves the all important, supreme-dictators-for-life of our graduating yearbook.

We will need help, however. Please search through your photos and bring in ones which are interesting, funny or good for blackmail. As well if you would like to help in other ways (e.g.: advertising, layout, etc) please contact me or Cam (email is best: dgarriso, clesiuik - or leave a message in the office). Since, I am in Comp and Cam is in Elec we think it would be nice to also have a designated Mech on the committee (you can even be a co-editor if you want!), so if anyone is interested please talk to us.

**There's one group of fools in Victoria, Who are willing to do lots o' work for ya, But the fee things delayed, So we're asking your aid, So pay your fees in the office I implore ya.**

# Welcome Back Party

• Tom Lochbichler •

Well, it seems its the start of another dreaded summer term. Hopefully every-one's had a gainful 4 months of employment.

Anyhow, it seems that I somehow ended up with the thankless task of Social Coordinator. Any ways, enough about that. To kick off this summer, its my pleasure to announce the first party of the term!!! It'll be held at my house, (well, actually mine, Ryan's, Myles', etc..) which is right by the Uvic health center...for more detailed instructions refer to the map.

Vital Stats:

**When:** Friday, May 7th, 7:00pm.

**Where:** 2440 Sinclair Road (see map).

**What to bring:** Yourself, your friends, beer, etc.

See y'all there!!



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## Help! Help! Help!

• Ryan Haksi •

As usual, the Fish Wrap is looking for helpers and material. If you have any articles or cartoons you wish to see make an appearance between these hallowed pages (even if they're stolen from other sources) mail them to dgarriso@sirius, chuck 'em in the ESS/Fish Wrap pigeonhole, drop 'em in the ESS Office inbox or give 'em to Cam Lesiuk, me (Ryan Haksi) or \*DAVE GARRISON\* in class. And now the usual pitch: Got too much free time on your hands? need to round out that resume? want to help out the ESS? Look no further! the Fish Wrap is (still) looking for an advertising executive. As an advertising executive to our high profile paper your (exciting!) job will be to arrange advertising (fun!). That's it! So easy even a trained monkey could do it! (assuming you could train it to place phone calls, wear a suit, shake hands and drive a car). And I reiterate: It looks IMPRESSIVE (read: You might even get hired) on your resume...

Science Venture is gearing up for it's biggest summer yet!! You may have noticed the staff hanging out in the ESS office taking up valuable couch space;, allow me to introduce them: Samantha (Director), Les, Jason, Jennifer, Kristen, Morad and Donna. Say 'Hi' to them when you go in there next.

As well as hiring 7 staff this summer (vs the 5 last summer) SV has expanded in other ways. The SV crew, over the next 7 weeks will be doing workshops in elementary schools all the way from Salt Spring Island to Port Hardy; as well there is a teacher workshop planned for the end of the summer which will allow local area teachers to come in and learn the secrets of teaching the SV way. In addition SV is heading over to Vancouver this Thursday thru Sunday to help with the immensely popular Kids Fest!

SV needs your help! In order to do the infamous Goldberg Machines we need your junk! Please save and bring in the following:

- |                       |                    |         |
|-----------------------|--------------------|---------|
| toilet paper rolls    | meat trays         | hinges  |
| milk cartons          | pulleys            | old TVs |
| pop bottles (plastic) | egg cartons        | marbles |
| styrofoam             | plastic plant pots |         |
| golf balls            | ping pong balls    |         |

Please drop off your CLEANED junk at the ESS office!